Page numbers followed by n denote notes.

```
Adams, Alma, 238, 249
adolescent girls, Black, 143. See also Black women
adoration: Du Bois's, 103-4, 119, 135; of white infant life, 52-4, 58
adrenaline, 223
affective deficiency, allegations of, 83, 88–90. See also blame
affective rationality of exclusion, 83-8
African American Midwifery in the South (Fraser), 190
Aftershock (documentary), 240
agency: collective, 226, 229, 234; exploration of, 222; maternal, 58; racial capitalism and, 11-12,
      128; of white mob, 138–9, 151; of white women, 118
agricultural labor regimes, racialized, 262–3n16
Ahmed, Sara, 197, 198, 199, 200, 211, 212, 214
Alexander, Vicki, Dr., 250
Ali, Tatyana, 249
All My Babies: A Midwife's Own Story (film), 201–3, 205–6
allostatic load, 223, 227
ambivalence: anguished, 38, 102, 110-11; maternal, 126-35, 152-60; paternal, 104, 106-7, 127,
      128, 130, 132, 134–5; toward enslaved women's experiences of pregnancy and birth, 128
American Association for Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality (AASPIM), 68–9
American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women, 237
Ancient Song Doula Services, 245
"An End to the Neglect of the Problems of the Negro Woman" (essay), 178
Anglo-Saxon chastity, 88
anguish: gendered, 125; maternal, 129, 130, 147, 149, 151, 156, 165, 168, 172; paternal, 119,
animateriality, 131, 132
antibias training, 255
anti-lynching politics, 95–6
anti-miscegenation laws, 112
appropriation: of Black maternal experiences and insights, 134; of idealized white childhood's
      gold and blue, 119; midwives and, 209–11, 213; native dispossession as benign, 177–8; of
      spatial extent of enslaved body, 76
Ariès, Philippe, 57, 58
Asian immigrants, 133
Association for the Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality (AASPIM), 43–4
attachment to white infant life, 52–4
Auld, Sophia, 173
Avery, Byllye, 245
```

bags, midwives': as an instrument of racial discipline, 193–4; as enactment of racial innocence by Black midwives, 205–9; sousveillance and, 209–11; as surveillance objects, 186–8, 189–96, 208–9

Bailey, Moya, 245

Baldwin, James, 32, 247, 255; disavowal of Indigenous genocide, 8, 265–6n42; formulation of innocence, 10–13, 32, 33; rhetoric of slavery, 266n45

Balfour, Lawrie, 132; depiction of Baldwin, 12; on Du Bois's articulations of feminism, 133–4 Beard, Lisa, 32

Beloved (Morrison), 128

Benjamin, Ruha, 22

bereavement. See maternal bereavement; paternal bereavement

Berg, Ann, 85

Berlant, Lauren, 87, 284n204

Bernstein, Robin, 23, 27, 28

bias, 17, 215, 254

biographical personhood of white infants, 56–7

biopolitics: concept, 17–18; necropolitics of Black infant mortality and, 18–27

Birthing Project USA, 241

"Birthing While Black: Examining America's Black Maternal Health Crisis," 249

Birth Justice, 246–7

Blacks: commodity status of, 69; death rites of, 86–7; economic success, intolerance for, 147; mortality statistics, public health officials on, 69; physicians, 70; reproductive health, medical disinvestment in, 70; sexual relations, Hoffman on, 77–82; youth communities, 25

Black adolescent girls, 143-4

Black and white childhood, polarization of, 27–8

Black and white womanhood: birthing differences, 22–3; opposed characterizations of, 82–3

Black doulas. See doulas

Black infants: being of, 109–11; body of, 111–15; death, mourning of, 57; devalued, 88–90; gaze of, 107–9, 123; sufferings of enslaved, 64–6; value of enslaved life, 62–4

Black infant death and enslavement: complexity of Black maternal experiences, 60–3; sufferings, 63–6

Black infant mortality, 20; affective rationality of exclusion, 83–8; as exclusion from futurity, 74–83; meaning, 261n4, 281n142

Black infant mortality statistics, 20–1; factors affecting, 257; Hoffman's synthesis and interpretation of, 71–4; sentiments towards, 66–7

Black Mamas Matter Alliance, 249

Black Maternal Health Caucus, 238, 249

Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021, 238

Black midwives, 5, 128, 238–9, 249–50; bags as enactment of racial innocence by, 205–9; bags as surveillance objects, 186–8, 190–6; community-based, 181–2; as crucial healers and key authorities, 184–5; deviance in official interpretations of Black infant mortality, 20–1; midwifery as persistent danger, 196–200; midwifery care in the broader ecology of harm, 213–14; midwifery training, 185–6, 187; praxes of care against racial innocence, 211–13; sousveillance and the bag, 209–11; tensions of innocence and failed orientations, 201–3, 205–9

