Contents

Introduction:	
What Has the Obama Presidency Changed?	11
Thomas C. Holt	
Reflections on the Problem of Race in the Age of Obama	35
M. MICHAELA HAMPF	
The Right to Bare Arms:	
Reading Michelle Obama's Public Image	55
Gabriele Dietze	
Barack Obama's "Identity Performance"	
and the Intersection of Race and Gender	
during the Nomination Battle against Hillary Clinton	81
GRETA OLSON	
Weighing In on Obama:	
Connections between Embodiment, Class,	
and Masculinity in the United States and Germany	105
Andreas Falke	
Obama and Paradigm Change?	
No Way to Escape the Political Divide	141
BIRTE CHRIST	
Michelle Obama, the Good American and Icon of	
Global Power Femininity:	
Gender Politics and National Boundary-Making in	
German News Coverage	167

10 Contents

HELEN BOND Shattering Ceilings Worldwide: Obama's Presidency and Its Impact on the Identity and Political Consciousness of Children in the United States,	
Sierra Leone, China, Russia, and Jamaica	197
MICHAEL BUTTER	
The Birthers' New World Order:	
Conspiracy Theories about Barack Obama	225
JÖRN AHRENS	
Images of the Political:	
Obama and Post-Democracy	247
SABINE SIELKE	
The Poetics of Presidency and the Promises of Change:	
Reading Barack Obama	267
ALLYSON HOBBS	
Conclusion:	
A Paradigm Shift in Fits and Starts	287
List of Contributors	297