



Are We Not Men?: Masculine Anxiety and the Problem of African-American Identity

By Phillip Brian Harper

Oxford University Press, USA. Paperback. Condition: New. 272 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.0in. x 0.7in. In 1995, popular anxieties about black masculinity became evident in public reactions to the conclusion of the OJ Simpson trial and the Million Man March on Washington. The nation's divided response to the OJ verdict, together with the controversy surrounding Louis Farrakhan's call to black men to come together for a day of atonement brought issues of race and gender to the forefront of national debate. In his timely and incisive book *Are We Not Men*, Phillip Brian Harper explores issues of race and representation and shows that ideas about black masculinity have always played a troubled role both in the formation of African-American identity and in the mass media at large. What is at stake when a picture of OJ Simpson is darkened on the cover of *Time* magazine? Why is AIDS still seen as a white gay disease when a quarter of deaths from AIDS from 1981-1991 were among black males? Using examples from a variety of cultural contexts, ranging from sports and pop music to literature and television, Harper investigates these questions in an effort to show the ways in which narrow definitions...



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