Black mothers: behavior modification, 230; deviance in official interpretations of Black infant mortality, 20–1, 29; under distress, 161; fear of police brutalization, 24; hostilities against, 9, 61, 139, 155, 167, 208–9, 253; maternal deficiency, 62, 65, 128, 148; maternal experiences, 22–3, 60–3; maternal mortality, 215–17; maternal sensitivity, 151, 159–60,

162, 167; mourning by, 21, 88–90, 105, 126, 137–40, 153; practices of, 35, 132; responsiveness of, 163, 181; suffering, 63–6; Terrell's depiction of, 129–30. *See also* Black women; enslaved mothers; *specific* entries

Black Panther Party, 245

Black physicians, 70, 186, 250, 254–5

Black press, 179

Black Reconstruction in America (Du Bois), 30, 271n113

Black Skin, White Masks (Fanon), 197

Black women: cellular aging of, 222–3; hyperpropriety of, 145–6; as ideal subjects for medical experimentation and hard labor, 70; kinship ties of, 24, 31, 32, 35, 48–9, 50, 128, 132, 133, 229; labor, 13, 49; lasciviousness, stereotypes of, 144; maternity care/neglect for, 16; sexuality of, 46–7, 48; vaginal exam by white physician, 199–200. *See also* Black mothers

Black Women Birthing Justice Collective, 246

blame: biases and, 215; displacement of, 15–16, 21, 235, 250; on European immigrant groups, 68; on midwives, 205; 'mother blame' narratives, 4–5, 8, 15–17, 35, 40–1, 62, 175, 206, 225, 235

blamelessness, practiced, 8, 15, 36, 250

Blarcom, Constance Van, 196–7

Bonaparte, Alicia, 185

Booker, Cory, 238

Bray, Stephanie, 32

Bridges, Khiara, 235, 274n4

Briggs, Laura, 70, 166

Browne, Simone, 191, 194, 209-11

Bruyneel, Kevin, 34, 265-6n42

Bureau of Child Guardians, 70

Calhoun, John C., 2 Callahan, Noaquia, 178 Campbell, Marie, 192 "captive maternal," 13–14

Carby, Hazel, 23, 46, 85, 86–7, 123, 124; analysis of ideology of "true babyhood," 46–51; critique of Terrell's work, 177; "cult of true womanhood," 82–3, 85, 86–7; on Du Bois's articulations of feminism, 133–4; on vaginal exam of Black women by white physician, 199–200

Casper, Monica, 21

cellular aging of Black women, 222–3

chattel slavery system, 14, 19, 46, 64, 66

Child, Elizabeth (white mother), 53

Christian slave owner, 14

Church, Louisa, 145–6, 149

class privilege, 152, 156

Cole, Haile Eshe, 247

Coley, Mary Frances Hill, 202–3, 205–9

collective agency, 138, 151, 226, 229, 234

colonial disavowal and innocence, 33-4

"colonial unknowing," 35

"colonising white innocence," 34

A Colored Woman in a White World (Terrell), 136-7, 155

common sense, 47

Communist Party-associated Civil Rights Congress, 179

community-based midwives, 181-2

community caregivers, 253

consolation literature, 54

contraceptive practices of enslaved women, 128

Cooper, Anna Julia, 96–7, 145, 164–5

Cooper, Brittney, 152, 158, 160, 161

cortisol levels, 223-4

COVID birth justice care fund, 253

"crack baby" media frenzy, 29-30

Crear-Perry, Joia, Dr., 249

Crenshaw, Kimberlé, 165

Crisis in the Crib (film), 232–4

cult of domesticity, 54–5; preciousness and, 54–7; white infant death and, 51–4

cult of true babyhood. See true babyhood

cult of true womanhood, 45-8, 82

Cvetkovich, Ann, 53–4

"damage-based research," 226

"The Damnation of Women," 132–3

Dark Princess. 113–14

*Darkwater*, 113, 132

Davenport, Charles, 44

Davis, Angela, 50

Davis, Dána-Ain, 30, 137-8, 166-7, 217, 235-6, 242-3

Davis, David Brion, 191

Davis-Floyd, Robbie, 212

degeneration hypothesis, 113

Degler, Carl, 52

denial of relationality, 85

depression, 57, 151, 160, 161, 168, 237

desegregation in schools, 32

disappearance hypothesis, 2, 73, 94

disavowal, 13, 27-8, 33-4, 101, 255

disciplinary hierarchy, 211

"diseases of overcivilization," 70

"disparities pimping," 16

displacement of blame, 15–16, 21, 235, 250

displacement of responsibility, 251. See also blame

disruption of care, 35

Dixon, Chris, 63, 64

domestic role of woman, 52

Donzelot, Jacques, 59

Douglas, Ann, 54

Douglass, Frederick, 63, 157, 173

doulas, 17, 214, 217, 239, 248–9; of color, 238–9; in the hospital, 253; Indigenous, 246. *See also* Black midwives

