In 1968, a new and radical feminism surfaced dramatically in the United States with a surge of mimeographed, movement-published journals & broadsides, and provocative protest actions (http://www.redstockings.org/index.php/main/classics-of-1968). The next two years saw an explosion of mass media coverage, some hostile but much surprisingly sympathetic, peaking in 1970 - the year the mass media dubbed “The Year of Women’s Liberation.”

Seeing a popular and profitable market, commercial book publishers repackaged the rapidly-spreading grassroots writings of radical and feminist women into mass-market anthologies. All included papers by women of color. In some cases, the new feminists developed their ideas into whole books. Two of these movement-associated authors of the publishing surge of 1970 were African American: Shirley Chisholm and Celestine Ware.

For more on Women’s Liberation books of 1970 and the groups and authors included, see http://politicsofwomensculture.michellemoravec.com/uncategorized/beyond-citations-the-historians-altmetrics/#_ftn3
Anthologies of Movement Writings

Books by Movement Activist Authors

Books Sparked by / About the Movement

1971

The Blaze of Movement Books Continues

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While the books by and about Women’s Liberation continued strong in 1971, the number of cover stories on mainstream magazines fell off sharply. The focus of the magazine covers also shifts from emphasizing militance and solidarity from the year before, to emphasizing male-favored, amiable personalities - and women as victims rather than women in revolt.

Yet the explosive years produced two enduring mainstream magazines: Essence, which began in “The Year of Women’s Liberation” and aimed at the African American women’s market, continues today with its unique mix of political engagement, feminism, and beauty and housekeeping tips. Another feminist-oriented, mass circulation women’s magazine was waiting in the wings - Ms. magazine. A preview glimpse was on the cover of its parent publication, New York magazine, as 1971 ended.

But there is more to this story. Read in Redstockings’ Feminist Revolution about the deep problems caused for the movement in this period of “success” when the Establishment seemed to be embracing the feminist agenda: http://redstockings.org/index.php/main/feminist-revolution

Surely, not all feminist-related books and magazines from these years are included here. There may be some we missed in this nationwide media upsurge. There were selections on some pages because of space, or unclear evidence about publication dates. Please send us info, ideas, criticism, support, and funds to maintain and expand this - and whatever you find useful and needed in our work.