

Manning Marable (1950–2011) was a professor of history, public affairs, and African-American Studies at Columbia University. Marable authored fifteen books including *Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention*, for which he won the Pulitzer Prize for History.

Manning Marable offers profound insight into the deeply intertwined problems of race and class in the United States historically and today. *How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America* dispenses impeccably comprehensive research to expose the realities of African American poverty, health, employment, and education, as well as other demographics. Marable’s conclusions prove an undeniable connection between the oppression and exploitation of Black America and capitalism.

“Manning Marable was a dear friend and one of my generation’s most gifted and profound historians, whose brilliance, rigor, and abiding commitment to truths that spoke to power are sorely missed in today’s ‘conversation on race.’ Now, in this new edition of his classic text, *How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America*, replete with probity and learning, Marable can challenge a new generation to find solutions to the problems that constrain the present but not our potential to seek and define a better future.”

—Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Alphonse Fletcher University Professor, Harvard University

“*How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America* is one of those paradigm-shifting, life-changing texts that has not lost its currency or relevance—even after three decades.”

—Robin D. G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams: The Black Radical Imagination*

“The reissue of Manning Marable’s *How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America* confirms that this is a classic work of political history and social criticism. Unfortunately, Marable’s blistering insights into racial injustice and economic inequality remain depressingly relevant. But the good news is that Marable’s prescient analysis—and his eloquent and self-critical preface to this new edition—will prove critical in helping us to think through and conquer the oppressive forces that remain.”

—Michael Eric Dyson, author of *I May Not Get There with You: The True Martin Luther King, Jr.*

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Political Science



HOW CAPITALISM UNDERDEVELOPED BLACK AMERICA

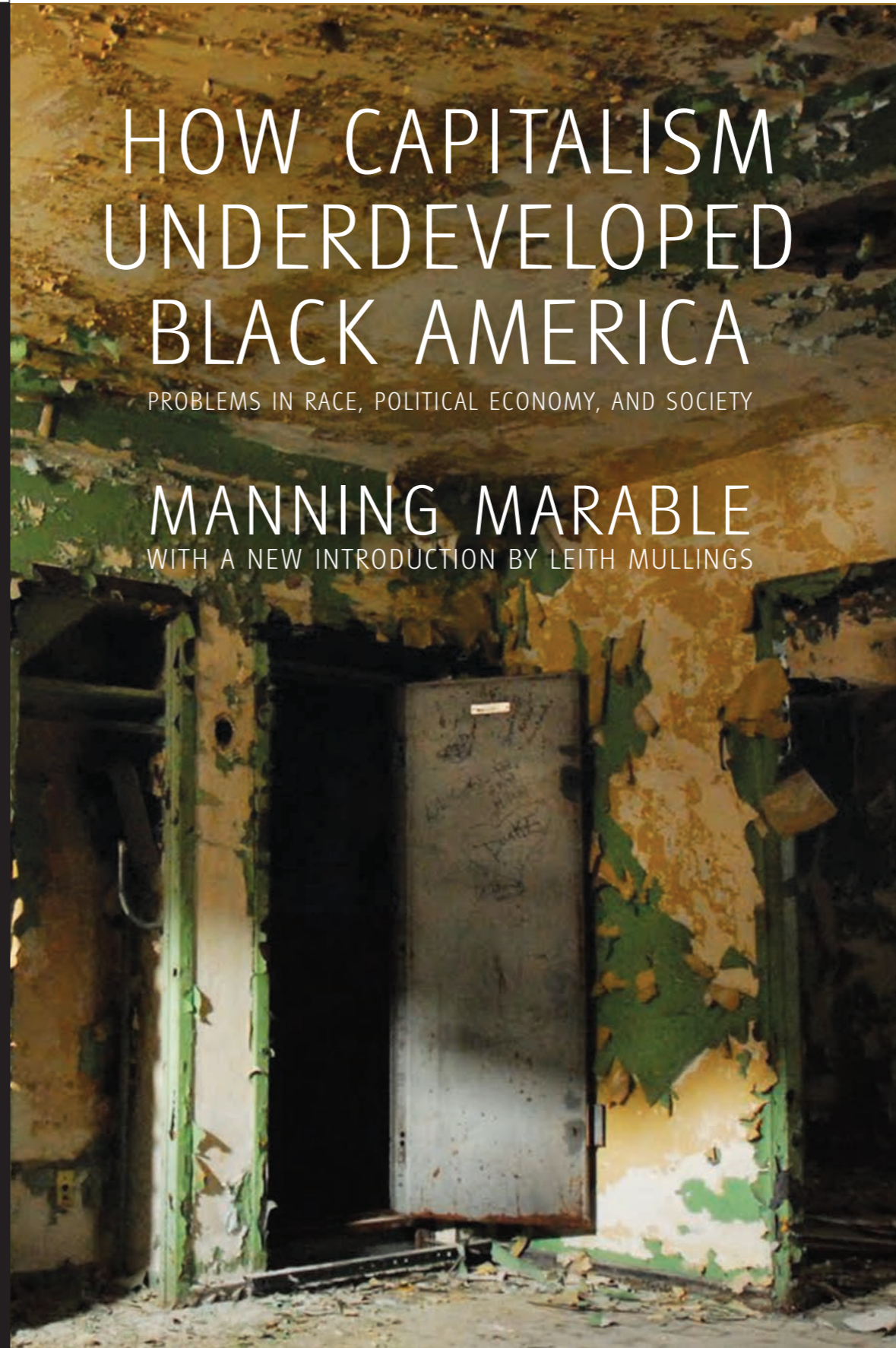
MANNING MARABLE



# HOW CAPITALISM UNDERDEVELOPED BLACK AMERICA

PROBLEMS IN RACE, POLITICAL ECONOMY, AND SOCIETY

MANNING MARABLE  
WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY LEITH MULLINGS



\$19

*How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America* is a pioneering work. Though written more than three decades ago, in 1983, the book continues to provide an analysis that illuminates the conditions Black people confront today. In 2015, the *New York Times* reported that 1.5 million Black men were “missing,” forced out of society by early death, the “war on drugs,” mass incarceration, and joblessness. In 1983, when Manning Marable wrote *How Capitalism Underdeveloped Black America*, the Black community was experiencing the consequences of the draconian Reagan “revolution,” including an increase in racially motivated violence. Documenting the worsening conditions of African Americans on many fronts, Marable analyzed this as a class project, characterized by manipulating racial stereotypes to divert hundreds of billions of dollars from programs supporting human needs to the military, promoting the law-and-order mentality and the “war on drugs” at home. His extensive exploration of the roots of current conditions led him to conclude that the “most striking fact about American economic history and its politics is the brutal and systematic underdevelopment of Black people.”

—from the Foreword by Leith Mullings