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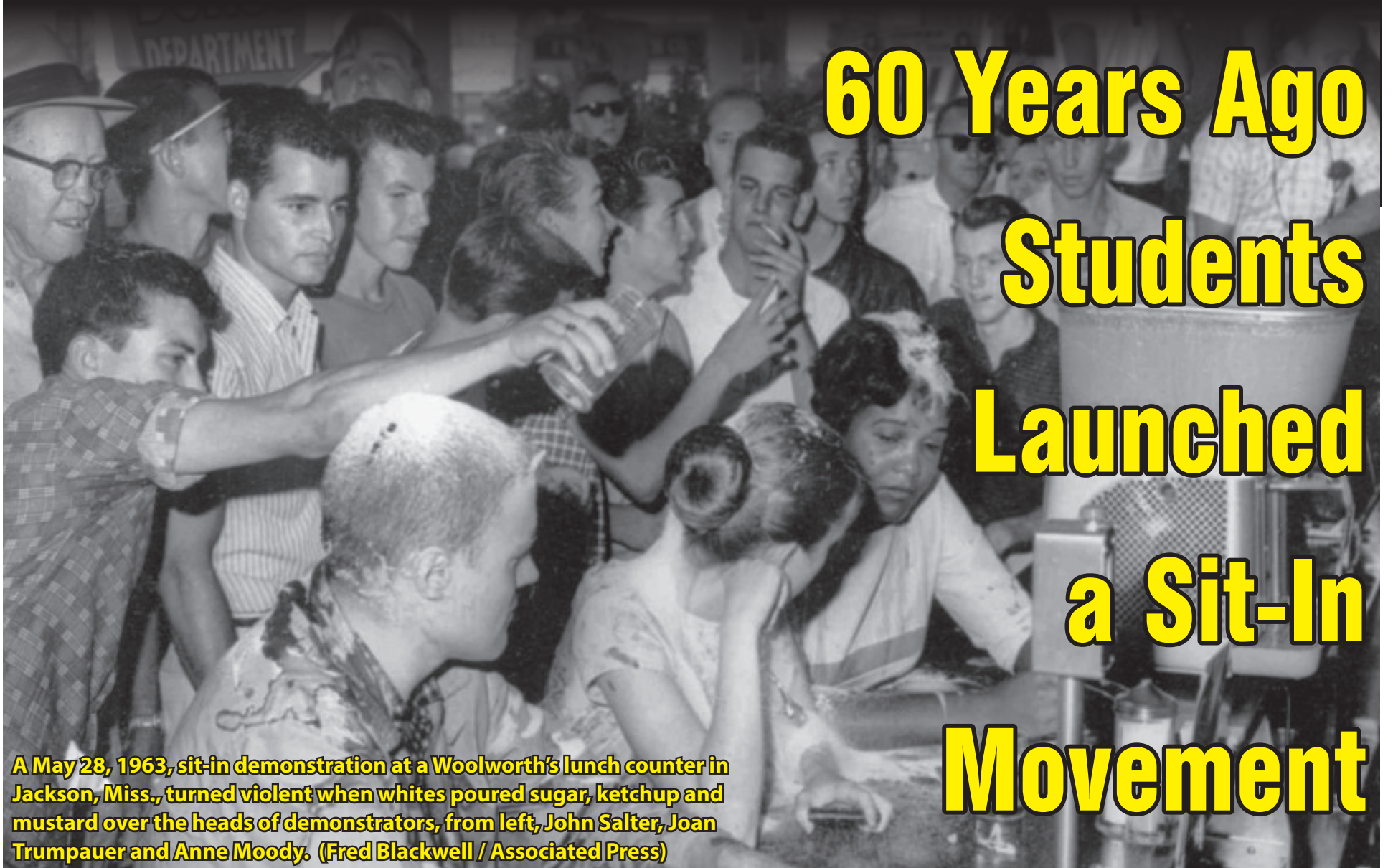
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Black History Month

STUDENT NONVIOLENT PROTEST



60 Years Ago Students Launched a Sit-In Movement

A May 28, 1963, sit-in demonstration at a Woolworth's lunch counter in Jackson, Miss., turned violent when whites poured sugar, ketchup and mustard over the heads of demonstrators, from left, John Salter, Joan Trumpauer and Anne Moody. (Fred Blackwell / Associated Press)

On February 1, 1960 Four African American freshmen from North Carolina A&T State College (now University) in Greensboro, NC sparked the non-violent and student-led wave of protests that ultimately resulted in the desegregation of F.W. Woolworth and other racially discriminatory stores, page 4.



By targeting Africans, Trump's Muslim ban is even more racist

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Last week, President Donald Trump announced the expansion of his controversial travel ban adding several more countries to the original list first signed in 2017.

After the announcement, Democrats and immigration advocates have condemned the expanded policy, noting that the new order not only doubles down on targeting Muslims but it now explicitly targets Africans and Black African Muslims.

Out of the seven newly added nations, four are African countries with sizable or majority-Muslim

populations. Nigeria and Sudan each hold majority-Muslim populations, while Eritrea and Tanzania have sizable Muslim communities. Kyrgyzstan, a majority-Muslim country in Asia, is also on the list.

More than 12,000 people are expected to be impacted per year, according to a Department of Homeland Security spokesperson.

This week, Democrats plan to fight back what they say is a xenophobic policy by bringing the National Origin-Based Antidiscrimination for Nonimmigrants Act also known as the No Ban Act — to the House floor for a vote. The bill would effectively terminate Trump's ban.



New York sues Trump administration over global entry

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Last week, the Trump administration abruptly issued a ban on Global Entry for New York citizens as a result of recent laws in support of undocumented immigrants.

According to Reuters, the city is retaliating by suing the administration. For those unaware, Global Entry programs allow travelers to pre-check in before arriving for their flights. This makes for shorter lines when passing through security. This ban will prevent 175,000 New Yorkers from renewing their enrollment in these plans and would drop 80,000 pending applications.

The city is suing the administrative as they feel this is a

punitive ban in response to their "Green Light Law." These laws allow undocumented immigrants to apply for drivers licenses as well as limit the access federal immigration agencies have to state records at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

State officials from New York say that this ban is a violation of the state's constitutional rights which guarantees them protection from federal coercion. This ban, in effect, is an effort by the federal government to get the state to change its laws. An interesting move from the party of "limited government." I guess "states' rights" and all that only sounds good when it comes to the subjugation of the nation's black and brown population.