Downs, Jim, 80–1

Du Bois, Burghardt Gomer, 98; being of, 109–11; body of, 111–15; elegy, 103–6; gaze of, 107–9 Du Bois, Gomer, 116–17; feminine innocence, 122–5; gendered characterizations of, 120–2; maternal ambivalence, 126–35; mourning of, 105

Du Bois, W.E.B., 8, 51, 179, 256; ambivalence of, 102, 104, 106–7, 127, 128, 130, 132, 134–5; conceptions of infant innocence, 153–4; "The Damnation of Women," 132; *Dusk of Dawn*, 98; on his scientific pursuits, 97–8; on Ingram Family case, 179; Moten, Fred, on, 131–2; *The Philadelphia Negro*, 94; on positive form of innocence, 36; "public and psychological wage" of whiteness, 30; *Race Traits* review by, 91–4, 280n141, 281n142, 281n144, 281n151, 282n163–4, 283n179; on segregated health care, 133; on white women in schools, 32. See also *The Souls of Black Folk* 

Dumm, Thomas, 119 Dunbar-Ortiz, Roxane, 272n122 *Dusk of Dawn* (Du Bois), 98 Dye, Nancy Schrom, 51, 59

"easy access" model, 253

Edkins, Jenny, 150

education: of colored children, 180; of immigrant parents, 68; of midwives, 201

emancipated slaves, sufferings of, 67

Emerson, Ralph Waldo, 128, 134, 135

empathy, 64

enslaved mothers: casual murders of infants, 61–2; complexity of Black maternal experiences, 60–3; sufferings of, 63–6. *See also* Black mothers

enslaved women's contraceptive practices, 128

environmental factors, 163, 225

epigenetics, 25–6, 167, 223–4, 225

eugenics, 44–5, 274n4

European immigrants, 48–9; infant mortality, 62, 67–8; midwives, 195; settler innocence, 34; settler memory, 265–6n42; white settler reproductive futurity, 10, 31–2, 67–70, 264–5n33

Ewald, François, 73–4, 90

examination as disciplinary apparatus, 190

exclusion: affective rationality of, 83–8; from futurity, 74–83

experiential knowledge of midwives, 198, 200

"family policing system," 15 Fanon, Frantz, 19, 197 feeling, structures of gendered, 124 female abolitionists, 63–4 feminine innocence, 122–5 "fetal programming," 223

figurations: of birth chamber and bed, 120; of Black infants as hardy babies, 166–7; of Black thinkers and leaders, 123; of Black women's body, 85; of hereditary criminality, 171–2; of maternity and heredity, 177; of Nina Gomer Du Bois, 126; racist biopolitics of impressibility and, 165–6; of transgressions across color line, 113; of true babyhood, 45–6, 52; of white and Black female sexuality, 48; of white maternity and heredity, 181; of white woman's body, 242–3

Filipina mothering, 35

Fonssagrives, 59

Foucault, Michel, 190–1, 194; on concepts of biopolitics, 17–18; figurations of state racism, 19 Fox, Cybelle, 68

Francis, Megan Ming, 157

Fraser, Gertrude, 9, 190, 191, 194, 198, 200, 206, 212, 213–14

funerals: of Burghardt Du Bois, 100, 101, 106, 125; display of indifference on, 89, 101, 108, 115, 117, 118; Hoffman on pauper, 86–9

futurity: of racial state, 115; of white citizenry, 67–70

futurity, exclusion from, 74–83; depiction of sexual immorality, 82–3; post-emancipation negation of Black existence, 75–82

Gaines, Kevin, 94

Galton, Francis, 96

Garner, Margaret, 61, 128, 152

Garrison, Helen, 64

gaze, 118, 120; infant, 107-9, 123; white, 192, 193

gender conventions, 116-17

genealogical belonging of white infants, 55-6

Geronimus, Arline, 25, 168, 222-3, 237

Gilmore, Ruth Wilson, 8

Giwa, Latona, 239

glance versus true seeing, 115-20

gloves: doulas: in midwife's bag, 210; prohibition on, 199–200. See also Black midwives

