
As racial minorities in their political party and political minorities within their community, black Republicans occupy a strange position - shunned by African American communities and subordinated by the GOP.

Professor Wright Rigueur will discuss the long and contradictory history of race, conservatism and black politics, tracking the political involvement of African Americans in the GOP from Jackie Robinson to Ben Carson.

Leah Wright Rigueur is Assistant Professor of Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Her work emphasizes history, race, civil rights and political ideology; her research, writing and commentary has been featured in CNN, CBS, PBS, NPR, MSNBC, the Washington Post, the Daily Beast, Huffington Post Live, and Salon. Before joining the Kennedy School, Leah was a professor at Wesleyan University (Connecticut).