Black voters are the cornerstone of the Democratic Party and the most reliable voting block.

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Contributor

During the State of the Union, Trump featured several African Americans from the gallery with long words of praise and detailed introductions. The Republican party has always struggled with Black voters. But Trump's political team believes that even a small percentage of that vote could mean victory.

Trump is increasingly highlighting his pitch to African Americans as Democrats struggle to decide amongst a crowded field. Political observers understand that Trump is unlikely to win more than ten percent of the Black vote. But it is also understood that any percentage higher than average could be the margin of victory in a close race.

Despite Trump's efforts, polls indicate a huge problem with Black voters. A Washington Post-Ipsos poll last month of 1,088 black adults found 83 percent of respondents said they believe Trump is a racist. The same percentage said they believe he has made racism a larger problem in America.

A Harvard CAPS/Harris Poll survey released last week found



that 22 percent of African American voters approve of Trump's job performance. The relatively high percentage surprised some observers.

"Wake up, folks. The #IowaCaucus was a debacle, followed by a strong #SOTU speech laying out Trump's strategy to win — which includes going for Black voters. This was a warning shot from the Trump campaign to liberals, and we need to take this very seriously in order to win," wrote CNN commentator Van Jones on February 4, after Trump delivered the State of the Union.

"Hey Black America, you see this crap? Trump has himself on a card with Fredrick Douglass.

He didn't know who that was last year right? Democrats get your shit together. FAST. Trump ain't playin'! If he gets 12% or more of black voters it's over," wrote attorney Sophia Nelson over a photo she posted on twitter of Donald Trump and Frederick Douglass proclaiming plans to "Make Black America Great Again."

Because a few of the leading Democrats who may win the nomination to take on Trump are having difficulty courting Black voters, Trump's efforts are not going unnoticed. Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg are having issues with Black voters as well.

Young voters are key to winning 2020

By Dan Glickman and Alan Solomont

Politics is in realignment. And perhaps the most underappreciated change is this: Based on recent research at Tufts University's Tisch College of Civic Life, young voters, ages 18-29, played a significant role in the 2018 midterms and are poised to shape elections in 2020 and beyond.

For decades, this age bracket has turned out at lower rates than older voters, particularly in midterm elections. While experts have often attributed this to apathy, a complicated set of reasons may explain low turnout, including barriers to access, suppression, waning civic education and historic disadvantages. Despite these headwinds, 2018 marked a turning point.

In 2018, the youth vote increased in all 42 states for which youth voting data is available, according to the analysis by researchers at Tufts' Center for Information &

Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE). Based on this available data, which represents 94% of the American youth population, Tisch College researchers estimate 28.2% of young people nationwide voted in 2018 — more than double the national youth turnout in 2014.

Turnout among college students — an important subset of the youth vote — was even more impressive in 2018, at 40.3%. Research also showed that young voters preferred Democrat House candidates by 35 points, a massive margin that helped Democrats win back the House and far exceeded the highest gap of 27 points from 2008.

National statistics set the scene, but the stories on the ground are even more compelling.

Both parties have long tried to activate young voters, but with limited success. In 2018, however, Katie Porter, a law professor at the University of California, Irvine who won California's 45th congress-

sional district, hired an organizer specifically for campus outreach and campaigned on college campuses in the area.

In April 2018, Porter's campaign had been listed in the Youth Electoral Significance Index, produced by Tisch College's CIRCLE, as one of the top congressional races where young people could make the biggest impact, because of its youth population, prevalence of colleges, voter registration rates, historic turnout rates and turnout patterns where young people historically vote differently than older voters. Indeed, turnout in precincts on or near the UC Irvine campus surged in 2018, and outreach among young people has been credited as one reason for her victory.

Sen. Jon Tester's win in Montana and Rep. Ayanna Pressley's primary victory in the Massachusetts 7th District were also powered by youth turnout, according to research from CIRCLE.

Campaigns go where the votes are, and it's still true that older voters are more reliable voters, especially in midterm and off-year elections. But increasing youth participation can have a tremendous impact on elections at all levels. And research tells us that voting is habit-forming. Those who begin to vote early are more likely to vote often and throughout their lives.

One election cycle isn't a trend, but youth activists are certainly trendsetters when it comes to driving national conversations



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With no clear front runner, Bloomberg spends \$3.5M with the Black press

By Hazel Trice Edney and Hamil Harris

Former New York City Mayor Mike Bloomberg has just made Black History. The presidential candidate who has been running his campaign through television ads and private meetings this week spent a historic amount of money with Black newspapers—\$3.5 million.

“Of all the presidential candidates in the 2020 election, Mike Bloomberg just made the largest single political ad buy in the history of the NNPA,” said Dr. Ben Chavis, president/CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) in an interview with the Trice Edney News Wire. “The money has already been distributed and it’s running in our newspapers right now.”

Chavis says the money will be broken down among NNPA member newspapers in states that hold primaries on Super Tuesday and beyond. Super Tuesday states include Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, and Virginia.

“It’s a national ad buy and over 129 of our newspapers will benefit from that,” Chavis said. “What it shows is that the Bloomberg campaign is taking the Black vote seriously and it’s taking the Black Press seriously.”

NNPA, which turns 80 in March, has a membership of more than 200 Black-owned newspapers around the country. A longstanding grievance aired by the organization is that Democratic candidates and the Democratic National Convention has tended to take Black newspapers and the Black voters who read them, for granted. This is despite the fact that African-Americans vote for Democratic presidential candidates 95 percent of the time.

While Chavis was clear that that NNPA does not endorse candidates, dollars spent in Black newspapers and with Black media are often seen as the sign of a candidate who is serious about Black issues.

“NNPA is a 501-C6; so we don’t endorse,” said Chavis. “But our member newspapers, they have the freedom to endorse whatever candidate they feel will best serve Black America. But I’d just like to note for Black history sake since this is Black History Month, that Mike Bloomberg just made Black history.”

Biden has long been thought to be the front runner in the Black community, especially because of his faithful service as vice president to President Barack Obama. But it is clear that Bloomberg’s strategy is to meet him head on. While Biden has yet to lay out a Black agenda, Bloomberg, on Jan. 19, held a meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma to lay out his Black economic agenda.

Ron Busby, president/CEO of the U. S. Black Chambers Inc. confirmed that he attended that meeting at the invitation of the Bloomberg campaign.