Goldsby, Jacqueline, 96

Goldstein, Alyosha, 35

Goode, Keisha, 251

Gore, Dayo, 179, 180

gray physician, 105, 112

Green, Tiffany, 17, 254

Gregory, Yvonne, 180

Grew, Mary, 64, 65

grief, 67; mourning by Black mothers; paternal bereavement; of African mothers, 14–15; postpartum, 161. *See also* maternal bereavement

Griffin, Farah Jasmine, 114

Grimké, Weld Angelina, 129, 155–7

Halfon, Neal, 226–9

Hall, Calista, 53, 56

Hall-Trujillo, Kathryn, 241

Hamer, Fannie Lou, 245

Hammonds, Evelynn, 67, 70, 91, 112

hardiness: of Black babies, 30, 166-7; obstetrical, 166-7, 242

Harlem Birth Right Project, 220–1

Harper, Frances, 164

Hartman, Saidiya, 62–3, 64, 65, 75–6, 82, 131, 191, 193, 194

"A Healthy Baby Begins with You" initiative, 7, 217–18, 220–6, 256; brochure, 217–18, 220, 231; stress as individual maternal pathology, 229–36; transgenerational effects of psychosocial stress, 223–6

herbal knowledge, 198–9

herbal remedies in midwife's bag, 209-10, 211

herbs, prohibition on, 198–9

hereditary criminality, white supremacist ascriptions of, 169–72

hereditary environmental hazard, white supremacist maternity, 168-76

heredity theory, 169

heritability, notions of, 170–1

Hernández, Tanya Katerí, 35

heteropatriarchal matrimony, 110

heteropatriarchal norms, 31

Higginbotham, Evelyn, 193

The History of Sexuality (Foucault), 17

Hoffman, Frederick, 1, 15, 29, 34–5, 66, 111, 112, 163, 256; on affective rationality of exclusion, 83–8; on Black infant mortality rates, 2–3; depiction of sexual immorality, 82–3; linking thrift and sentiment, 88–90; on pauper funeral, 88–9; post-emancipation negation of Black existence, 75–82; *Race Traits and Tendencies of the American Negro*, 71–4, 262n5, 262n6

Hogarth, Rana, 45

Holmes, Linda Janet, 198–9

Hooker, Juliet, 16, 112, 113-14

Hopkins, Pauline, 164

Hose, Sam, 105

hostilities against Black mothers, 9, 61, 139, 155, 167, 208–9, 253

HPA (hippocampus-pituitary-adrenal) axis of infants, 223–4

Human Genome Project, 223

hybridity: Burghardt's, 291n77; racial mixture and, 111–14

hybridity as moribundity, 74–83; depiction of sexual immorality, 82–3; post-emancipation negation of Black existence, 75–82

hyperpropriety of Black women, 145-6

hypertension, 237, 239

hysteria, 70

identification and suffering, 65

immigrants: doulas, 246; immigrant-of-color mothering, 32; Latinx, 133; parents, education of, 68. *See also* European immigrants

implicit bias, 17, 254

impressibility of white bodies, 162-5, 166, 167

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (Jacobs), 61, 134

Indian Babies: How to Keep Them Well (pamphlet), 88

indifference and funerals, 89, 101, 108, 115, 117, 118

Indigenous communities, 133

Indigenous doulas/midwives, 246, 249

Indigenous women, 31

infant care manual, 59

infant conservation work, 44

infant innocence, 153-4

"inferior vitality," 78

Ingram, Rosa Lee, 178–80

innocence: Baldwin's formulation of, 10–13, 32, 33; colonial disavowal and, 33–4; colonial futurity and, 33–6; as dual formation, 28–9; Du Bois's, 106–15; feminine, 122–5; infant, 153–4; as interconnectedness, 109–11; maternal, 102, 120–2; meaning, 36; positive form of, 36; reproductive racial and capitalism, 10–17; settler, 34; sexual, 28; true babyhood and the wages of, 27–33; white, 115–20

institutional violence, 253

insurance risks, 73, 90

"insurantial imaginary," 73

intergenerational trauma, 167, 169, 225-6

interracial solidarity, 180

intersectionality, 165

"Interstices" (essay) (Spillers), 48

intolerance for Black economic success, 147

Jackson, Fleda Mask, 220, 233

Jackson, Zakiyyah Iman, 25–6, 268–9n80

Jacobs, Harriet, 49, 61, 130-1, 152

James, Joy, 95, 97; "captive maternal," 13–14; on Du Bois's articulations of feminism, 133–4; on Foucault's theorizations, 19

