

OVERCOMING THE LIMITATIONS OF AFRICAN FEMINISM AND BLACK FEMINIST STANDPOINT THEORIES

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ABSTRACT

The attempt to decolonize feminism underpins a Black feminist standpoint theory. No history of feminist movements is complete without mentioning Black women's early concerns and activism. To this present day, the oppression of Black women and women of color remains an important discourse in feminism. This paper underscores the importance of a feminist standpoint theory developed to remedy Black women's challenges. The paper aims to develop a more encompassing theoretical framework for the struggles of Black women, including African women, against the operations of oppression. In developing a robust standpoint theory, the paper proposes redefining both Black feminism and African feminism through the critical lens of intersectionality and transnationalism. This purported framework does not intend to replace a feminist standpoint theory but seeks to amplify it. Essentially, this paper examines the implications of the proposal at hand through the writings of feminist theorists and practices of feminist solidarity efforts in better shaping our understanding of women's experiences in the world around us. The paper shows not only the significance of infusing elements of intersectionality and transnationalism into Black feminism and African feminism but also its necessity in overcoming the limitations of Black feminist standpoint theories.

Keywords: Marginalization, Transnational Feminism, Epistemic (In)justice, Gender Justice, Multicultural Feminism.