“It did include an economic agenda for African-Americans. And it was very close to the U. S. Black Chambers’ economic agenda from increasing the number of Black-owned businesses to increasing the number of deposits into Black



Initially Biden was counting on South Carolina, North Carolina and other southern states with large African-American voters to give him a much needed boost. But according to one key political observer that remains to be seen.

“Black voters are still shopping. I don’t go by the polls and when it comes to Black women we are very strategic,” said Melanie Campbell, president/CEO of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation. “The country is in a challenging place. The whole idea of representative Democracy is under threat.”

African-Americans continue to give Biden his advantage in North Carolina, where he is polling at 39 percent to 12 percent for Bloomberg and 10 percent for Sanders. But given Bloomberg’s aggressive strategy, this might not be enough.

During his speech in Tulsa, Bloomberg apologized for the controversial “stop and frisk” used by the NYPD while he was the mayor of New York City. Bloomberg went to Tulsa to commemorate the 1921 race riots in Tulsa where African-American business owners were killed and their shops burned in one of the worst race riots in US history.

“For hundreds of years, America systematically stole Black lives, Black freedom and Black labor,” Bloomberg told the audience. “A theft of labor and a transfer of wealth—enshrined in law and enforced by violence.”

Bloomberg also unveiled his “Greenwood Initiative” that calls for: The creation of 1 million new Black homeowners in the next decade; the creation of 100,000 new Black-owned businesses in ten years; the investment of \$70 billion in 100 of America’s most disadvantaged neighborhoods.

While former President Barack Obama has not endorsed any candidate, Bloomberg has launched an ad campaign promoting his connection with Obama that starts with a news clip featuring his words from 2013.

“At a time when Washington is divided in old ideological battles, he shows us what can be achieved when we bring people together to seek pragmatic solutions,” Obama says about Bloomberg in the 30-second political ad.

One of the challenges that each of the candidates have is generating excitement, according to E. Faye Williams, President of National Congress of Black Women.

“There is no excitement in the race and my concern is that people will stay home instead of going to the polls,” Williams said. “We had Senators Cory Booker and Kamala Harris but they are gone and right now we in the Black community feel left out.”



Which race and ethnic card to play?

Census identities still confound
Frequently asked questions (FAQ) on Census 2020
By Khalil Abdullah

Everyone in the United States plays a race or ethnic card some time, or at least every one responding to the census. Despite the scientific view that race is an artificial social construct, unmoored from biological reality, is there a box that best describes you?

Whether you plan to respond to the census online, in writing, or by telephone, one question you’ll

have to answer will be how you self-identify.

FAQ: What are the race and ethnic categories on the census form?

Answer: Your racial choices are: (1) White; (2) Black or African American; (3) American Indian or Alaskan Native; (4) Asian – with numerous boxes as subsets; and (5) Some other race. The questionnaire also asks, separately, if the respondent is “of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin,” but instructs that, “for this census, Hispanic origins are not races.”

FAQ: What if I’m not White or Black? I’m Egyptian and my neighbor is from Iran. What are our

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Trump courts African Americans in speech while harming African-Americans in policies

By Hazel Trice Edney

Impeached and now acquitted President Donald Trump has delivered his final State of the Union Address before the next presidential election set for Nov. 3, 2020.

The speech was replete with misleading information with an apparent aim to impress Black voters. In the 78-minute speech delivered before Congress and televised to millions, Feb. 4, Trump referred to Black civil rights leaders by name and invited African-Americans as guests in the audience. But a remarkable number of statements that he made pertaining to African-Americans or people of color was contradicted by policies, previous actions or statements by Trump himself.

Among the examples: He called Harriet Tubman a hero in the State of the Union

address while refusing to allow her picture to be posted on the \$20 bill until after he is no longer president. During the 2016 presidential campaign, he’d suggested her photo be posted on the discontinued \$2 bill instead.

He awarded an “opportunity scholarship” to African-America fourth-grader Janiya Davis to attend the school of her choice while proposing to strip funding from public schools where the educations of millions of African-Americans are suffering.

He praised the worthy service of Cleveland native Charles McGee as one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen during the pains of legalized segregation and promoted him to Brigadier General. Yet, on the same day that he pinned on General McGee’s stars, he awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom – the highest civilian

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Black history

History of Black nationalist women and political activism

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This is true in mainstream narratives of black nationalist movements in the United States. These narratives almost always highlight the experiences of a handful of black nationalist men, including Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X and Louis Farrakhan.

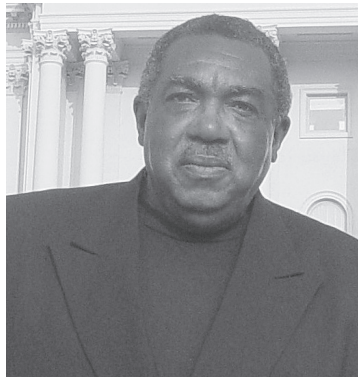
Contrary to popular conceptions, women were also instrumental to the spread and articulation of black nationalism – the political view that people of African descent constitute a separate group on the basis of their distinct culture, shared history and experiences.

As I demonstrate in my new book, "Set the World on Fire," black



nationalist movements would have all but disappeared were it not for women. What's more, these women laid the groundwork for the generation of black activists who came of age during the civil rights-black power era. In the 1960s, many black activists – including Ella Baker, Fannie Lou Hamer, Robert F. Williams, Malcolm X and Stokely Carmichael – drew on these women's ideas and political strategies.

Witnessing two history-makers in action



By A. Peter Bailey (TriceEdneyWire.com) –

As we continue to celebrate Black History Month 2020, it is necessary to pay tribute to two history-makers who are still with us, Rev. Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright, Jr., who is a renown historian of religion and Charles Fuller, one of the premier playwrights of our time. During the past month I've had the spiritually enhancing, knowledge-expanding experience of witnessing two brilliant, serious, though-provoking Brothers in action.

Dr. Wright, despite being in a wheelchair, delivered a powerful Dr. King birthday message, titled "What Do You See?" to over 1,500

congregants in Howard University's Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel in Cramton Auditorium. With a compelling voice he urged black folks to not be discouraged or distracted by current events in this nation. He cited historical and Biblical references to show that this is nothing new, that our ancestors with determination, faith and skills had made it through similar or even worse circumstances. He made a special appeal to the significant number of young people among the congregants. "Stay woke! Stay conscious! Hold on to your hope," he urged them to enthusiastic amens and applause. When attending Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker's church in Harlem, he would sometimes say "I'm not just a Baptist. I'm a Black Baptist." Dr. Wright is not just a Christian; he's a Black Christian.