Jim Crow racial violence, 169, 173, 176, 177, 181, 199

Jones, Camara Phyllis, 228, 233

Jones, Claudia, 178

Jones-Rogers, Stephanie, 31–2

Joseph, Jennie, 240, 245, 247–8, 249, 253

kinship ties of Black women, 24, 31, 32, 35, 48–9, 50, 128, 132, 133, 229

Kuzawa, Christopher, 224

Kwate, Naa Oyo A., 25, 27, 168

labor hierarchy, racialized, 5–6

Laboring Women (Morgan), 60

Landrum, Simone, 239–40

Lanzoni, Susan, 163

Larsen, Nella, 155

Latinx communities, 35; birthing people, 248; doulas, 246; immigrants, 133; mothers, 22

Laughlin, Harry, 44

Lawson, Erica S., 25

Leavitt, Judith, 59

Lee, Lewis, 232–3

Lee, Tonya Lewis, 232, 240

Lee, Valerie, 209

Levering-Lewis, David, 98, 99, 103

Liberal reforms, 16–17

"life course" approach, 226–9

life insurance, denial of, 73, 90

Lindsey, Treva, 95, 146

Logan, Adella Hunt, 165-6

Logan, Onnie Lee, 186-7

Longfellow, Fanny (white mother), 53–4, 56–7, 60

Lorde, Audre, 245

loss, formulation of, 154

Lu, Michael, 226–9

lynching, 98, 105, 138, 158, 172, 177–8, 180

"Lynching from a Negro's Point of View" (essay), 158, 159, 172

Macoun, Alissa, 34

Mariotti, Shannon, 134

Mason, William, 202

materia medica, 198–9

maternal ambivalence: of Du Bois, Gomer, 126–35; of Terrell, 129–30, 152–60

maternal bereavement, 65, 105, 137–40, 150, 153–4, 159, 166, 168. *See also* mourning by Black mothers

maternal health crisis, 236–50; White House Blueprint for addressing, 215–17, 236–8, 250, 251, 255

maternal innocence, 102, 120–2

maternal meanings of Terrell, 176–82

maternal-offspring transfer, 224

maternity care/neglect for Black women, 16

"materno-toxic areas," 247

matrilinearity, 134

Maxwell, Kelena Reid, 191

May, Vivian, 96-7

Mbembe, Achille, 24, 25–6

McBride, David, 183

McGlotten, Shaka, 183

McHenry, Elizabeth, 144, 158, 159

McKay, Nellie Y., 155, 253

McLean, Diane, 221

McLemore, Monica, 32

Meckel, Richard, 44

Medicaid, 90

medical activism, 245

medical disinvestment in Black reproductive health, 70

medical neglect, 5, 67, 70, 90, 137–9, 166. See also segregated health care

medical racism, 7, 129, 216–17, 240–3; during COVID-19, 253. *See also* segregated health care Medicare, 90

Melamed, Jodi, 11–12

Mel Chen, 162

methylation, 224

midwives: white midwives: community-based, 181–2; control programs, 9. *See also* Black midwives

Miller, Kelly, 8

Minority Nurse: "Aim for a healthy weight, 231–2

Mitchell, Janet, 155-6, 221

Mitchell, Koritha, 155

Momnibus Act, 249, 250

moral degeneration, 165-6, 174

moral depravity, 81

Morgan, Jennifer, 30–1, 60, 128; on Foucault's theorization of biopolitics, 18–19; on grief of African mothers, 14–15

moribundity, Black, 111, 114–15. See also hybridity as moribundity

Morrison, Toni, 128, 134, 195

Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Report, 231

Moss, Thomas, 138

Moss, Tom, 147–8, 165

Moten, Fred, 131

'mother blame' narratives, 4–5, 8, 15–17, 35, 40–1, 62, 175, 206, 225

mourning by Black mothers, 21, 88–90, 105, 126, 137–40, 153. See also maternal bereavement

Muhammad, Khalil Gibran, 1–2, 66, 71–2, 94, 96, 152, 256

Muigai, Wangui, 62, 70, 102, 128-9, 148, 154, 161, 165, 186, 202

mulatto, 78-9, 113

Mullings, Leith, 229, 257

Murakawa, Naomi, 7–8, 15, 254

Murphy, M, 19–20, 255

Murray, Pauli, 152

Murray, Tia, 252

My Bondage and My Freedom (Douglass), 174

## NAACP, 179

naming infants, 55

Narrative (Douglass), 174

Nash, Jennifer, 17, 232, 240, 251, 256

National Association of Colored Women (NACW), 95

National Birth Equity Collaborative, 249

National Perinatal Task Force, 247

Native Americans, 238

Native dispossession, 177–8

Native genocide, 13

Native mothers, 35

necropolitics, 26-7, 129; of Black infant mortality, 17-27, 37; reproductive, 214

