## **Book Reviews** | Political Theory

(and in demands for Black Studies education) during the movements (pp. 221–22, 231).

For Cruse-and Henderson-the black nationalist inversion and evasion misdirected the focus and energy of the Black Power movement away from its unresolved urban circumstances in the post-World War II period and from an informed interpretation based on plantation slavery to a theory of Black cities and Black studies that informed the multifarious regional or local issue-area concerns of Blacks. Each city's revolutionists had built on the local ingredients of their own circumstances; for example, Detroit with its experience in labor struggle and the constitutionalism of Philadelphia Negroes (as far back as Richard Allen and Absalom Jones), which informed Philadelphia Black Power exponents. Similarly, the Black Panthers might tap the record of C. L. Dellums and A. Phillip Randolph's Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, which won key battles against the Pullman Porters Union during the years of Huey P. Newton's childhood in Oakland, California, over remote events elsewhere. Cruse's Harlem-centric reading of the cultural revolution was not about Harlem per se, except that in its heyday so many Black Americans took their talents and dreams there and it represented the "cultural front" of the Black movement, given Harlem's long history as a cultural epicenter.

For Cruse and Henderson, however, these "data" were lost and unrealized in the interregnum before Black Power, covering the Great Depression and World War II. How Booker T. Washington, for instance, related to Marcus Garvey and Malcom X's Black power militancy was never sufficiently articulated. Instead, various militant organizations put their own desired emphases on "Malcolm ideology" or what they imagined was the "correct reading" of Malcolm X. Each had its own "Malcolm X" doctrine of cultural, revolutionary, and political theory.

Malcolm X was critical also for that part of the NOI made up of the two million American Black Sunni Muslims in the United States, led by his spiritual brother and American Sunni leader heir, Warith Huddin Muhammad. Moreover, multiple audiences heard Malcolm X's crystalline criticisms of the "hypocrisy of American democracy" and views "that provided the theoretical and programmatic latticework of the major organization that generated and defined what became known as the Black Power movement (BPM)" (p. 2). These audiences included California incarcerated militants, nationalists, and Pan Africanists; Detroit area nationalists and organizations; Harlem nationalists; SNCC in Atlanta; Jackson, Mississippi; and Lowndes County, Alabama; the League of Revolutionary Black Workers (LRBW); the Pan-African Orthodox Christian Church/Shrine of the Black Madonna in Detroit; the Congress of African Peoples; the Republic of New Africa; the Revolutionary Action Movement; the Black Panther Party; and Bay Area and Southern California radicals and nationalists, particularly

Of these, Detroit's LRBW comported most coherently with Henderson's thesis of revolution, because it "incorporated in its revolutionary strategy a focus on organizing a national general strike, independent black unions, reparations, tenant rights, anti-police violence against black working class people, and labor relations in the industrial North" (p. xix). As well as the LRBW, Albert Cleage's Shrine of the Black Madonna is exemplary as a representation of the Black Church in revolutionary discourse. *The Revolution Will Not Be Theorized* makes a signal intellectual and theoretical contribution to Black politics and Black political science, Black studies, Crusian Black Power theory, and political theory and political science. It is a substantial study of the Black Power movement.

## Gender and Political Theory: Feminist Reckonings. By Mary Hawkesworth. Cambridge, MA: Polity Press, 2019. 208p. \$64.95 cloth, \$22.95 paper. doi:10.1017/S1537592720002583

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*Gender and Political Theory* challenges accounts of political theory and methods of political thinking that ignore the fact that we are, each of us, embodied individuals whose bodies take on complex political meanings influenced by history, culture, race, ability, gender, and sexuality. In other words, none of us are autonomous, disembodied, unmarked, and unmediated individuals free to make contracts and interact with others as we see fit. By now in American political life, this reality should be obvious. If it is not made clear by living and interacting in the world, witnessing the multiple ways that race, gender, and sexuality (among other bodily situations) mark our distinct and diverse experiences, one may pick up a book written by feminist, critical race, queer, trans, Indigenous, and disability scholars from the past 50 years.

Over the course of her celebrated career as a political theorist and a social policy and women and politics scholar, Mary Hawkesworth has published several works that center the experiences of marginalized, disenfranchised, or otherwise less visible or less listened-to persons in the United States and globally. The fact that embodiment situates one's political experiences should have long ago become the starting point of theorizing how to create a better world. In this book, Hawkesworth sets out to synthesize scholarship that makes this fact incontrovertible.

