



# *A Manifesto: Citing is Political*



## 10 STEPS FOR MAKING SURE THE WORK OF BLACK FEMINIST POLITICAL ECONOMISTS IS SEEN

We are no longer being quiet on citation politics. Black women and other racialized scholars are speaking Truth when we know that our work has not been acknowledged. We are inspired and emboldened by the work on the Combahee River Collective, the Black Feminist Archive of Dr. Irma McClaurin, and the #CiteBlackWomen Collective to ensure that our ideas and work are seen. We stand with each other and against folks who refuse to cite us and do not respect our knowledge making.

### IN THE EVENT THIS HAPPENS, HERE IS WHAT WE CAN DO

1. We send a polite letter to make sure the person know they have taken our work. This letter will go on social media e.g. Twitter, Facebook – and our reply will be public.
2. We hope that the person will be reasonable and apologize and learn. But we know that they are almost always hostile, patronizing, lying, trolling and defensive.
3. We use their names (and their publisher's name and tag the employer if we choose) to hold them to account. Some white allies may not like this but we stay our course.
4. We call it out. This takes courage. The process is draining, exhausting and stressful.
5. We stay focused. Be sure to IGNORE their minions.
6. We educate folks about resources on citational justice praxis, understanding the ways that the intellectual contributions of Black women are often overlooked.
7. We protect the Black woman expert. We write this: "Citation is an academic practice that signals our desire to enter into dialogue with respected others. It is also a politics that for far too long has devalued Black scholars by routinely ignoring and erasing their expertise and contributions. It is for this reason that ... I stand with X." Validate her expertise.
8. We work closely with our partners to campaign, and will find those people.
9. We retreat, take refuge and we heal when our work of public outing, is complete. We have got your back and will order you to bedrest for two days.
10. We move on and live our best lives.

### WAY FORWARD

- Prioritize each other: what we do in feminist political economy. Our focus is to draw on feminist writings, particularly Black and racialized women's works.
- Cite and teach each other's work as much as we can, with love.
- Invite each other to give talks. Amplify their work and offer an honorarium.
- As a reviewer, we must recommend the inclusion of Black women scholars.
- Find time to share who we are and what we do. Check ins, and laugh a lot by WhatsApp, Zoom.

### WORKS CITED

We are thankful for the feedback from The Cite Black Women Collective on 27 October 2022.  
The Combahee River Collective Statement (1974, founder Barbara Smith):  
<https://daily.jstor.org/annotations-the-combahee-river-collective-statement/>  
Black feminist Archive. <https://blackfeminisms.com/resources/black-feminist-archive/>  
Cite Black Women Collective: <https://www.citeblackwomenscollective.org/>

