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## Border Crossing Brothas

Black Males Navigating Race, Place, and Complex Space

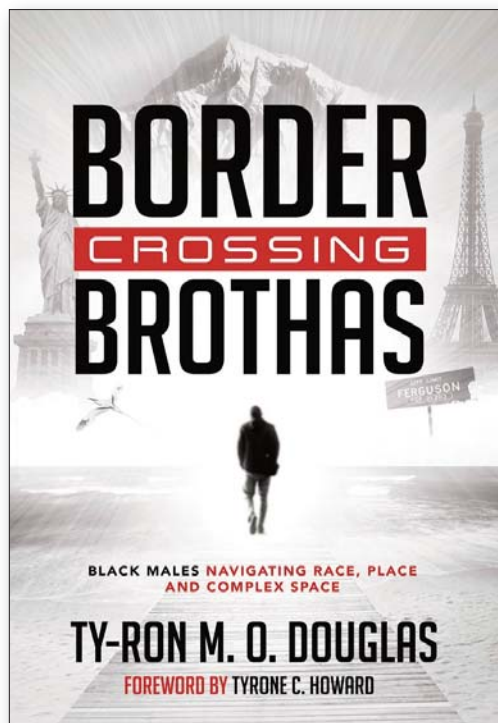
Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas | 2016 | XXX, 212 pp.

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Black Studies and Critical Thinking, Vol. 101

**Winner! 2017 Society of Professors of Education Outstanding Book Award**



*Border Crossing Brothas* examines how Black males form identities, define success, and utilize community-based pedagogical spaces to cross literal and figurative borders. The tragic deaths of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Tamir Rice in Cleveland, and numerous others from Brooklyn, Britain, and Bermuda whose lives have been taken prematurely suggest that negotiating race, place, and complex space is a matter of life and death for Black males. In jurisdictions such as the U.S. and Bermuda, racial tensions are the palpable and obvious reality, yet the average citizen has no idea how to sensibly react. This book offers a reasonable response that pushes readers to account for and draw on the best of what we know, the core of who we are, and the needs and histories of those we serve. Drawing on the educational and socializing experiences of Black males in Bermuda – a beautiful yet complex island with strong connections to the U.S., England, and the Caribbean – this book offers educators and leaders new language for postcolonial possibilities and emancipatory epistemologies related to Black male identities and success in a global context. Intriguing findings and fresh frameworks grounded in understandings of race, class, ability, transnationalism, culture, colonialism, and the construction/performance of gendered identity emerge in this book.

**Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas**, Ph.D., is an assistant professor and PK–12 Program Coordinator at the University of Missouri—Columbia in the Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis Department. Dr. Douglas's work has appeared in outlets such as *The Urban Review*, *Educational Studies*, *Teachers College Record*, and *Race, Ethnicity, and Education*.

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## Advance Praise for *Border Crossing Brothas* by Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas

*"Border Crossing Brothas* moves us one step closer to breaking down silo-based knowledge regarding the experiences of Black males. For the most part, the empirical evidence we have on Black males in education has been country- and context-specific, with little effort to share knowledge across borders. More recently, we are recognizing the imperative to learn from the collective knowledge generated globally about Black males if we want to move the needle. Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas should be commended as an early subscriber to this new movement."

—Jerlando F. L. Jackson, *Chair of the International Colloquium in Black Males in Education; Vilas Distinguished Professor of Higher Education and Director of Wisconsin's Equity and Inclusion Laboratory, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

*"Border Crossing Brothas* is a valuable resource to the field of education. If you have a real commitment in understanding how Black males globally navigate obstacles to success, you must read and implement the strategies presented so eloquently in this book to assist this population to reach their full potential. I strongly encourage you to pick up your copy today. This book is destined to become a classic."

—Chance W. Lewis, *Carolyn Grotnes Belk Distinguished Professor of Urban Education and Director, The Urban Education Collaborative, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

*"In this poignant and engaging book, Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas draws upon his nuanced and in-depth research of the educational and social development of Bermudian men to theorize about Black masculinity in ways that honor the fullness of black males' humanity, complexity, standpoint, resiliency, and diversity. His work is relevant to the identity formation, learning, and success of Black males in various locales and across the African Diaspora. It also serves to help educators of all backgrounds better appreciate the educative value of home and community spaces for youth. This book is a wonderful contribution to scholarship on race, identity, and critical educational studies."*

—Camille M. Wilson, *Associate Professor, University of Michigan*

*"Border Crossing Brothas* offers a critical, challenging, and provoking gaze into the 'real' education of Black Bermudian men—through the examination of previously uncharted learning spaces. Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas sets out a canvas for growing the institution and community learning of Black men everywhere beyond the broken schoolhouse."

—Lou Edward Matthews, *Director of Educational Standards and Accountability, Bermuda Public Schools*

*"This text crosses traditional scholarship borders in order to celebrate non-traditional spaces for gathering data in conducting research. The Bermudian context of this work asks the reader to embrace the study's findings in a specific geopolitical space while simultaneously asking how this text can be applied to the border crossing experiences in which African American men also engage. The book honors community-based pedagogical spaces and rightly situates the dynamic of teaching and learning especially for Black Bermudian males in venues that for some would be discredited and devalued for their impact. But it is exactly in those learning and teaching spaces where the finesse to cross borders becomes practiced and perfected. This text broadens, in every way, our perspectives on legitimate spaces for teaching and learning."*

—Michael E. Dantley, *Dean, College of Education, Health and Society and Professor, Educational Leadership, Miami University*

*"Ty-Ron M. O. Douglas takes readers on a thoughtful transnational journey. His is a smart analysis of Black men's lives, identities, and experiences. This important text taught me much about myself and other brothas around the globe."*

—Shaun R. Harper, *Professor and Executive Director, University of Pennsylvania Center for the Study of Race & Equity in Education*

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