The book begins with a discussion of a Canadian legal case concerning the exclusion of Kimberly Nixon from training to become a volunteer with the Vancouver Rape Relief Society. In August 1995, Kimberly Nixon, a trans woman, was taken aside by a training facilitator who asked her if she had been a woman since birth. After revealing that she had undergone sex transformation surgery five years earlier in 1990, Nixon was cut from the program because she had not been "oppressed since birth." Nixon subsequently filed a case with the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal, which ruled in her favor in 2000, but on appeal the case landed in the BC Supreme Court, which ultimately ruled against Nixon.

In the first chapter of the book titled "Sexed Bodies: Provocations," Hawkesworth offers a detailed reading of the decision by the leading justice on this case; she does so to introduce the thorny issues presented by the fact that we are all embodied individuals subject to political interpretation by courts, legislatures, executives, and even state, city, and local ordinances. Yet, as Hawkesworth deftly notes, if we look to the Western tradition of political theory, we routinely see sex, gender, and race presented as natural, pre-political, or even nonexistent or at least not worth worrying over or theorizing. In subsequent chapters of the book, Hawkesworth organizes her discussion into these themes: "Conceptualizing Gender," "Theorizing Embodiment," "Refiguring the Public and Private," "Analyzing the State and the Nation," and "Reconceptualizing Injustice."

The book is at its best when discussing specific everyday examples that bring to life the many processes-public and private; local, state, national, and international; social and legal- that work to produce hierarchies within the population based on interpretations of embodiment. The last section of the chapter, "Analyzing the State and the Nation," is exemplary in this regard. Discussing dress codes, Hawkesworth shows that stringent dress regulations are not just a feature of authoritarian regimes, but are also remarkably present in liberal democratic nations such as our own. She cites evidence from scholars who document that between 1848 and 1914, 45 cities in 21 US states passed laws against cross-dressing to prevent "gender fraud" (p. 137) and that, even today, women's dress is often cited as a reason for rape. She introduces a section on post-Civil War Black Codes mandating that for Blacks, "standing on public sidewalks was criminalized as loitering" and that "failure to step into the gutter when a white person passed on a sidewalk was deemed a disruption of public order" (p. 139). Not much has changed as we think about police regulation, intervention, and even the murder of those seen driving while Black, texting while Black, shopping while Black, running while Black, and gathering while Black.

I also appreciate Hawkesworth's practice of centering scholarship that makes the lived experience of people from oppressed categories the focus of attention. The book casually, and rightly (to my mind), assumes that political thinkers must take as their starting point the fact that we are entangled within spaces, time, and cultures that mark us by predetermined meanings attached to our bodies; that we are always situated in relationship to others; that freedom cannot be accomplished or experienced alone; and that, to work toward a more egalitarian and democratic future, we must join in coalition with others to listen and learn as we attempt to transform our world as well as ourselves within it. Although, to this reader, this is the political point of the book, as well as the reason to critique methods of political thinking that deny these conditions, Hawkesworth never directly (or indirectly) acknowledges these as her goals.

The first sentence of the final paragraph of the book states, "Despite diverse analytical approaches, contemporary feminist theory routinely involves disidentification from some of the guiding precepts of political theory, such as the norm of neutral, distanced, dispassionate analysis, and the quest for universal explanations" (p. 193). She ends the book with this sentence: "By troubling false universals and confining stereotypes, this form of feminist theorizing seeks to enable new ways of thinking, thereby creating the conditions of possibility for new modes of social, political, and intellectual life" (p. 193). Here I come to my criticism of this informative, scholarly, and wellresearched book. My concern is that, although Hawkesworth is rightly critical of the "norms" just stated, her own writing style is *itself* dispassionate, analytical, neutral, and distanced. Packed with the work of other scholars, this book is primarily concerned with synthesis of material, and Hawkesworth does not amplify nor make space for her own voice. At times, I struggled to find the argument, and I looked to subheadings and section breaks to try to situate where she was headed in the narrative. Additionally, there are long indented quotations, and it was never apparent to me why certain scholars and contributions were studied in depth, some were quickly glossed, and others do not appear at all.

Scholars already familiar with the scholarship cited in the text will likely get the most out of Hawkesworth's contribution, and graduate students will also find the synthesis of material useful and noteworthy. This is an important contribution to why and how the body needs to be the starting point of political theorizing, a perspective that, although studied now for several decades, has yet to be our default mode of engagement.

Dangerous Counsel: Accountability and Advice in

Ancient Greece. By Matthew Landauer. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2019. 256p. \$90.00 cloth, \$30.00 paper. doi:10.1017/S1537592720002716

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Matthew Landauer's *Dangerous Counsel* is a lively, erudite, and judicious presentation of ancient Greek thinking about accountability and advice. To best understand the