

MEDIA ADVISORY



40th Anniversary of African American Studies in Academia ***A Tavis Smiley Show Special***

WHO: *The Tavis Smiley Show from PRI* featuring Princeton University Chair of the Center for African American Studies and regular *Tavis Smiley Show* commentator, **Eddie Glaude**; Yale University's Chair of African American Studies, **Dr. Elizabeth Alexander**; Howard University's Chair of Afro American Studies, **Greg Carr**; and Brown University's Chair of the Department of Africana Studies, **Dr. Tricia Rose**.

WHAT: Special edition of *The Tavis Smiley Show from PRI*, where host Tavis Smiley is joined by four distinguished scholars within the world of African American studies to remember the journey and chart the collective paths into the future.

In February 1968, sociologist Nathan Hare was given the task and opportunity by San Francisco State to create and coordinate the first "Black Studies" department after a five-month strike at the university. The goal of having Black focused courses was a frequent and recurrent theme during protests and sit-ins around the country. In 1969, the department officially opened its doors, offering an educational option to ending racial stereotypes, by exposing students of all colors to the vast historical, cultural and theological aspects of African Americans.

Now, 40 years later, Black Studies departments are the norm on campuses across the country. Yet with the ascension of Barack Obama to the Oval Office, the questions have grown louder as to the continued relevance of what some call "segregated studies" at taxpayer expense.

WHEN: Show airs Sept. 18 weekend

WHERE: Check www.tavistalks.com for local listings

MEDIA INFO: Contact Leshelle Sargent (323) 290-4690; lsargent@tavistalks.com

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