necropower, 25–6

"Negro Problem," 21

neoliberal disinvestment, 221

neoliberal reproductive regimes, 230

Neruda, Pablo, 146

neurasthenia, 70

New Negro Womanhood, 95

NICU demographics, 138, 233, 235, 236, 242

Nott, Josiah, 78

nurse-midwifery, 249

nurse supervisors, 190, 192-3, 199, 201, 211

obstetrical hardiness, 166-7, 217, 242, 243, 250

"Of the Passing of the First Born," 124–5

Online Etymology Dictionary, 36

ontology: ontological conditions of Blackness, 191; ontological distinction, physical attributes signaling, 82–3; political, 63, 74; totality, 291n77; of "true babyhood," 37, 63

Oparah, Julia Chinyere, 253

Owens, Deirdre Cooper, 166, 243

Pace v. Alabama, 112

Page, Thomas, 158, 159

parental apathy, racialized notions of, 68, 85. See also affective rationality of exclusion

Parker, Alison, 167, 173, 174

paternal ambivalence, 104, 106-7, 127, 128, 130, 132, 134-5

paternal bereavement, 100, 102, 125, 127, 128

patriarchal African American family, 94, 121, 124

patriarchal colorism, 114

patriarchal fixity, 82

patriarchalism, 124, 127, 134

patrilineal epigenetic transfer, 225

pauper funeral, 87–9

Payne, Hakima Tafunzi, 16

peer educators, 231–2

peer preconception educator program, 235

Pegues, Juliana Hu, 35

pelvimetry, 70

Peoples, Whitney, 245

"Perinatal Safe Spots," 248

```
"phantasmagrams," 20
The Philadelphia Negro (Du Bois), 8–9, 94
physical attributes signaling ontological distinction, 82–3
physiological aberrations, 78–80
physiological stress, 226, 239
physiological wage, 32
"political imaginary," 90
polyvocal movement, 95
population, concepts of, 17
Porchia-Albert, Chanel, 245
postpartum grief, 161
practiced blamelessness, 8, 15, 36, 250
"practiced blamelessness," 15
preciousness of white infants, 54–7
"preconception peer educators" (PPEs), 231–2, 233–4
pre-eclampsia, 239
pre-New Deal relief programs, 68
Prince, Mary, 48
Prince, Sabiyha, 221
Progressive Era, 20, 29, 35, 129; eugenic interventions, 45; maternalism, 132; reform, 195
1921 Promotion of the Welfare and Hygiene of Maternity and Infancy Act, 184
prostitution allegation, 76–8, 83–4
Prudential Life Insurance Company, 73, 90
public act of dismissal and disregard, 117
"public feelings," 53–4
"Public Feelings Project," 275n39
public health journals, racial disparities in, 69
public health officials, 39, 69, 188, 194, 196, 200, 201–2; prohibitions by, 198–9; unjustified
      fears of herbal remedies, 210–11
Quicksand (Larsen), 155
"race suicide," 44
"race tendencies." 3
Race Traits and Tendencies of the American Negro (Hoffman), 1, 34–5, 71–4, 90, 262n5, 262n6;
      review by Du Bois, 91-4, 280-1n141-n142, 280n141, 281n144, 281n151, 282n163-4,
      283n179
Rachel (play by Grimké), 129, 155–8
racial capitalism: agency and, 11–12, 128; Baldwin on, 9–10, 27; colonial, 133, 177, 255;
      Melamed on, 11–12; Murakawa on, 7–8; reproductive, and innocence, 10–17, 21, 28–9;
      theorization of, 11; violence of, 115
racial discipline, 191, 199; bag as an instrument of, 193–4; disciplinary hierarchy, 211;
      examination as disciplinary apparatus, 190
racial hierarchy, 38, 162, 184
```

racial innocence: bag inspection as signifier of, 193–4; Baldwin on, 9–10; defined, 7–8;

midwife's bag's enactment of, 205-9; praxes of care against, 211-13

racialized notions of parental apathy, 68

racial mixing, 111, 113, 121

racial traumas, 162

racial violence, 169, 173, 176, 177, 181, 199. See also hostilities against Black mothers

racism: gendered, 139, 220; medical, 7, 129, 216–17, 240–3, 253; societal, 239; state, 18, 19; structural, 238; systemic, 7, 40, 215, 221, 237–8, 239

