

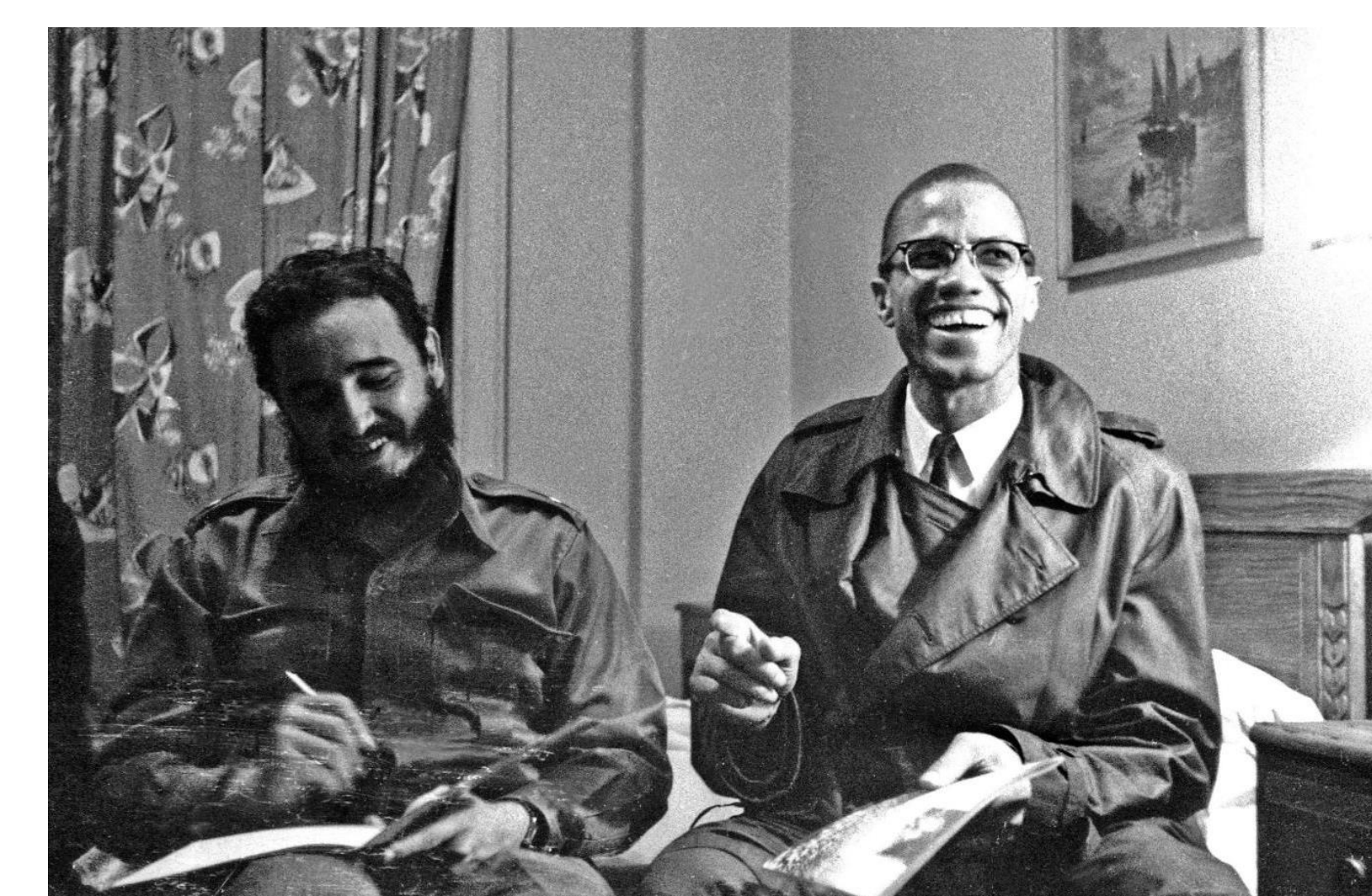


Where We Been + Where We Going: An Economic History of Black American Life

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INTRODUCTION:

Project ponders how racial discrimination persists in nonmarket economies. Through a survey of economic life, US Third World Feminism, and the history of racial identity in various national contexts, the project begins to comprehend and interpret the mechanics of racial discrimination and difference within and outside of economics, and the lingering effects of capitalist sentiments on historically marginalized groups.



METHODS & MATERIALS:

- Oral History, Interviews:
Conducted interviews with a variety of family members documenting Black life in the South from 1930s to present.
- Literature Review:
Reviewed sources ranging from history, ethnic studies, and economics for seed texts and starting ideas.

CHALLENGES:

- Insufficient data: unable to collect data due to COVID-19, travel restrictions, and question
- Dealing with the multinational, comparative nature of the question (Dr. Robyn DG Kelley)
- Limitations of the discipline (economics) in providing tools that allowed me to ask the question of interest, and needing to utilize an inter-disciplinary lens to conduct the work
- Subjects or change agents, what is the difference
- Acquiring and accessing stories, deciding what needed to be told given venue, how to interview

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:

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CONCLUSION:

The question needs to be reframed. By inquiring about the intercommunal effects of this social positioning, we extend dynamism and complexity to Black people. Understanding and recognizing their humanity and ability to both harm and heal, while fighting for and recognizing the larger, macro-scale influences that are complicating their lives. Therefore, I arrived at the question: how do material circumstances affect Black peoples' interpersonal relationships and construct power dynamics that produce trauma and inter-communal violence?