



## Gender and Social Movements (Gender Lens)

By Bahati M. Kuumba

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Do men and women experience participation in social movements differently? Are gender roles reproduced or undermined during a struggle for liberation? In this brief text examining gender roles in social movements, M. Bahati Kuumba shows how liberation struggles are viewed through women's eyes and how gender affects women's mobilization, strategies, and outcomes in social movement organizations. Using two well-known examples, the American civil rights movement and the South African national liberation movement, Kuumba documents the circumscribed roles of women, the unheralded role of movement leaders such as Ella Baker and Frances Baard, and how gender affected movement activities and results. *Gender and Social Movements* is the ideal text to introduce a sophisticated view of race and gender into social movement courses.

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

M. Bahati Kuumba's contribution to The Gender Lens Series, *Gender and Social Movements*, is an interesting and useful primer on the gendering of social movements....Kuumba should be congratulated for making it clear that social movements scholars can no longer proceed as if their theories are gender-neutral or as if insurgency is not gendered. As well, she provides an insightful map of the gendered terrain of movements and contemporary research on this topic, replete with helpful theoretical and empirical examples from the [American Civil Rights movement] and [South African National Liberation movement]. (Jennifer Earl *Contemporary Sociology*, 31.6)

Drawing on recent scholarship in women's studies, the author ably shows how women contributed to the [US Civil Rights Movement and the South African National Liberation Movement] differently from men, echoing women's very different place in the structure and daily life of the black U.S. and urban South Africa. Written for researchers, this book provides a solid summary of the theoretical issues entailed in integrating gender analysis with social movement analysis. (M. Greenwald *Choice Reviews*)

### About the Author

**M. Bahati Kuumba** is Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Women's Research and Resource Center at Spelman College.

## **Users Review**

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