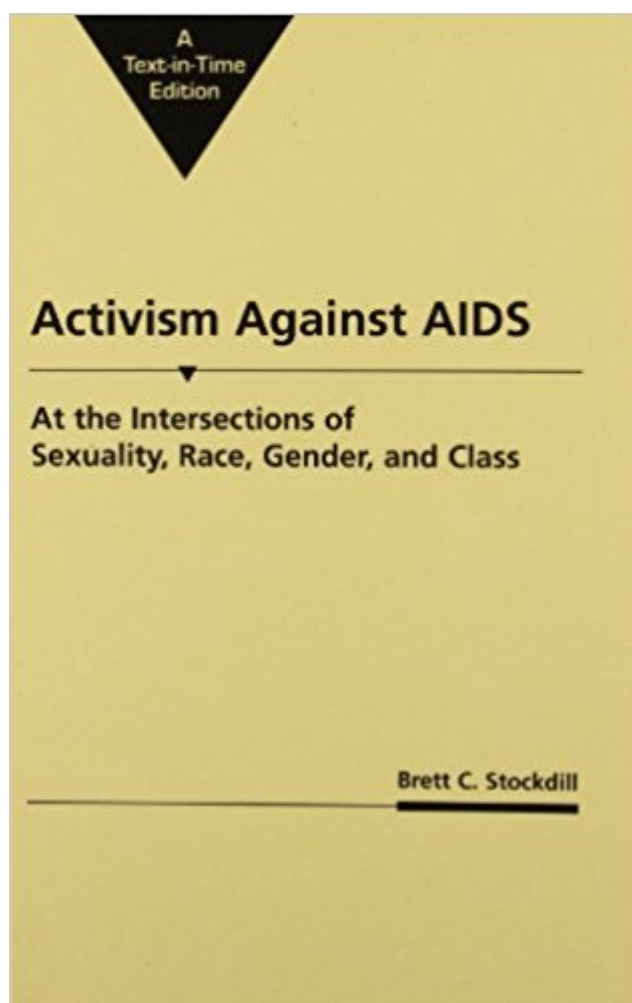




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Activism Against AIDS: At The Intersections Of Sexuality, Race, Gender And Class



Synopsis

AIDS has claimed the lives of more than 400,000 people in the United States, becoming the focus of intense social activism. Brett Stockdill reveals that people living with HIV/AIDS are often multiply oppressed - women of color, for example - and explores how interlocking oppressions fragment activism and thus impede AIDS prevention and intervention. Demonstrating that a unified approach to issues of race, class, gender, and sexuality can most effectively combat the AIDS epidemic, he highlights the critical link between social analysis and public policy.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stockdill has produced a highly original, groundbreaking study of the AIDS movement in the United States. Based on several years of ethnographic and archival research, this study makes a number of fundamental and original contributions to social movement theory. Stockdill's theory of oppositional consciousness offers invaluable insights into the ways in which social movements work themselves out on the ground and in people's lives. While survey researchers have published countless articles and books on factors that (poorly) predict social movement activity and levels of commitment, Stockdill provides extraordinary depth and insight into the ways in which collective action actually occurs or, in many cases, how it is repressed. This data-rich and theoretically sophisticated research reveals that movement activists across lines of sexuality, race, gender, and class experience multiple oppressions, formulate collective action strategies, and draw on collective memory all in vastly different ways. Moreover, and perhaps most disturbing, Stockdill finds that

there is a great deal of oppression occurring within oppressed communities, and that this is a major impediment to successful movement building. *Activism Against AIDS* is one of the few books I have ever encountered that achieves a near perfect balance between a data-rich presentation of evidence and a solid theoretical analysis throughout. The contributions Stockdill makes to our understanding of social movements among vulnerable populations is profound. Scholars who wish to prioritize one form of social oppression over others (privileging class or race over gender or sexuality, for example) will be challenged by this controversial--yet compassionate and humanistic--examination of multiple forms of inequality within communities engaged in struggles for dignity, respect, justice, and for life itself. *ACTIVISM AGAINST AIDS* truly is a work of outstanding quality. Highly recommended.

This book is clearly written and provides powerful insight and analysis for researchers, teachers, activists and general audiences. I have chosen to use this book as a text for my college courses *Introduction to Sociology* and also *Social Inequality*. Helps us better understand social movements, organizing strategies, and the interconnections of different forms of oppression. This book will fascinate you if you are interested in learning more about how the world works and the tactics social movements use to make it work better. Everyone can and should read this book!

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