racist neglect, 129. See also medical neglect

ranking of life, 125

Razack, Sherene, 272n122

Reagan administration, 250

Reconstructing Womanhood (Carby), 46

A Red Record (pamphlet), 96

The Red Record (Wells), 158

Reeb, Rene, 192

refusal to bear children, 129

reimbursement rates, 252, 253

"reproductive futurism," 264–5n33

Reproductive Injustice: Racism, Pregnancy, and Premature Birth (Davis), 242–3

reproductive justice, 244-5. See also Black mothers; Black women; innocence; racial innocence

reproductive slavery, 14-15

Reverby, Susan, 67, 70, 91

Ricks, Omar, 69

Robert, Terrell, 146

Roberts, Dorothy, 15, 29–30, 35, 49–50, 133, 225, 245

Roberts, Edna, 192

Robinson, Cedric, 11

Rogers, Melvin, 113, 123–4

Rojas, Paula X., 247

Ross, Loretta, 244, 245

sadomasochistic pleasures, 284n199

sanitary reform movement, 68–9

Sapp, Martha, 203, 207

schools, white women in, 32

Schuller, Kyla, 56, 162, 163, 164, 166, 167, 169, 268n71

Scott, Karen, 16, 243

Sedgwick, Elizabeth, 56

segregated health care, 129, 133, 149–50, 186. See also medical neglect; medical racism

self-affirmation, 210

self-protective detachment, 61

self-representations, 131

self-stylization, gendered, 123

Sells, Cato, 88

sensitivity: Black maternal, 151, 159-60, 162, 167; of white women, diminished, 166

```
"sentimental biopower," 268n71
separation of enslaved mothers and infants, 65
sequelae, 24–5
settler innocence, 34
sexual abuse by white men, 169
sexual hygiene, eugenic notions of, 129
sexual immorality, Hoffman's depiction of, 82–3
sexual innocence, 28
sexual morality, 80, 83, 88
sexual victimization, 144
sexual violence, 2, 76, 111, 132, 168, 181
Sharpe, Christina, 28, 253
Sheppard-Towner Act, 9, 20, 184, 195–6, 249, 252
Sheppard-Towner programs, 199, 214
Sherrard-Johnson, Cherene, 253
Shulman, George, 27
Sigourney, Lydia, 54
Simmons, LaKisha, 21, 61
Sister Song, 245, 253
slavery, 13; chattel slavery system, 14, 19, 46, 64, 66; lynching and, 177–8; reproductive, 14–15;
      rhetoric of, 266n45. See also enslaved mothers
Smallwood, Stephanie, 19
Smith, Christen, 24, 168
Smith, Daniel Blake, 51, 59
Smith, Margaret Charles, 198–9, 209–11
Smith, Shawn Michelle, 120–1
social context of reproduction, 227–8
social hygiene, eugenic notions of, 129
social relations, 47
social stressors, 227
societal racism, 239
Sojourner Syndrome, 221–2, 229
solidarity, interracial, 180, 210
The Souls of Black Folk (Du Bois), 99; Burghardt's elegy, 103–6; Burghardt's innocence/Du
      Bois's innocence, 106–15; Du Bois, Nina Gomer, 101–2; "Of the Passing of the
      First-Born," 100–2; Rogers, Melvin, on, 123–5
sousveillance and the bag, 209–11
Southern Horrors (Wells), 158
Spencer, Herbert, 84, 89
Spillers, Hortense, 48, 132, 163, 266n45
spiritual and menial housework, racist dichotomy of, 50-1
Spivak, Gayatri, 33
Stannard, David, 58
Stark, Heidi Kiiwetinepinesiik, 31
state racism, 18, 19
state violence, 24, 25
```

statistical assessments: by Cooper, 96–7; Du Bois's comparison of Hoffman's conclusions, 91–4; by Muhammad, 94; by Terrell, 94–6

statistics, concepts of, 17

Stepan, Nancy, 72–3

stereotypes: of Black women's lasciviousness, 144; of the "high-risk" mother, 233; racial, 47, 48, 95, 254

Stoney, George, 201–3, 205–9, 211

"stop-and-frisk" policing, 25

Stowe, Harriet Beecher, 64

stress: causing premature labor, 228; as individual maternal pathology, 229–36; physiological, 239; as a risk factor in maternal health, 220–3; transgenerational effects of psychosocial, 223–6

structural racism, 238, 254

Sullivan, Shannon, 224-5

surveillance: of midwives, 5, 39, 184–8, 190–6; objects, bags as, 186–8, 189–96, 208–9; of social workers, 133