The second history-maker, Charlie Fuller, though not physically present when I saw his unforgettable play, *A Soldier's Play*, on Broadway, was definitely there spiritually. I first saw his compelling, provocative creation in the 1970s when it was presented by the Negro Ensemble Company. It is one of my favorite plays. Charlie,

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Jermiah Wright

60 years ago—students launched a sit-in movement

This Black History special will be brought to you in three parts



By Dr. Kelton Edmonds, Special to the New Journal and Guide

February 1, 2020 marks the 60th anniversary of the launch of the historic Sit-in Movement, when four African-American freshmen from North Carolina A&T State College (now University) in Greensboro, NC sparked the non-violent and student-led wave of protests that ultimately resulted in the desegregation of F.W. Woolworth and other racially discriminatory stores.

The brave freshmen from NCA&T, who would later be adorned with the iconic label of the "Greensboro Four," consisted of David Richmond, Franklin McCain, Joseph McNeil, and Ezell Blair Jr. (Jibreel Khazan). On February 1, 1960, the Greensboro Four bought items at Woolworth's, then sat at the 'whites-only' lunch counter and refused to leave until they were served. Although waitresses refused to serve them, in accordance with the store's racist policies, the four would continue their protest and in the following days and weeks would be joined by more students from NCA&T, the nearby all-women's HBCU Bennett College and students from other nearby colleges and high schools.

In a 2003 interview, Khazan (formerly Blair, Jr.) reflected on the daily threats of violence and verbal assaults from white antagonists, as one caller reached him on the dorm hall phone and bellowed, "... executioners are going to kill you niggers if you come back down here tomorrow, you and your crazy



Students from Norfolk's Booker T. Washington High School stage set in at Granby Street's Woolworth's lunch counter. All Photos: New Journal and Guide archives

friends."

White student allies who protested alongside black students were not immune from death threats either, as Khazan recalled a white student protester explaining that their college president was threatened by an anonymous caller saying, "...if those nigger loving bitches come downtown again and sit with those niggers, we going to kill them and burn your school down."

The Greensboro students persisted nevertheless, and soon, the protests that flooded the lunch counters of the segregated store would spread to other cities throughout the South beginning in North Carolina cities such as Elizabeth City, Charlotte and Winston-Salem, in addition to cities in Virginia.

In Virginia

Virginia played a primary role in the Sit-in Movement, as Hampton, Virginia became the first community outside of North Carolina to experience sit-ins on February 10th.

Initially, three students from Hampton Institute sat-in at the downtown Woolworth's lunch counter in Hampton and were refused service. As a testament to the veracity of the movement, within two weeks, over 600 students in Hampton were sitting-in.

On February 12th, sit-in protests spread to Norfolk, as 38 black protesters staged a sit-in at the Woolworth lunch counters on Granby and Freemason streets.

Similar demonstrations were held in Portsmouth, in the mid-city shopping center at lunch counters in Rose's Department store on February 12th and at Bradshaw-Diehl



department store later that week.

Led by students from I.C. Norcom High school, the Portsmouth sit-ins would be one of the few cities that experienced violence, albeit initiated by white anti-protesters armed with chains, hammers, and pipes and resulting in retaliation from the black students after being attacked.

Violent episodes were the exceptions and not the rule of the massively spreading Sit-in Movement. In nearly all sit-in cities, black protesters made immeasurable efforts to avoid violence at all cost since the movement and training centered on non-violent demonstrations in confronting inequality.

Edward Rodman, high school activist in Portsmouth, admitted they were initially unorganized and untrained in passive resistance, which played a role in their reactions to the violent anti-protesters. The Congress for Racial Equality (CORE) connected with the Portsmouth student protesters and over the next few days conducted intense and successful non-violent workshops with the young people. Soon after, the Portsmouth students reignited their movement without incidents of retaliation toward violent antagonists.

North of Hampton Roads, Richmond, Virginia experienced sit-ins as well as Baltimore, MD, and dozens of other cities by the end of February. By mid-April, sit-in protests reached all southern states involving thousands of black student activists and sympathizers.

The coordinated demonstrations of thousands of black student protesters and sympathizers

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Editorial

Philadelphia Observer

Hair discrimination is alive and well



By Julianne Malveaux

Andrew Johnson, a high school wrestler, was forced to submit to the humiliating act of having his dreadlocks shorn or have his New Jersey team forfeit their match to the opposing team. A gleeful white woman seemed too pleased to invade the young man's person, and his team won, but at what price? When this happened in December of 2018, there was a national outcry, and the referee was suspended. A year later, DeAndre Arnold, a

senior at Barbers Hill High School in Mont Belvieu, Texas, was told that he would not be able to graduate unless he cut his hair. He's been growing his dreads for more than five years, often wearing them in a bun so that they did not violate the school rule that hair could not touch the collar. This is part of a pattern of policing Black hair in our nation's high schools and workplaces. And these dress codes are an attack on Black people, designed by white people and for white people. Hostility toward natural hair, locs and twists is really unvarnished hostility toward Blackness and its manifestation. It is an insistence that Black people conform to Eurocentric norms.

Andrew Johnson and DeAndre Arnold made headlines, but many cases do not. Often, the "code" is subtle, and the backlash painful and undeniable, but never spoken. So many women are told that their hair is "too wild" or "ungroomed", as if bone straight hair is the only way to wear it. And perhaps it is not said so much as hinted. And Black women (and men) have the choice of playing the game or

stalling their careers. This doesn't happen so much on the coasts, in California, New York and the District of Columbia. But it happens enough that activists have worked to outlaw hair discrimination.

On July 3, 2019, California became the first in the nation to outlaw discriminating against natural hair. The CROWN Act, or Create a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom. A few days later, New York State passed a similar law, as did New Jersey. A few cities and counties, like Cincinnati, OH and Montgomery County, Maryland, have also followed suit. A dozen or so other states and municipalities have explored, and even introduced legislation that prohibits discrimination against those who wear natural hair, braids, locs, or twists. Despite legislation, hair discrimination is alive and well.

The text of the California legislation explores the history of hair discrimination. It reads in part, "The history of our nation is riddled with laws and societal norms that equated 'blackness,' and the associated physical traits, for example, dark skin, kinky and

curly hair to a badge of inferiority, sometimes subject to separate and unequal treatment." The bill goes on to say, "Professionalism was, and still is, closely linked to European features and mannerisms, which entails that those who do not naturally fall into Eurocentric norms must alter their appearances, sometimes drastically and permanently, in order to be deemed professional."

