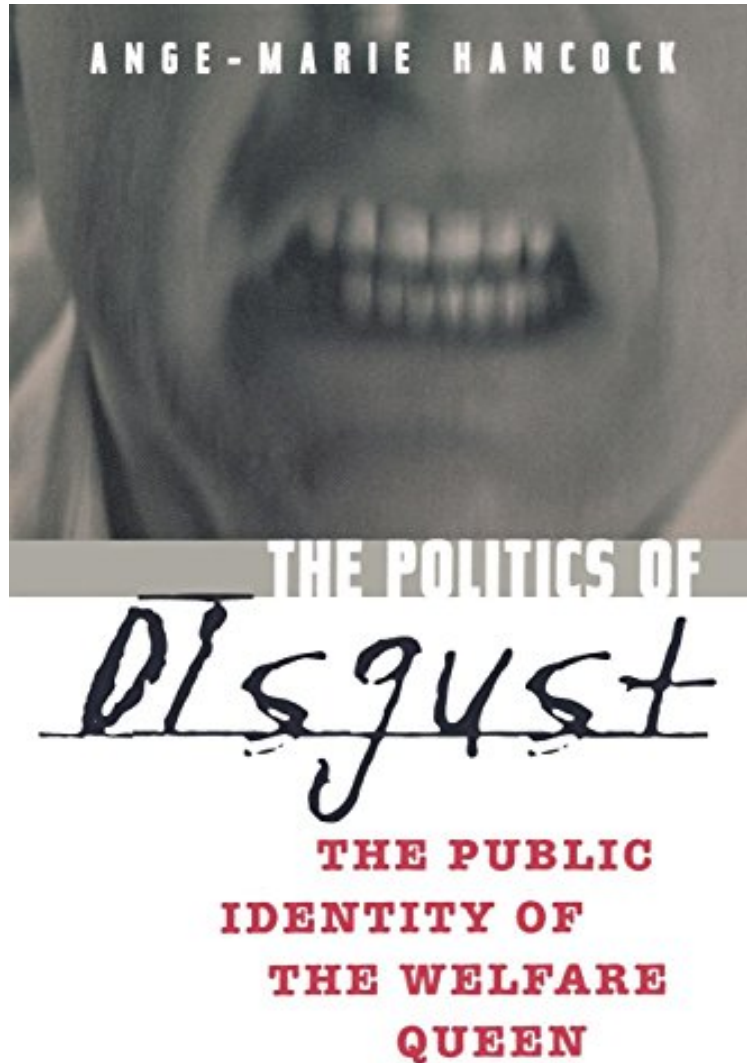


(Free read ebook) The Politics of Disgust: The Public Identity of the Welfare Queen

# The Politics of Disgust: The Public Identity of the Welfare Queen

Ange-Marie Hancock

ebooks | Download PDF | \*ePub | DOC | audiobook



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#364624 in Books NYU Press 2004-12-01 2004-12-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.25 x .57 x 6.13l, .69 #File Name: 081473670X210 pages | File size: 57.Mb

**Ange-Marie Hancock : The Politics of Disgust: The Public Identity of the Welfare Queen** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Politics of Disgust: The Public Identity of the Welfare Queen:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great Book ...must readBy Linda ScopeThe book is very forthright and tells much about the mechanics of political messaging that guides public opinion.. It will help me help those less fortunate.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Amazing WriterBy Will DiazOne of the best books on poverty research. Very complete, has quantitative and qualitative research. Amazing book.11 of 16 people found the

following review helpful. How 'not in my backyard' grew to 'not in our country'By Robin OrlovskiWhen welfare was originally developed in the 1930's, the white women who were eligible for this government assistance (the rolls were racially segregated until the 1960's) were supposed to go on welfare and stay at home with their children to meet the 'ideal' WASP gender role of the homemaker. Even if they lacked a male breadwinner (as was the social norm back then) these women were also supposed to remain at home with their children. The assumption was that the monthly welfare payment would provide another chance for these families to assimilate to 'proper' gender roles about women not working outside the home. Yet, when those programs began integrating in the 1960's, the nation subsequently began hearing about the alleged flaws of the 'welfare queen'. Now, women who wanted to stay at home with their children were reduced to parasites. Welfare reform attempts were not new (Nixon attempted them in the early 1970's) but the bipartisan support for 'ending welfare as we know it' was unprecedented. The 'welfare reform' charge became so compelling that even 'new' Democrat Bill Clinton signed the 1996 overall, despite himself having grown up in poverty --- and thus being able to personally understand the reasons why women would need to use public assistance. Because the actual payment levels had not kept up with minimum cost of living state estimates by the 1990's, it was actually impossible to become rich off of the monthly welfare check. Despite these compelling statistics, the government recognized that keeping other people in a frenzy about 'waste' in this most conservative of industrialized nations offered more political rewards.

Winner of the 2006 Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Organized Section Best First Book Award from the American Political Science Association Winner of the 2006 W.E.B. DuBois Book Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists Ange-Marie Hancock argues that longstanding beliefs about poor African American mothers were the foundation for the contentious 1996 welfare reform debate that effectively "ended welfare as we know it." By examining the public identity of the so-called welfare queen and its role in hindering democratic deliberation, *The Politics of Disgust* shows how stereotypes and politically motivated misperceptions about race, class and gender were effectively used to instigate a politics of disgust. The ongoing role of the politics of disgust in welfare policy is revealed here by using content analyses of the news media, the 1996 congressional floor debates, historical evidence and interviews with welfare recipients themselves. Hancock's incisive analysis is both compelling and disturbing, suggesting the great limits of today's democracy in guaranteeing not just fair and equitable policy outcomes, but even a fair chance for marginalized citizens to participate in the process.

An important contribution to our understanding.-*Perspectives on Politics*[An] excellent and outstanding book; Ange-Marie Hancock has established herself without doubt as a rising star in political science. -Gerald Horne, author of *Race War! White Supremacy and the Japanese Attack on the British Empire*For those concerned about inequality and democratic theory in America, Hancock's introduction alone, in which she frames the characteristics of politics of disgust, makes the book worthwhile.-*Perspectives on Politics*[A] challenging and disturbing account of the impact of stereotypes in politics. Anyone interested in the means by which the poor, the unpopular, and the alienated are kept from participating in politics to demand better treatment should read this book.-Frank R. Baumgartner, coauthor of *Agendas and Instability in American Politics*Brilliantly conceived and executed. . .[A] stunning work of public policy that, if embraced, could radically change 'welfare'and Americaas we know it.-Robin D. G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination**The Politics of Disgust* is a very thoughtful, theoretically sophisticated, empirically rich analysis of the discourse of welfare reform.-*Political Science Quarterly*About the AuthorAnge-Marie Hancock is assistant professor of political science and African American studies at Yale University.