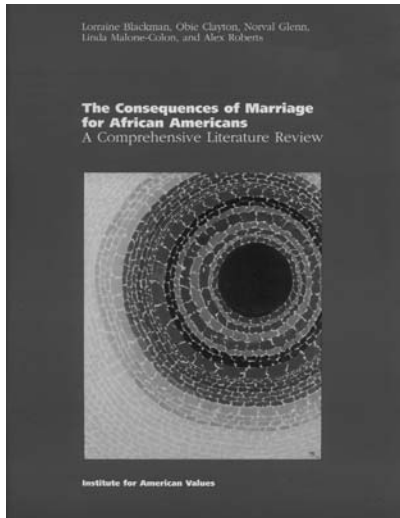


# The Consequences of Marriage for African Americans

## *A Comprehensive Literature Review*



RECENT DECADES have seen steep declines in the marriage rate among African Americans and extensive scholarly debate about the implications of this trend. But despite all of the attention the subject has received, we still know relatively little about marriage in Black America: Do African Americans typically benefit from marriage? Do they benefit to the same degree as Whites?

In *The Consequences of Marriage for African Americans*, a team of scholars — **Lorraine Blackman** of Indiana University, **Obie Clayton** of Morehouse College, **Norval Glenn** of the University of Texas (Austin), **Linda Malone-Colon** of Hampton University; and **Alex Roberts** of the Institute for American Values — undertakes what we believe is the first-ever comprehensive review of the data on this topic.

The report discusses in detail how marriage affects the lives of African American men, women, and children — in terms of economic status, mental health, and other measures of well-being. It also elucidates some important gender and racial differences in the consequences of marriage, describing, for example, how and why Black women seem to benefit less from marriage than other groups.

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