The fact that a diversity of hairstyles needs to be addressed through legislation speaks to the intransigence of white supremacy, the need white supremacists have to require Black people to conform to their standards. Even as the population of people of color grows in our nation, white supremacists are holding on, strong, to their racist norms. Some of them don't even think they are racists. They are, indeed, "nice" people. They speak of neatness, wildness and their own discomfort with "different" hair. They think that folks should go through having their hair fried to make other people comfortable.

I really don't care how people wear their hair. It, truly, is a matter of choice. And hair does not have

to be political. But hair choices must be respected and discrimination against natural hair, braids, twists, and locs cannot be tolerated. Intolerance about natural hair is an intolerance against Black people. It is, at best, unacceptable.

Kudos to California State Senator Holly Mitchell for starting the ball rolling. Congratulations to those who worked with her to pass this important legislation. And shout out to the others who have embraced her legislation by introducing it in other states. Hair discrimination is not the most egregious injustice that Black people experience, but it is an injustice nonetheless. Just ask DeAndre Arnold, who won't be able to march with his peer graduates because he wears dreads, or the wrestler, Andrew Johnson, whose locs were shorn because a racist referee had neither intelligence nor tolerance.

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is an economist, author, media contributor and educator. Her latest project MALVEAUX! On UDCTV is available on youtube.com. For booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.julianne-malveaux.com

Plantation politics in minority broadcasting



By Pluria Marshall Jr.,
President / CEO Marshall
Broadcasting Group

When I tell you that you can count the number of African American commercial TV station owners in the U.S. on one hand, I mean it literally. There are only five – and I'm one of them.

Less than 1% of the nation's 1,400-plus commercial television stations are owned by African Americans – a shocking and shameful reality in a nation that purports to be the world's example of a free and diverse press. Minority media ownership is a fundamental part of our commitment to create and support an educated

and well-informed society because it allows news and information to be presented by different (and often ignored) perspectives.

Earlier this month in Congress, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology will hold a hearing, "Lifting Voices: Legislation to Promote Media Marketplace Diversity," to shed light on the challenges uniquely faced by minority broadcasters and close the loopholes that allow huge corporations to put these minority voices down. This hearing couldn't come at a more urgent moment as the 2020 election cycle is well underway, giving broadcasters and station owners enormous influence over the content and information that voters receive.

My own experience as an African American media broadcast owner is a case study in how our system is not supposed to work. I am president and CEO of Marshall Broadcasting Group (MBG), a television broadcasting company that owns three full power television stations in the United States. In 2014, I was contacted by former FCC Chairman Dick

Wiley about a potential opportunity to partner with Nexstar Media Group to acquire one or more TV stations.

As a longtime media executive, I naturally expressed my interest. After several meetings with Nexstar executives, Nexstar agreed to an FCC-imposed mandate to guarantee a \$60 million bank loan so I could acquire three TV stations in Texas, Louisiana and Iowa.

Why did Nexstar agree to guarantee the loan? Because they had a \$500 million acquisition on the table that was going to be rejected unless they helped a minority business owner get into the TV business (simultaneously helping the FCC honor its diversity mandate).

And that's not just me talking – that's exactly what then-FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler told Nexstar: Help a black man get into TV broadcasting – by providing the loan guaranty and other assistance – or the FCC will not approve your transaction. Without MBG's help, then, Nexstar's \$500 million acquisition would have never been approved. What's more, Nexstar would have forfeited millions of dollars in fees and deposits.

In theory, Nexstar's long-term

commitment was to help MBG get a secure footing in broadcasting, acquire more TV stations and, ultimately, become a thriving minority broadcaster in its own right. In reality, it was something else. Before the ink on the agreement was dry, Nexstar reneged on most of its obligations under the FCC agreement. Notwithstanding that, Nexstar did call in its marker for FCC approval of a larger, unrelated transaction. Once Nexstar's larger deal was approved, it took active measures to sabotage MBG and run us out of business. They overcharged us for stations, interfered with our operations, imposed oppressive fees for shared services, withheld working capital, and eventually caused us to default on our credit facility.

This is not how companies that claim to be committed to media diversity should treat their minority broadcast partners. In my opinion, it represents the calculated scheme of a predator who exploits and manipulates the system to subsidize its own interests and ventures – all with U.S. tax dollars and blessing.

The biggest failure was our system – set up by Congress and

run by the FCC – that lacks the accountability, follow-up and protections to not only encourage minority broadcasters, but to support us as we grow and thrive. In fact, even when these abuses were brought to the FCC's attention in the form of a complaint, the FCC ignored them and rewarded Nexstar with approval of an even larger merger, allowing them to purchase Tribune; a company previously denied to Sinclair for similar abuses.

The only thing worse than our government turning a blind eye to minority broadcasters is when government officials actually do something to assist media diversity, only to have those efforts thwarted by the disingenuous actions of corporations like Nexstar.

Starting with the recent hearing – but not ending until we've leveled the playing field – let's demand that Congress take the necessary steps to support minority broadcasters who want to grow and enrich our media landscape, unshackled to bad actors like Nexstar. I'm proud to be a pioneering African American broadcast owner, but our country would be much better off if I was one of many.

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Snoop Dogg v Gayle King and Ambassador Susan Rice



By Stacy M. Brown,
NNPA Newswire Senior
Correspondent

Last week, just days after the tragic death of basketball superstar and entrepreneur Kobe Bryant, CBS This Morning co-host, and Friend of Oprah Winfrey, Gayle King sparked a controversy following her interview with former WNBA star and longtime friend of Bryant, Lisa Leslie.

During an interview that covered a wide range of subjects, King was persistent and insistent as she pressed Leslie to respond to the resurfacing of 17-year-old rape allegations against Bryant. Bryant was not convicted of any wrongdoing in the matter. Prosecutors dismissed all charges against him after the alleged victim failed to appear in court. A civil suit brought by Bryant's accuser was later settled for an undisclosed amount of money.

Many viewers felt that the questioning was insensitive and displayed a lack of simple human decency, given that Bryant's family, along with the families of the other victims lost in the tragic accident, were still grieving.

"It's been said that his (Bryant's) legacy is complicated because of a sexual assault charge that was dismissed in 2003 / 2004," said King to Leslie during the interview. "Is it complicated for you as a woman, as a WNBA player?"

