

# Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Earl Ofari Hutchinson

PERSON

## Hutchinson, Earl Ofari

**Alternative Names:** Earl Ofari Hutchinson; Earl Ofari

**Life Dates:** October 8, 1945-

**Place of Birth:** Chicago, Illinois, USA

**Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Occupations:** Political Analyst; Author

### Biographical Note

Earl Ofari Hutchinson was born on October 8, 1945, in Chicago, Illinois. He is the son of Earl Hutchinson, a postal worker, and Nina Brown Hutchinson. Hutchinson received his B.S. degree in psychology from California State College, Los Angeles; his M.A. degree in humanities from California State University, Dominguez Hills; and his Ph.D. in sociology from Pacific Western University.

Hutchinson began his career in radio, working at KPFK Radio in Pacifica, California. In 1982, Hutchinson began a subscription newsletter, Ofari's Bi-Monthly, which discussed political and social issues. He published this newsletter for twelve years. Hutchinson would go on to write for several newspapers and magazines, including the Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Black World, Ebony, Essence, Newsday, Nation, Harper's, and Emerge. Hutchinson is the author of many books including, *The Myth of Black Capitalism* (1970); *Black Fatherhood I and II* (1992 & 1994); *Betrayed: A History of Presidential Failure to Protect Black Lives* (1996); *The Crisis in Black and Black* (1998); *The Latino Challenge to Black America: Towards a Conversation Between African Americans and Hispanics* (2007); and *The Ethnic Presidency: How Race Decides the Race to the White House* (2008). Since 2005, Hutchinson has been a writer and a blogger for The Huffington Post news website and a frequent guest on numerous talk shows. His op-ed columns appear in the Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, Christian Science Monitor, and many other major newspapers. He is a frequent commentator for the American Urban Broadcast Network and Ed Gordon's News and Notes on NPR. He is a featured columnist for BlackNews.com, BlackAmericaWeb.com, and Alternet.org. Hutchinson is also associate editor of New America Media, the country's first and largest national collaboration and advocate of 2,000 ethnic news organizations.

As director of the National Alliance for Positive Action, Hutchinson has voiced his desire to have the word "nigger" eliminated from the Merriam-Webster dictionary. As a part of the Coalition Against Media Exploitation, Hutchinson convinced President Clinton to pardon African American sailors charged in the "Port Chicago Mutiny." Hutchinson is the recipient of the Outstanding Book Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights in 1995 and 1997.

## Related Entries

**St. Dorothy School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Mount Carmel High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Susan Miller Dorsey High School** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Los Angeles City College** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**California State University, Los Angeles** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**California State University, Dominguez Hills** [STUDENTOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Los Angeles Free Press** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**State Compensation Insurance Fund** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

[EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]

**Author**

**KPFK Radio** [EMPLOYEEOF]  
[from ? to ?]