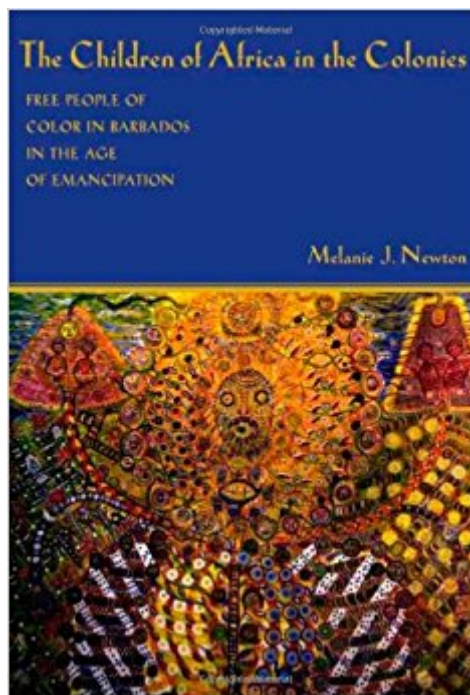




The book was found

The Children Of Africa In The Colonies: Free People Of Color In Barbados In The Age Of Emancipation (Antislavery, Abolition, And The Atlantic World)



Synopsis

How emancipation transformed social and political relations in Barbados

When a small group of free men of color gathered in 1838 to celebrate the end of apprenticeship in Barbados, they spoke of emancipation as the moment of freedom for all colored people, not just the former slaves. The fact that many of these men had owned slaves themselves gives a hollow ring to their lofty pronouncements. Yet in *The Children of Africa in the Colonies*, Melanie J. Newton demonstrates that simply dismissing these men as hypocrites ignores the complexity of their relationship to slavery. Exploring the role of free blacks in Barbados from 1790 to 1860, Newton argues that the emancipation process transformed social relations between Afro-Barbadians and slaves and ex-slaves. Free people of color in Barbados genuinely wanted slavery to end, Newton explains, a desire motivated in part by the realization that emancipation offered them significant political advantages. As a result, free people's goals for the civil rights struggle that began in Barbados in the 1790s often diverged from those of the slaves, and the tensions that formed along class, education, and gender lines severely weakened the movement. While the populist masses viewed emancipation as an opportunity to form a united community among all people of color, wealthy free people viewed it as a chance to better their position relative to white Europeans. To this end, free people of color refashioned their identities in relationship to Africa. Prior to the 1820s, Newton reveals, they downplayed their African descent, emphasizing instead their legal status as free people and their position as owners of property, including slaves. As the emancipation debate in the Atlantic world reached its zenith in the 1820s and 1830s and whites grew increasingly hostile and inflexible, elite free people allied themselves with the politics of the working class and the slaves, relying for the first time on their African heritage and the association of their skin color with slavery to openly challenge white supremacy. After emancipation, free people of color again redefined themselves, now as loyal British imperial subjects, casting themselves in the role of political protectors of their ex-slave brethren in an attempt to escape social and political disenfranchisement. While some wealthy men of color gained political influence as a result of emancipation, the absence of fundamental change in the distribution of land and wealth left most men and women of color with little hope of political independence or social mobility. Mining a rich vein of primary and secondary sources, Newton's study elegantly describes how class divisions and disagreements over labor and social policy among free and slave black Barbadians led to political unrest and devastated the hope for an entirely new social structure and a plebeian majority in the British Caribbean.

Book Information

Series: Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: LSU Press; 1 edition (June 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807133264

ISBN-13: 978-0807133262

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #3,385,761 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Barbados #1406 in Books > History > World > Slavery & Emancipation #10533 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Sociology > Race Relations > Discrimination & Racism

Customer Reviews

Melanie J. Newton is an assistant professor of Caribbean and Atlantic world history at the University of Toronto.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Children of Africa in the Colonies: Free People of Color in Barbados in the Age of Emancipation (Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World) If We Must Die: Shipboard Insurrections in the Era of the Atlantic Slave Trade (Antislavery, Abolition, and the Atlantic World) Emancipation in the West Indies: A Six Months' Tour in Antigua, Barbados, and Jamaica, in the Year 1837 (Cambridge Library Collection - Slavery and Abolition) The Dutch Atlantic: Slavery, Abolition and Emancipation (Decolonial Studies, Postcolonial Horizons) Adventure Guide Barbados (Adventure Guide to Barbados) (Adventure Guide to Barbados) Allergy-free Desserts: Gluten-free, Dairy-free, Egg-free, Soy-free, and Nut-free Delights The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards, and Telegraph Stamps of the British Colonies in the West Indies Together with British Honduras and the Colonies in South America Debt Free for Life: The Ultimate Guide to Get Out of Debt (FREE Bonuses Included) (Debt, Debt Free, Debt Free Forever, Debt Free for Life, Debt Free for Good, Debt Management, Get Out of Debt) Africa: African History: From Ancient Egypt to Modern South Africa - Stories, People and Events That Shaped The History of Africa (African Folktales, African ... Africa, Somalia, Nelson Mandela Book 3) "New Negroes from Africa": Slave Trade Abolition and Free African Settlement in the Nineteenth-Century Caribbean (Blacks in the Diaspora)

Emancipation, Sugar, and Federalism: Barbados and the West Indies, 1833-1876 (Latin American Monographs) The Emancipation Proclamation in Barbados and the British Windward Islands The Healthy Gluten-Free Life: 200 Delicious Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free, Soy-Free and Egg-Free Recipes! South Africa: related: south africa, africa, safari, Kruger, Western Cape, Stellenbosch, Paarl, Cape Town, republic of south africa, campaign Gluten Free: Gluten Free Diet for Beginners: Create Your Gluten Free Lifestyle for Vibrant Health, Wellness & Weight Loss (Gluten-Free Diet, Celiac Disease, Wheat Free, Cookbook Book 1) Diplomacy in Black and White: John Adams, Toussaint Louverture, and Their Atlantic World Alliance (Race in the Atlantic World, 1700â “1900 Ser.) White Creole Culture, Politics and Identity during the Age of Abolition (Cambridge Studies in Historical Geography) The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics African Canadians in Union Blue: Volunteering for the Cause in the Civil War (American Abolitionism and Antislavery) The Scorpion’s Sting: Antislavery and the Coming of the Civil War

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)