"It's not complicated for me at all," Leslie told King. "I just never see — have ever seen him being the kind of person that would be — do something to violate a woman or be aggressive in that way. That's just not the person that I know."

King continued pressing, telling Leslie, "Lisa, you wouldn't see it, though. As his friend, you wouldn't see it."

Leslie stood firm. "I just don't believe that," she told King, adding that the media should be more respectful at this time.

While both King and CBS assert that it was a wide-ranging interview that covered many topics, she was persistent about the subject of sexual assault in general and its impact on Bryant's legacy, specifically.

After the interview, rapper and actor Snoop Dogg, whose real name is Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr., took to social media, posting what quickly escalated to an expletive-filled response to King. Some, including King, perceived Snoop's post as a threat.

Snoop, who was a close friend of Bryant, referred to King as a "Funky Dog Head B****" and told King to pipe down "before we come get you."

On Friday the former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Susan Rice, entered into the melee with a warning directed specifically at Snoop, "This is despicable. Gayle King is one of the most principled, fair and tough journalists alive. Snoop, back the **** off. You come for @GayleKing, you come against an army. You will lose, and it won't be pretty."

For his part, Snoop maintains that it's far too early for the media to press the issue of those allegations against Bryant. He argues that the Bryant family and the other families who lost loved ones in the crash are still in the early stages of mourning. And he is not alone.

Snoop later said that he wasn't threatening King. "When I said what I said, I spoke for the people who felt like Gayle was very disrespectful towards Kobe Bryant and his family."

"Now with that being said, what do I look like, wanting some harm to come to a 70-year-old woman? I was raised way better than that," said Snoop, who is 48-years-old about King, who is 65. "I don't want no harm to come to her, and I didn't threaten her. All I did was say, 'Check it out. You out of pocket for what you doing and we watching you. Have a little bit more respect for Vanessa, her babies and Kobe Bryant's legacy.'"

The debate over the appropriateness of Snoop's take-down of Gayle King as well as Rice's response, continues to dominate Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, with several noted celebrities and social media influencers joining in.

For her part, Rice has received support from several prominent African Americans, like Senator Corey Booker (D-N.J.), Michael Eric Dyson, and Marc Lamont Hill.

Oprah Winfrey went on the Today Show to complain that King hadn't slept in two days. Others started the hashtag, "#IStandWithGayle."

Those who supported Snoop countered with the hashtags, "#ImwithSnoop" and "#IStand-WithSnoop."

"White liberals created the hashtag '#IStandWithGayle' to try and save their puppet Gayle King, but trying to create a false Black man vs. Black woman narrative," activist and film producer Tariq Nasheed wrote on Twitter. "But it was a Black woman (Lisa Leslie)

and other Black women who led the charge against Gayle's disrespect of Kobe."

Eddie S. Glaude Jr., the chair of the Department of African American Studies and the James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, said he thought about the King interview and Snoop Dogg's response.

"Misogyny is evil. Period," Glaude stated. "Sometimes, when people grieve, when they are in pain, they hurt others. They cause pain," he said.

Many blasted King and Winfrey, who have both received criticism for going after Black men implicated in sexual assault while standing up for White men who have been accused of the same or similar crimes.

Photos of King and Winfrey posing with Harvey Weinstein, Charlie Rose, Bill Clinton, and other White men who've been accused of being sexual predators littered the Internet.

"Kobe had one accuser, and he was acquitted," Isaac Hayes III wrote on Twitter. His message was accompanied by a video of King supporting Rose. In the video, King appears to lash out at those attacking Rose. "I don't know what more we can do to Charlie Rose except a public flogging. He's gone, he's not coming back to CBS News," King says in the video.

Hayes responded: "Charlie Rose had 27 accusers, and Gayle King stood by him. Kobe is gone and not coming back."

Hip-hop star and tv producer 50 Cent also mentioned his displeasure with King.

"Gayle King, why would you do that to your people? You know what people are going through right now," said 50 Cent, whose real name is Curtis Jackson III. "I didn't understand what the goal is at that point. She knows what Kobe means to the actual culture at the same time. Like they knew what Michael Jackson meant. I just don't know what you're trying to do when the men are dead."

"The legal system couldn't deal with it," he added. "What are you supposed to do, publicly convict him? Is that the idea? Now is it justice or is it revenge? ... It's all public opinion now."

"Why would you ask a question like that, trying to tarnish somebody's image? You do that to your own Black people. You sad. Black people need to stop trying to hurt Black people for success."



Gayle King blames CBS for her questions about Kobe Bryant's rape case

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Journalist Gayle King is reportedly upset at her long-time employer, CBS News, for resurfacing and sharing a video clip of her provocative line of questions about Kobe Bryant's sexual assault case from 2003, which has sparked a national outrage against her.

King, who is the host of CBS This Morning, has come under fire from many Twitter users and celebrities including Snoop Dogg, 50 Cent, and Ari Lennox after seeing the clip.

King addressed the issue through a video posted to her social media accounts, defending herself and blaming her home network, CBS News.

"I know that if I had only seen the clip that you saw, I'd be extremely angry with me too," she said. "I am mortified, I'm embarrassed and I am very angry. Unbeknownst to me, my network put up a clip from a very wide-ranging interview — totally taken out of context — and when you see it that way, it's very jarring. It's jarring to me. I didn't even know anything about it."

In the clip, King asked Leslie about Bryant's sexual assault case

which was eventually settled in 2005. During the interview, she says, "It's been said that his legacy is complicated because of a sexual assault charge which was dismissed in 2003, 2004. Is it complicated for you, as a woman, as a WNBA (Women's National Basketball Association) player?"

Leslie then responded, "It's not complicated for me at all... I just never see — have ever seen him being the kind of person that would be — do something to violate a woman or be aggressive in that way. That's just not the person that I know."

Bryant's untimely death in a helicopter crash last month revived the issue of the 2003 sexual assault, but King claimed that "last thing I would want to do is disparage him (Bryant) at this particular time."

Meanwhile, CBS said in a statement that King "conducted a thoughtful, wide-ranging interview" with Leslie but the clip that was posted "did not reflect the nature and tone of the full interview." Their spokesperson added that they "are addressing the internal process that led to this and changes have already been made."

'Hair Love' director Matthew Cherry calls for normalizing black hair in Oscars speech

Philadelphiaobserver.com

"Hair Love" director and writer Matthew A. Cherry addressed the importance of normalizing Black hair during his acceptance speech on stage at the 92nd Academy Awards.

