

# CITY LIGHTS PUBLISHERS

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**Forthcoming from City Lights Publishers:**

***Redefining Black Power:***

***Reflections on the State of Black America***

**Edited by Joanne Griffith**

Foreword authored by Pacifica Radio Archives director Brian DeShazor

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**Conversations with black leaders and activists exploring  
current African American political and cultural life.**

***—Discussion continues at nationwide events and at [www.redefiningblackpower.com](http://www.redefiningblackpower.com)—***

As we approach the elections of 2012, it's crucial to consider the milestone represented by the presidency of Barack Obama, and what it has meant for the continuing struggle for political, economic and cultural equality in the United States. Has the first African American president helped to move things forward for people of color? Has his administration delivered the "change we can believe in" and "deepening of democracy" that communities of color organized around? How has the reality and image of a black First Family impacted American culture? What lessons from past struggles can be applied to this unique historical moment to advance multicultural democracy in the U.S.?

To explore these questions, BBC journalist Joanne Griffith traveled the country interviewing black intellectuals, leaders and activists including Van Jones, Michelle Alexander, Julianne Malveaux, Vincent Harding, Ramona Africa, Esther Armah and Linn Washington Jr.

The result is a rich and wide-ranging collection of conversations covering the issues facing African Americans today, from the criminal justice system and the media to education and the economy, to the ever-shifting meaning of Obama's contribution and impact. Both timely and rich in personal wisdom, *Redefining Black Power* connects the dots between past civil rights struggles and the future of black civic and cultural life in the United States.

Los Angeles-based Joanne Griffith is an award winning international broadcast journalist who has reported, produced and hosted programs for the British Broadcasting Corporation, National Public Radio and the Pacifica Radio Network. Joanne has spent her career telling the stories of tragedy and triumph throughout the African Diaspora; from voting rights in the United States, the legacy of slavery in the Caribbean, the contribution of immigrants to the United Kingdom and the politics of food and power in southern Africa. Joanne hosts a weekly radio program based on the historic audio held in the Pacifica Radio Archives for BBC Radio.

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