Commentary on "Critical Essay: Zora Neale Hurtson's What White Publishers Won’t Print in Comparison to the Television Shows 'Good Times' and 'The Cosby Show"'

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Commentary

In first reading Kalyn Dunkins’ paper applying Zora Neale Hurston’s arguments to The Cosby Show and Good Times, I was surprised that such an astute media analysis was performed by a first-year student. Kalyn’s paper is a wonderful example of sticking close to the text while still incorporating hers and Hurston’s arguments into the presentation of that evidence. However, initially her analysis discussed one source more than the other. In the Center, we discussed balancing her analysis – what was there was great, and as a reader, I was eager to hear more! I was also impressed with Kalyn’s boldness as a writer, and her willingness to assert her argument as hers, something many first-year writers shy away from. But along with this boldness, I felt that she needed to work on formalizing her paper, making it less of a conversation from a friend to another, but from a scholar to an academic audience. The final product is a wonderful culmination of Kalyn’s already intriguing paper with our informative session in the Writing Center.

--Olivia Davidson, Writing Center Consultant