The short animated film, which tells the story of a Black father who wears his hair in locs and learns to do his daughter's hair for the first time, won an Oscar for Best

Animated Short Film on Sunday.

Cherry and Karen Rupert Toliver, a producer of "Hair Love," both addressed the importance of representation in cartoons as they accepted the award on stage.

Toliver noted that the "Hair Love" filmmakers are firm believers that "representation matters deeply," and especially in cartoons, which are often "when we first see our movies."



Culture



Obamas-produced Netflix documentary 'American Factory' wins an Oscar

Philadelphiaobserver.com

“American Factory,” the first Netflix project released under the banner of Barack and Michelle Obama’s production company, Higher Ground Productions, won an Academy Award at the 2020 Oscars on Sunday night.

The documentary, directed by filmmakers Julia Reichert and Steven Bognar, won the award for Best Documentary Feature. The film chronicles what happened when a Chinese billionaire opened

a new factory at the former General Motors plant outside of Dayton, Ohio, in 2014. It was produced by company Participant Media before the finished film was acquired by Netflix and Higher Ground.

“American Factory” was released on the streaming service last year in August. Reichert and Bognar met the former president and first lady in Washington the month prior, they told HuffPost at the time.

Reichert said the Obamas are “wonderful people.”

Viola Davis will star as Michelle Obama in Showtime series

Philadelphiaobserver.com Actress Viola Davis will showcase her acting chops as former first lady Michelle Obama in an upcoming series for Showtime.

Jana Winograde, President of Entertainment at Showtime Networks Inc., announced that Showtime has given a series order for the first season of the hour-long drama First Ladies. Davis, an Oscar, Emmy and Tony® winner, will also serve as the show’s executive producer.

The series will focus on the personal and political lives of America’s charismatic, complex, and dynamic first ladies. The initial season will be devoted to Eleanor Roosevelt, Betty Ford, and Obama.

“Throughout our history, presidents’ spouses have wielded remarkable influence, not only on the nation’s leaders but on the country itself,” said Winograde in a press release. “First Ladies fits perfectly within the Showtime wheelhouse of drama and politics, revealing how much personal relationships impact both domestic and global events.”



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Health

Getting bad news from your doctor: don't settle for just being told

By Glenn Ellis

—“The physician should be the minister of hope and comfort to the sick; that, by such cordials to the drooping spirit, he may smooth the bed of death, revive expiring life... The life of a sick person can be shortened not only by the acts, but also by the words or the manner of a physician.”—The American Medical Association (AMA), 1947-

Most of us have recently heard the medical news about Congressman John Lewis and Alex Trebek, who were both given diagnoses of having Stage IV pancreatic cancer.

According to research from 2015, about 53 percent of people with pancreatic cancer receive a diagnosis when the cancer is in stage 4. Stage 4 pancreatic cancer has spread to other organs. This means that surgeons cannot remove it, and there is no cure. While the median survival rate is around 3–6 months after diagnosis, some people live longer than this. According to the American Cancer Society, the 5-year survival rate for people with stage 4 pancreatic cancer is approximately 1 percent. This means that 1 out of every 100 people with this type of cancer are still alive 5 years after their diagnosis.

Regardless of how each of these men fare in their respective treatment and outcome, this is definitely what you can call “bad news”.

For many of us, receiving “bad news”, the news alone isn't the only worry. One of the

reasons for this column is to address how not being to handle bad news in healthy way, can contribute to making our worst fears become reality. I'm speaking about the D word...depression.

The sense of hopelessness, and for some looking mortality (death) face-to-face, can lead to a depression filled with hopelessness, despair, and anxiety. All of these feelings can contribute to behaviors that cause a person to not want to “try” any longer; stop eating (or worst, don't care what they eat); and even worse, self-destructive behaviors (drugs, smoking, alcohol). Needless to say, any, or all, of these behaviors can exacerbate what might otherwise be a beatable health challenge.

It's almost inevitable that at some point you'll have to deal with bad news or a scary diagnosis from a doctor. While it's easy to read articles offering “tips for dealing with bad news,” when you get that news and you're scared, all that advice can fly out of the brain pretty quickly. At some point in their careers, virtually all doctors and nurses face the duty of telling patients something they don't want to hear.

A 2011 report from the Institute of Medicine emphasized that “effective pain management is a moral imperative, a professional responsibility, and a duty of people in the healing profession.” Nonetheless, few physicians are formally trained in effectively managing pain, and achieving this goal remains problematic. So, this can

be a problem, if you're expecting that getting bad news is an easy, and automatically smooth process.

This is not as easy as one might expect. In order to not be overwhelmed from receiving bad news, it can truly help to get as much information as possible from your doctor. Don't settle for just being told, “We found something, and it doesn't look good”. Ask questions and get complete answers to your questions. Often, we're afraid, and learning as much as possible about our condition can help you come to terms with what's happened and what the next steps should be. Just having a clear view of the facts can be calming in and of itself.

If you don't understand something, when doctors don't explain a diagnosis and next steps in terms you can understand, it can make an already stressful situation worse. Never be ashamed to tell your doctor, “I'm sorry, I don't understand. Can you explain it to me in simpler language?” Keep asking questions until you do understand.

In many situations, the potential for getting bad news from the doctor happens when we go back for a follow-up, or to get the results of a test of some kind. If this is the case for you, it might be a good idea to bring someone with you to record important facts during the appointment. You may be unable to focus on the details because you're distracted by impending news or your fears. Having someone with you can make sure the information your doctor provides is clearly



recorded for you to refer back later when you have more questions or find yourself unable to remember the answers you received during your appointment.

Most of us want to keep up strong appearances and be tough about the news. Being afraid is not the same as being weak. It's brave to ask questions and battle your fears with knowledge.

Remember, I'm not a doctor. I just sound like one. Take good care of yourself and live the best life possible! The information included in this column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended nor implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice.

Glenn Ellis, MPH, is Research Bioethics Fellow at Harvard Medical School and author of *Which Doctor?*, and *Information is the Best Medicine*. Ellis is an active media contributor on Health Equity and Medical Ethics. For more good health information visit: www.glennellis.com

60 years ago—students launched a sit-in movement

From page 4

put insurmountable pressure on Woolworth's, as it became nearly impossible for regular customers to purchase items, eat at the lunch counters and even enter the store in many instances.

