

# Diversity Begets Diversity

Hurricane Katrina Programming at the  
University of Missouri—Kansas City

# Diversity in Programming

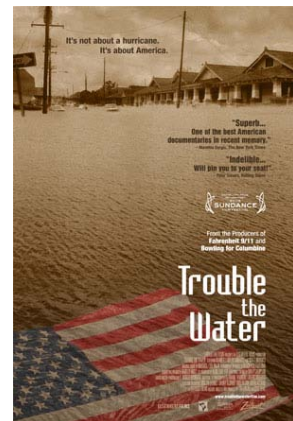
Lecture by Dr.  
Michael Eric  
Dyson

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Film  
Viewing

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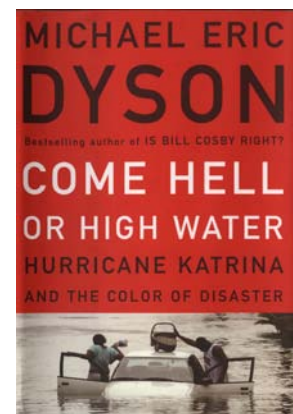
Personal  
Account from a  
Survivor

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Book  
Discussion

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# New Orleans Musicians Respond to Hurricane Katrina

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The CDs below were issued by local New Orleans artists soon after the Hurricane Katrina disaster. They are available for checkout from the Music/Media desk on the Ground Floor - ask for them by CD Call Number.



Dr. John and the Lower 911  
*City that Time Forgot*  
CD 2009: 702



Elvis Costello & Allen Toussaint  
*The River in Reverse*  
CD 2009: 703



Various Artists  
*Our New Orleans: a Benefit Album*  
CD 2009: 706





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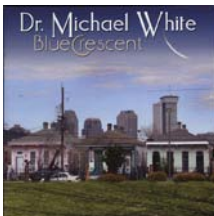
Smoky Greenwell and the Blues Grus  
*Between Iraq and a Hard Place*  
CD 2009: 704



The Dirty Dozen Brass Band  
*What's Going On*  
CD 2009: 705



Irma Thomas  
*After the Rain*  
CD 2009: 707



Dr. Michael White  
*Blue Crescent*  
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*Special thanks to Chuck Haddix, Marr Sound Archives, for identifying the albums, and to Laura Gayle Green, Music/Media, for adding them to the Library's collection.*



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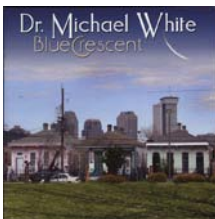
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UMKC UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES~BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES

BOOK DISCUSSION: **COME HELL OR HIGH WATER: HURRICANE  
KATRINA AND THE COLOR OF DISASTER**  
BY **Dr. Michael Eric Dyson**

October 7, 2009- 1:00p. m. - 2:30p. m.  
Miller Nichols Library~Room 303

**BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. Did certain chapters of the book make you uncomfortable? If so, why did you feel that way? Did this lead to a new understanding or awareness of some aspect of your life you might not have thought about before?
2. If another storm of the same magnitude as Hurricane Katrina happened next week, what do you think would happen differently this time? Would anything happen differently?
3. What did you find surprising about the facts introduced in this book? What one new fact did you learn from reading this book?
4. How has reading this book changed your opinion of the impact of Hurricane Katrina?
5. Does Dr. Dyson present information in a way that is interesting and insightful, and if so, how does he achieve this?
6. Dr. Dyson is writing on a debatable issue, does he give proper consideration to all sides of the debate? Does he seem to have a bias?
7. How has the book increased your interest in the subject matter of Hurricane Katrina?
8. If the head of FEMA would have asked you for help at the beginning of the disaster, what important advice/ideas would you have given?
9. From your knowledge of Hurricane Katrina and the book, *Come Hell or High Water*, identify your "gut feeling" about how the government response.



## Discussion Questions

Use some or all of these questions to engage your group in a deeper discussion about human rights, housing, displacement, and the needs of the Gulf Coast. For background information on Hurricane Katrina and applicable human rights standards, see the last section of this guide.

- What scenes stood out to you in this movie? Why?
- Why don't Kim and Scott evacuate New Orleans? Who was able to evacuate New Orleans? Who is responsible for helping evacuate those who can't leave on their own?
- What did President Bush say is government's responsibility during the hurricane?

Was he right? That is, what is government's responsibility during the hurricane?

- Should every kind of building be evacuated during a disaster like Katrina? Should hospitals? Should prisons?
- Did Katrina change your perception about racism in the U.S.? Did this film?
- How is displacement by Hurricane Katrina a human rights issue?
- How does the availability of housing affect the right to return?
- When Kim and Scott return to the Lower Ninth Ward a few weeks after Katrina hit, he says, "If they rebuild it, it's not going to be the same." Has New Orleans been rebuilt since Katrina? Is it the same?
- What services does the government -- whether FEMA or other agencies -- attempt to provide for Kim, Scott, and others displaced by Katrina? Is that enough?





- At one point, Kim says the neglect by the government during and after the storm made her feel "as if we lost our citizenship". How did Kim's view make you feel?
- Should citizenship matter in this case, or are non-citizens equally entitled to protection by the government during and after a disaster like Katrina? Are all citizens entitled to the same protections -- for example, are prisoners entitled to the same protections as non-prisoners?
- What role does a chronic lack of information play in prolonging Kim and Scott's displacement?
- If another storm of the same magnitude as Hurricane Katrina happened next week, what do you think would happen differently this time? Would anything happen differently?
- What difference, if any, can a film like *Trouble the Water* make to the ongoing human rights crisis in the Gulf Coast?
- How will you make a difference?

UMKC University Libraries Brown Bag Lunch Series  
focused on the events and aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

# TROUBLE THE WATER

Viewing of documentary about two  
unforgettable Hurricane Katrina survivors.

**September 23, 2009**

**1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

**Miller Nichols Library  
Room 121**

seating is limited

RSVP to: [tibbsg@umkc.edu](mailto:tibbsg@umkc.edu)

**CHECK OUT A COPY  
OF THE BOOK  
*Come Hell or High Water*  
ON THE 1ST FLOOR  
OF THE LIBRARY**

Bring your own lunch or pick something up from  
Café a la Carte on the library's first floor.

PERSONAL ACCOUNT  
OF AN EVACUEE

September 30

BOOK DISCUSSION  
*Hell or High Water*

October 7

Questions? Call: 816-235-1534 or email Gloria Tibbs [tibbsg@umkc.edu](mailto:tibbsg@umkc.edu)



Presented in conjunction with the Division of Diversity, Access & Equity: UMKC Social Justice Book and Lecture Program: Dr. Michael Eric Dyson speaking on his book *Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster*. October 12, 2009, 6:00pm, Swinney Recreation Center

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