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## The Color Line in the Cold War

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Boele reveals that continued conflict had, for the TNC, become freighted with substantial economic disincentives, and that the forest "became the site of the largest civil disobedience protests in Canadian history."<sup>12</sup> Public opinion, once more, had economic and political consequences.

This reader would go well with a general text on human rights<sup>13</sup> to provide insight into one of the most daunting tasks in the field. The focus is on stories at least somewhat familiar from mainstream news sources, and there is plenty of relevance for any campus community in controversies over equal trade coffee, sweatshop apparel, and resources extracted from areas of civil conflict to support war-making rather than peace-making. This book fills a niche in the study of human rights, but one that is bound to become more important as the

power of TNCs waxes in relation to nation-states.

**Steve Russell**

*Steve Russell retired after seventeen years as a trial judge and Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at the University of Texas. Currently, he is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Indiana University, Bloomington. He holds an advanced law degree in addition to the J.D. His experience in education has led to a number of articles about the judicial process. His research focuses on the necessity of redefining national sovereignty to settle disputes arising from globalization and the need for American Indians to redefine tribal sovereignty and Indian identity in response to national and international change. Articles from this research have appeared in Crime, Law & Social Change, Chicago Policy Review, and Georgetown Public Policy Review. His current projects are a book on Indian policy from the tribal perspective and an edited book on the law of gender identity.*

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12. *Id.* at 189.

13. See, e.g., JACK DONNELLY, *UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS IN THEORY AND PRACTICE* (2d ed. 2003).

## THE COLOR LINE IN THE COLD WAR

*The Cold War and the Color Line American Race Relations in the Global Arena*, by Thomas Borstelmann, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 2001.

Professor Thomas Borstelmann's groundbreaking monograph perceptively demonstrates how concerns respecting international affairs and the Cold War had significant impacts on United States civil

rights policy between the end of World War II and the Vietnam conflict's height. This astute thesis has much salience for international phenomena, namely globalization and terrorism, and domestic ones, such as racism, while proffering a trenchant method of conceptualizing civil rights through a world lens.

Borstelmann's seminal work appeared the year after Professor Mary Dudziak had released an equally intriguing book, *Cold War Civil Rights: Race and the Image of American Democracy*<sup>1</sup> (*Cold War Civil Rights*). The two volumes assess the same major factors and time,

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1. MARY L. DUDZIAK, *COLD WAR CIVIL RIGHTS: RACE AND THE IMAGE OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY* (2002).

explore considerably analogous information, and reach a few similar conclusions. *The Cold War and the Color Line* merits scrutiny because it greatly improves appreciation of that critical period in ways which resemble, and depart from, *Cold War Civil Rights*.

This review undertakes that effort by stressing the valuable accounts' differences, even as it finds quite helpful the analogous dimensions in the newer monograph because they reaffirm the validity of the earlier pathbreaking, yet controversial, work. For instance, Borstelmann and Dudziak espouse rather similar theses. The writers assert that Cold War global developments, such as worldwide pressures for independence from colonial rule, substantially affected national civil rights policy, while the American civil rights movement had impacts on burgeoning anti-colonialism, so a number of global and domestic events were synergistic.

Borstelmann's treatment differs in significant ways from that of Dudziak. Most important is the weight Borstelmann assigns the relevant international and domestic phenomena and the corresponding perspective from which he views them. The author emphasizes the world and filters developments through an international prism to ascertain how global events influenced the United States, while Dudziak stresses America and refracts phenomena through a domestic lens to perceive their world effects.

These varying emphases and perspectives mean *The Cold War and the Color Line* affords numerous specifics that *Cold War Civil Rights* lacks. For example, Borstelmann surveys in consummate detail the African history. He traces the Cold War interactions among the nations with colonies on the continent, the freedom movements there, and

Cuba, Russia, and the United States. The writer extensively recounts how developments unfolded, and America's participation, in the Congo and South Africa, while he cogently analogizes the South African independence battle and the fight that African Americans waged against segregation practiced throughout the South. Borstelmann thus emphasizes international phenomena and colonialism, focusing on Africa.

*The Cold War and the Color Line* as well thoroughly documents what happened in the United States and links these events with global ones. Borstelmann carefully assesses how Presidents and Secretaries of State displayed analogous, remarkable ignorance of Africa, of the world outside Western Europe and of the South, even though he finds Richard Nixon's solicitude for Africa greater than that of most of his contemporaries.

In sum, *The Cold War and the Color Line* substantially enhances understanding of the complex interactions between global developments and American civil rights policy from the Second World War's termination until the United States was fully engaged in Vietnam. This monograph confirms significant, disputed ideas offered by *Cold War Civil Rights* and may be profitably contrasted to the earlier volume.

#### Carl Tobias

*Carl Tobias, Williams Professor, University of Richmond School of Law earned his B.A. from Duke University and his LL.B. from the University of Virginia. His research is in the areas of civil rights, federal courts, and civil procedure.*

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