



Servants of the People

The 1960s Legacy of African American Leadership

Lea E. Williams

The repressive climate of racial hatred in America that spawned the 1960s civil rights movement also galvanized a generation of bold, persuasive, driven leaders who embodied the qualities of servant leadership. In a time of conflict, turmoil, and tragedy, these passionate and committed African Americans emerged to lead a generation from the cruelties of segregation to the revolution of civil rights reform. Beginning with the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court case, *Servants of the People* follows the lives of eight leaders--figures such as A. Philip Randolph, Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Fannie Lou Hamer, and Ella Baker--who willingly risked their lives for their cause. This revised edition also reflects on the dramatic changes in the African American political landscape since its initial publication, and expands its scope to include more of the women whose efforts were crucial to the success of the civil rights movement.

Praise for the first edition:

"An informative and illuminating study of African-American leaders in the Sixties . . . A fascinating journey through the lives of those who gave the Civil Rights movement its foundation." --Library Journal
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Lea E. Williams is an independent scholar living in Greensboro, North Carolina who lectures on African American leadership during the civil rights movement. She is the former executive director of the Women's Leadership Institute at Bennett College and the National African-American Women's Leadership Institute, Inc. Awards and honors include the Woman of Achievement Award in Education of the Greensboro Commission on the Status of Women and the Hilda A. Davis Award for Educational Leadership of the National Association for Women in Education. Currently she is a senior administrator at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

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