



Dr. Barbara Savage

Barbara D. Savage is Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and professor of history at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Savage won the 2012 Grawemeyer Award in Religion for her book [*Your Spirits Walk Beside Us: The Politics of Black Religion*](#), which analyzes the complex interplay between black churches and politics in the twentieth century. Dr. Savage attends to the work of women and men who urged various black congregations to struggle for racial justice, while arguing against a simplistic portrayal of “the black church” as a unified force unambiguously allied to political activism.

Among her other writings are [*Women and Religion in the African Diaspora*](#), a book she co-edited in 2006, and [*Broadcasting Freedom: Radio, War and the Politics of Race, 1938-1948*](#), a 1999 work that won the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library Award for best book on American history from 1916 to 1966.

She has received fellowships from the Smithsonian Institution, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies at Harvard University, Princeton University Center for the Study of Religion and New York Public Library’s Schomburg Center on Black Culture.