Legacy of PRBA’s Black Politics Studies

R. Khari Brown, Department of Sociology Wayne State University
Presentation Outline

1. PRBA Studies on Black Politics
2. Research on Black Politics prior to PRBA
3. Motivation behind PRBA Black Politics Studies
4. Key Theoretical Contributions
5. Impact of PRBA Black Politics Studies on Discipline
PRBA Studies on Black Politics

1984-1988: National Black Election Study
1991: Black American Perspectives
1993-4: National Black Politics Study
1996: National Black Election Study
2004-16: National Politics Study
Research on Black politics prior to PRBA

1896-7, Philadelphia Negro

1945 Black Metropolis (Chicago)

1961-2 Negro Political Participation Study (Former Confederate States)

1964 Negro Political Attitudes (National)

1968 Detroit Area Study

• Reagan Presidency & Reversal of Great Society (1980-88)


• No National Empirical Examination of State of Black Politics in Post Civil Rights Era

• Many survey items within PRBA’s black politics studies are specific to the
April 29, 1992: Acquittal of Officers
Shown beating Rodney King

1993 National Black Politics Study

Ronald E. Brown

James Jackson

Michael Dawson
Please tell me which choice is most true for you:

0: The police are an important part of stopping gang violence

OR

1: The police are too much like just another gang to stop gang violence.

- 0-25
- 26-50
- 51-75
- 76-100
Please tell me which choice is most true for you...
Source: 1993 NBPS

- 46%: The police are too much like just another gang to stop gang violence.
- 44%: The police are an important part of stopping gang violence.
- 10%: Don't Know/Other
Key Theoretical Contributions

1. Despite growth of Black middle class, social class *unrelated* to Black Political Partisanship and race-based policy attitudes

2. Black Racial Consciousness is strong and consistent predictor of
   - Political Partisanship
   - Political Activism
   - Race-based Policy Attitudes

3. Black Church reinforces black consciousness and political activism

4. Protest politics is one of many political strategies for African Americans to act upon individual and racial group interests
## Impact of Seminal Work Produced from PRBA-Black Politics Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book</th>
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Placement of PRBA Black Politics Research in Peer Reviewed Journals
1. First studies of Black political behavior in Post Civil Rights Era

2. Made key theoretical contributions to understanding role of social class, racial group consciousness & religion to Black political behavior and attitudes

3. Have had large impact on social science research

4. Current and future studies will continue to make important contributions to understanding of race and politics in America