



The Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society

presents

“The Original Rainbow Coalition: The Black Panther Party, Young Lords, & Young Patriots”



The original Rainbow Coalition was established in 1968 by Deputy Chairman Fred Hampton and the Illinois Black Panther Party's (ILBPP) in their struggle in Chicago's political arena against the Daley Democratic Machine. The ILBPP forged an alliance with The Young Lords Organization, The Young Patriots, and later Rising Up Angry. The ILBPP's Rainbow Coalition documents the first time in Chicago history that poor ethnic groups led by (and for the first time including) African Americans organized as one entity to fight for political power that was denied to them all and to significantly reduce the rigid racial and ethnic tension between these groups which had persisted since the nineteenth century.

Hank “Poison” Gaddis (ILBPP), Lynn French (ILBPP), Jose “Cha Cha” Jimenez (Young Lords) and Hy Thurman (Young Patriots) will participate in a panel discussion led by **Dr. Jakobi Williams**. The activists will discuss the racial, social, and political conditions that existed in Chicago during the late 1960s to demonstrate the ways in which the Illinois Black Panther Party's community organizing methods and revolutionary self-defense ideology significantly influenced Chicago's machine politics, grassroots organizing, racial coalitions, and police behavior.

March 28, 2014, 3:30 p.m.
Schuessler Institute for Social Research, Rm. 100
1022 E. 3rd St. (corner of 3rd & Hawthorne)

Refreshments served

Co-sponsors: *African and African American Diaspora Studies, Department of History, Department of Political Science, Department of Sociology, IU Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs (DEMA), and LaCasa – IU Latino Cultural Center*