

Putting Trump in Historical Perspective: Racial Politics and Social Movements in Postwar America Today

The turbulent onset of Donald Trump's administration, to say nothing of the president's oversized presence, has so focused our attention in the moment that we are in danger of losing critically important historical perspective. Trump's rhetoric and behavior are so extreme that the tendency is to see him and the divisions he embodies as something wholly new in American politics. They are not, nor in broad relief, is the president. Instead, Trump is only the most extreme expression and product of a brand of racial politics practiced ever more zealously by the Republican Party since its origins in the 1960s. Drawing on the argument and evidence presented in *Deeply Divided: Racial Politics and Social Movements in Postwar America*, Stanford sociologist Doug McAdam will put the rise of Donald Trump in historical perspective and briefly highlight the threats to American democracy that preceded his rise and which, indeed, helped him win the White House.



Wednesday, September 27
4P.M.

Memorial Union 213,
Pan Afrikan-Sankofa Room

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC,
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

About Professor McAdam

Doug McAdam is the Ray Lyman Wilbur Professor of Sociology at Stanford University and former Director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. He is the author or co-author of 18 books and some 90 articles in the area of political sociology, with a special emphasis on racial politics in the U.S., and the study of social movements and "contentious politics." Among his best-known works are *Political Process and the Development of Black Insurgency, 1930-1970* (1982, University of Chicago Press), *Freedom Summer* (1988, Oxford University Press), which was awarded the 1990 C. Wright Mills Award, and *Dynamics of Contention* (2001, Cambridge University Press) with Sid Tarrow and Charles Tilly. His most recent book is *Deeply Divided: Racial Politics and Social Movements in Postwar America* (2014, Oxford University Press). In it, he and co-author Karina Kloos, offer a detailed account of the origins of the deep political, economic and racial divisions so evident in the U.S. today. He was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2003 and served as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar in 2009-2010.



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