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A Discussion about the Role of Photography in the African American Post-War Civil Rights Movement

By Sarah Doerfel

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Condition: New. 20 pages. Dimensions: 9.8in. x 7.0in. x 0.2in. Essay from the year 2010 in the subject Art - Photography and Film, grade: -, University of Westminster, language: English, abstract: Photography has played various roles in the African American Post-War Civil Rights Movement. Besides its extraordinary coverage of the contemporary Jazz scene and the historical documentation of the segregated South (Kasher, 1996), it had in particular a remarkable political function. Photography and television have given the Civil Rights fighters a voice which could not be ignored in Post-War America; by showing the struggle in all its unjust cruelty they confronted the national and international community with the shocking reality. People got motivated to express their sympathy for the demonstrators and the number of Movement supporters grew rapidly. Thereby, the most significant stream of followers arose only after the news media had shown images of unexpected outrage, making the relationship obvious (Streitmatter, 2008). In general, media do not only have a significant impact on public opinion but also contribute greatly to the success of humanitarian organisations. Often their influence even exceeds the possibilities available to politicians. This arises from the news media being the only source of information...



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