

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	11
Introduction	13
Chapter One	
Womanist Perspective on Patriarchy, Black Men, and Violence – A Theoretical Outline.	25
1.1. Black women’s approaches to patriarchy and black men.	27
1.1.1. Critique of white patriarchy	28
1.1.2. Solidarity with black men as womanist challenge to black patriarchy	30
1.2. Formulating a theoretical framework	37
1.2.1. The influence of mainstream feminism on black feminism	37
1.2.2. Womanism and feminism.	39
1.2.3. Womanist perspective on black male confrontations with violence	48
Chapter Two	
Black Men and Plantation Patriarchy	53
2.1. Introduction	55
2.2. The emergence of capitalist patriarchy	57
2.2.1. The emergence of the Euro-American capitalist mindset	58
2.2.2. The rise of racialized capitalist plantation patriarchy	63
2.3. Oppressive plantation patriarchy and racial violence	70
2.4. The responses of black man to plantation patriarchy	71
2.4.1. A free black man and plantation patriarchy.	71
2.4.2. Black male mute responses to oppressive plantation patriarchy	80
2.5. Summary.	83

Chapter Three	
Black Men and Violence: A Socio-criminological Perspective	87
3.1. Introduction	89
3.2. Black men as victims of inter-racial violence.	94
3.2.1. Militant white supremacist nationalism	95
3.2.2. Racial profiling and black male incarceration.	98
3.3. Black men as perpetrators of violence.	108
3.3.1. Domestic violence	109
3.3.2. Street violence	127
3.4. Summary	134
Chapter Four	
Black Men and War	137
4.1. Introduction	139
4.2. War, the citizen-soldier ideal, and the hope of black men for self-assertion	142
4.3. War and black male disappointment	145
4.4. Black veterans' post-war struggle against racial oppression	151
4.5. The transcending power of black unity	159
4.6. Summary.	169
Chapter Five	
The Blues, Black Man, and Violence	173
5.1. Introduction	175
5.2. The violence of slavery as the foundation of the blues.	176
5.3. The blues, violence, and dilemmas of free black men	180
5.4. Northern violence and the blues.	185
5.5. The blues and sublimation of violence.	193
5.6. Summary.	198
Chapter Six	
Alternative Black Masculinities vs. Patriarchal Violence	205
6.1. Defining alternative black masculine identities	207
6.2. Literary representations of alternative black masculinities.	220
6.2.1. Alternative models of masculine behavior as manifestations of progressive masculinity.	222
6.2.1.1. The black male activist/intellectual as an exemplar of progressive masculinity	222
6.2.1.2. The preacher figure as a non-violent masculine model.	226
6.2.1.3. Alternative masculinity in challenge to gender constructionism	231
6.2.2. The vitiation of black male alternative models in patriarchal contexts.	239
6.2.2.1. The victimization of a sensitive black man.	239
6.2.2.2. Closeted homosexuality among black men and violence	247
6.3. Summary.	251

Chapter Seven

Concluding Remarks	255
7.1. Racial consciousness and literariness in womanist literature	257
7.1.1. Racial consciousness and its manifestation in womanist literature	258
7.1.1.1. The womanist literary challenge to the racial stereotypes of violent black men.	258
7.1.1.2. Continued racial concerns	259
7.1.1.3. The violent encounters of black men as racial experience.	261
7.1.1.4. The role of black women	266
7.2. The literariness of womanist novels and literary activism	268
Works Cited.	277