Contents

Acknowledgments ix
Introduction 1
CHARLES P. HENRY

PART I: THE ELECTION

1. Toward a Multiracial Democracy:
   The Jackson and Obama Contributions 15
   CHARLES P. HENRY

2. Analysis of Black American Voters in
   Barack Obama’s Victory 34
   MARTIN KILSON

3. Dead Certain: The Election of Barack Obama
   and Its Implications for Racial Politics 60
   HANES WALTON JR., JOSEPHINE A. V. ALLEN,
   SHERMAN C. PUCKETT, DONALD R. DESKINS JR.

4. What Trumped? Race, Class, Gender, Generation,
   the Economy, and the 2008 Elections 82
   JULIANNE MALVEAUX
5. Race, the Presidency, and Obama’s First Year 92
DIANNE M. PINDERHUGHES

HERB BOYD

SCHARN ROBINSON

PART II: CULTURE

8. Lest We Forget: An open letter to my sisters who are brave 143
ALICE WALKER

9. The Ambivalent Embrace of Barack Obama: The Ethical Significance and Social Apprehension of Blackness 148
MAULANA KARENGA

10. Obama, Black Religion, and the Reverend Wright Controversy 165
JOHN L. JACKSON

11. Race, Religion, and the Race for the White House 181
DWIGHT N. HOPKINS

RONALD WILLIAMS II

13. Barack Obama’s Anomalous Relationship with the Hip-Hop Community 218
SHAUN OSSEI-OWusu

14. Too Black and Too Strong: First Lady Michelle Obama 236
ULA Y. TAYLOR
PART III: POLICY

15. President Obama: Freedom Democrat or Neoliberal? 253
   ROBIN D. G. KELLEY

16. Multicultural Hegemony: Globalization
    and the Obama Doctrine 262
   CLARENCE LUSANE

17. An Affirmative Act? Barack Obama
    and the Past, Present, and Future of
    Race-Conscious Remedies 277
   CHERYL I. HARRIS

Epilogue: The Legacy of the Obama Era:
A New Electoral Majority? 311
   ROBERT L. ALLEN

Contributors 315

Index 319