

# BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT

- AUTHOR
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# Chapter One



- Introduction
- Citation from Maria W. Stewart – described the African American Women as “The fair daughters of Africa” compelled to bury their minds and talents beneath a load of iron pots and kettles.
- Powerful images of native understanding of and notion of the African lady
- The wind of change in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century America (1831).

# Negative Images of the African American women



- Symbolic of poverty in the society
- Poverty blamed on racism, gender and oppression.
- Get no respect for their economic contribution (Solomon)
- Marginalization – not smart
- Abuse – always waiting on others

# Dialectics of Oppression and Activism



- Use influence as mother to forge powerful mechanism of political action to overcome marginalization and abuse
- Black African American women must be independent
- Urged women to allow their talents be visible in the society

# Patricia Collins

- Based on the dialectical tension between oppression and activism



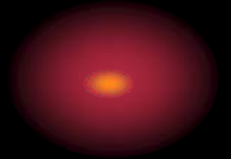
# Suppression Of Black African American Feminist Thought



- The importance of historical experience of the Black African American women slaves
- Oppression
- Abuse
- Marginalized

# 3 Dimensions of Abuse

- Economic – used as tools
- Polity – disenfranchised
- Ideology – mentality of subjugation that has its root in slavery



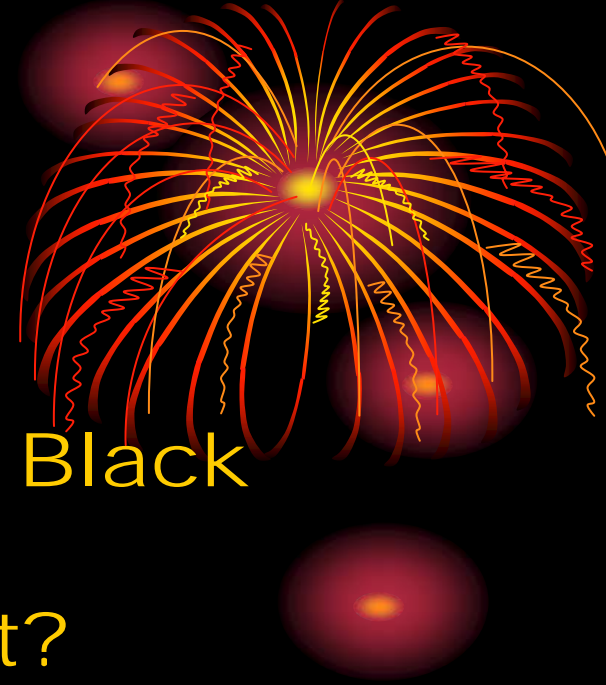
# Suppression of Black Feminist Thought



- Western Feminists – interested only in women middle class issues
- U.S. Middle class women – would not accept Black Feminists as colleagues
- Black African American men



# Chapter Two



- Distinguishing Features of Black Feminist Thought
- Why U.S. Feminist Thought?
- -Black American intellectual women resisting oppression
- -Thought based on the hurting experience of the Black women in slavery and the after effects of slavery

# Diverse Experiences



- Experience may be diverse but there is a collective memory and a lingering effect
- Societal experience of relegation and restriction to inferior lifestyle and neighborhood
- Connections between U.S. Black women experiences as heterogeneous collectivity
- Logical contribution of intellectual U.S. Black Women contribution

# Black Feminism - Dynamic and Changing



- Social Justice Project that ought to be dynamic according to changing times
- A struggle for improved human dignity and empowerment