Swinburne, Charles, 103

sympathy, 65-6, 84, 117, 123-4, 126-7, 163, 173

systemic racism, 7, 40, 215, 221, 227, 237–8, 239

Tate, Claudia, 113

Taylor, Kirstine, 11–12

Terrell, Mary Church, 8–9, 51, 94–5, 97, 256; Black maternal sensitivities, 160–8; A Colored Woman in a White World, 136–7; depiction of Black mothers, 129–30; "lynching is the aftermath of slavery," 177–8; maternal ambivalence of, 129–30, 152–60; maternal meanings of, 176–82; narrations of infant death and maternal bereavement, 137–40; on segregated health care, 133; white supremacist maternity as hereditary environmental hazard, 168–76; white world's material environments, 140–52

Thayer, Zaneta, 224

Third World Women's Alliance, 250

Thomas, Deborah, 221

Thomas, Ebony, 28

Thompson, Stewart B., Dr., 4–6, 15, 256

Threadcraft, Shatema, 25, 27, 167-8

thrift and sentiment, linking, 88–90

Ticktin, Miriam, 33

Tovar, Patricia, 221

train travel of a Black woman, 142-3

transgenerational effects of psychosocial stress, 223–6

true baby, 23

true babyhood, 45; biopolitics of, 66–7; Carby's analysis of ideology, 48–51; preciousness of white infants and, 54–7; statistical methods as evidence, 71–4; vulnerability and, 58–60; wages of innocence and, 27–33

true seeing versus glance, 115-20

"true womanhood," 82, 85

Tuck, Eve, 34, 226

Turner, Sasha, 60, 61

Types of American Negroes, Georgia, USA (Du Bois's photographic project), 120-1

Uncle Tom's Cabin (Stowe), 64 Underwood, Lauren, 238, 249 Unnatural Causes (PBS documentary), 228, 229 urban immigrants, 68 urban whites, infant mortality among, 20, 62

Valdez, Natali, 181, 225-6, 234

vigilante violence, 168. See also lynching

Villarosa, Linda, 239–40, 242

Vimalassery, Manu (Karuka), 35

violence: institutional, 253; Jim Crow racial, 169, 173, 176, 177, 181, 199; of racial capitalism, 115; sexual, 2, 76, 111, 132, 168, 181; state, 24, 25; vigilante, 168. *See also* hostilities against Black mothers

A Voice from the South (Cooper), 96–7, 164

vulnerability: Black women: of Black women's bodies, 198–9; of the captive body, 64; true babyhood and, 58–60; white infants, 74. *See also* Black infants

Waggoner, Miranda, 230–1

Wali, Alaka, 220-1

Washington, Harriet, 283n192

weathering, 25, 168, 229, 237; early fetal programming and, 226

"weathering hypothesis," 222–3

We Charge Genocide (document), 180

Weinbaum, Alys, 50, 114, 271n113

Wekker, Gloria, 33

Wells, H. G., 160

Wells, Ida B., 95-6, 157-8

Welter, Barbara, 47, 57, 82

West, Cornel, 98, 130

Whipper, Ionia Rollin, 186

White, Sherri, 16

"white benevolence," 35

white cruelty and unseeing, 115–16

white empathic representations of the slave coffle, 284n199

white feminine innocence, 116

white gaze, 192, 193

"White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis," 215–17, 236–8, 248–9, 250, 251, 255

white infants: adoration of, 52–4, 58; biographical personhood of, 56–7; death and the cult of domesticity, 51–4; genealogical belonging of, 55–6; mortality, 20, 62; preciousness of,

54–7; saving babies as white settler reproductive futurity, 67–70; vulnerability, 74; white childhood, idolization of, 28–9

white innocence, 115–20

white male physicians, 6, 7, 15, 17, 28, 43, 59, 67, 194–6, 199–200, 210, 212, 236, 239, 254 white midwives, 216

white mothers: bereavement of free, 65; brutality of, 172–5; cisgender, 32; maternal deficiency, 148; maternity and heredity, 181; negation of Black maternity, 49–50; working-class, 31–2 white normativity, 224–5

white paternal ambivalence, 134

white patriarchal settler households, 28

white settler family. See European immigrants

white settler reproductive futurity, 10, 31–2, 67–70, 264–5n33

white sexual terrorism, 119

white supremacists, 28, 144; maternity as hereditary environmental hazard, 168–76; public health, 32

white women: agency of, 118; body, figuration of, 242–3; cruelty and unseeing, 115–16, 171–2; cultivation of an intergenerational environment of racism, 168–76; feminine innocence, 116; sentimentality, 85–6; slaveowners, 31–2

white world's material environments, 140-52

willful ignorance, 15-16

Women's Committee for Equal Justice (WCEJ), 180-1

working-class white mothers, 31-2

Works Progress Administration interviews, 61–2

Yang, K. Wayne, 34

Zamir, Shamoon, 103 Zelizer, Viviana, 52, 54–5, 57, 63