On May 25th, the sit-in movement received a major victory as lunch counters at Woolworth's in Winston Salem, NC desegregated. Soon after, Woolworth's in Nashville, TN and San Antonio, TX also integrated. Finally, on July 25, ground zero, Woolworth's in Greensboro integrated its lunch counter. With the possibility of facing bankruptcy, F.W. Woolworth totally acquiesced and desegregated all of its lunch counters throughout the nation by the end of the summer of 1960.

SNCC would prove to be an indispensable organization that not only championed directly confronting Jim Crow racism on numerous levels through organized protests and massive voter registration drives, but SNCC also further popularized the concept of participatory democracy and was the first major Civil Rights organization to evolve toward seriously embracing principles of black power ideology under Stokely Carmichael's (Kwame Ture) leadership in 1966.

Another legacy of the 1960 sit-in movement was that it offered the inspiration and blueprint for the second and more colossal wave of mass student protest in Greensboro in 1963. The 1963 student demonstrations in Greensboro would be even more locally successful than their predecessor as they desegregated all remaining businesses in downtown Greensboro and the student leader of the second wave of sit-ins, Jesse Jackson, would parlay his leadership in the student protests onto the national Civil Rights stage throughout the 20th century. Similar to Greensboro, other cities throughout the South would experience a second and even third wave of similar protests to successfully desegregate other remaining businesses throughout the decade.

Dr. Kelton Edmonds is a Professor of History at California University of Pennsylvania. His primary research is on Black Student Activism in the United States. He is a native of Portsmouth, VA and graduated from I.C. Norcom High school in 1993. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Secondary Education-History from North Carolina A&T State University. He earned his Ph.D. in 20th Century US History from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Young voters are key to winning 2020

From page 2

around public policy. On issues ranging from climate change to gun violence to voter suppression, young people are speaking up and encouraging their peers to register and vote, as we saw most recently during the climate strikes.

There is also increasing evidence that colleges and universities are getting involved. A recent report by Tisch College's Institute for Democracy & Higher Education found that half of colleges that responded are using their college-voting data to guide campus conversations about engagement, and nearly 60% are using that data to mobilize voters.

College campuses have always been hotbeds of student political activism, but the rate of engagement from these voters in 2018 is historically large. This can be attributed, at least in part, to colleges and universities investing in the civic development of their students by embedding political and policy discussions in classroom learning, encouraging non-partisan voter registration and helping students confront consistent barriers to electoral participation (such as providing information about where and when to vote).

This is happening, for example, at James Madison University in Virginia; De Anza College, a community college in Cupertino, California; and the University of Texas at Austin.

As we head into 2020, both parties should focus more of their

efforts on young voters. Their importance is often overlooked and dismissed by party leaders who assume their votes are “in the bag” for Democrats, or “gone forever” for Republicans.

Young people, who are less likely to respond to surveys, may be underrepresented in polls leading up to the election, especially if turnout remains high. Campaigns that base their outreach on these polls are taking a big risk if they ignore the importance of engaging with young people.

Both parties should get serious about courting this emerging part of the electorate, and that means seeking and valuing their input more and involving them in campaigns, or even encouraging them to run campaigns of their own.

Democrats shouldn't take the current preference among young voters for granted. Young voters are suspicious of political parties, and their loyalty to either party is not particularly set. At least, not yet.

Republicans have a steep hill to climb when it comes to capturing more of the youth vote, but it is worth the effort. Donald Trump's Republican Party has a strategy aimed at turning out a higher percentage of older voters, who tend to vote conservative. But there will be a Republican Party long after President Trump, and if that party hopes to compete, it will need to persuade younger voters to support its candidates.

Republicans may do particularly well if they focus on younger voters with libertarian tenden-

cies. One possible reason, according to CIRCLE, is that young people are dissatisfied with the high amount of political polarization the United States has seen since the 2016 election.

If the GOP is committed to reaching new voters and trains its eye on this widely distributed and growing demographic, it may be forced to moderate its agenda and move more toward the middle of the political spectrum. Young voters in general hold more liberal views on nearly every issue than the current Trump-led Republican party ideology.

But as previously noted, young people are also not keen to identify with the Democratic party in particular. If they break from party dogma and adopt more moderate positions on issues such as climate change, the GOP might be surprised at the willingness of young voters to listen to their pitch for support. This may also put pressure on Democrats to take young people even more seriously and better respond to their demands for action on climate change and other issues.

However the data is interpreted by either party, the mere fact that this many young voters are engaging in the democratic process is a sign of future strength compared with the current national political frailty. With the passage of time, young Americans will inherit this country and its experiment in self-governance. To see them making their voices heard now gives us both hope.

A 'green' message shakes up the industry at mining confab in South Africa

GIN

After years of defending dirty extractive industries such as the mining of coal, large mining companies seemed to have switched sides and joined the Greens, or so it seemed at the African Mining Indaba held this week in South Africa.

At the Indaba, the continent's biggest gathering of one of its most vital industries, the companies appeared less combative than in years past. Among the highlights of the conference was a statement by Mark Cutifani, head of Anglo American, a multinational company based in Johannesburg, South Africa and London.

The mining industry faces a "crisis of reputation," Cutifani declared. "The industry must do things differently to find new, safer, more sustainable and cost-effective ways to supply the world's essential raw materials, he said.

"We are still seen as an industry that takes more than it gives," he said.

He urged mining companies to connect the future of mining with changing societal values.

"Our challenge is clear; we need to find new, safer, more sustainable and cost-effective ways to supply essential raw materials to meet the needs of a rapidly



growing and urbanizing global population for decades to come."

Anglo American is working to transform the company's physical and social footprint, he said, to have a positive effect on the communities and environment where it operates.

"This means we are listening, recognizing that we don't have all the answers," Cutifani said. "Climate change is one of the defining challenges of our time. We cannot ignore or underestimate its global impact."

Reports of the inevitable demise of coal were echoed repeatedly among some of its strongest advocates. John Startin, of the banking advisors company, Evercore Inc., called the resource "un-investible." Natural gas and renewable energy infrastructure are largely replacing coal plants due to lower costs, regulatory challenges and other obstacles stacked against coal generation.

Norway's sovereign wealth fund divested from all fossil fuel last year, and the world's biggest asset manager Blackrock said on January 14 it would sell active holdings in companies generating more than 25% of revenues from thermal coal.

In Africa, where access to electricity is still a problem, coal-to-power projects could previously rely on support from development finance institutions. But even they are withdrawing under pressure.

In November, the African Development Bank decided against funding a Kenya coal project that was halted by a local environmental tribunal in June.

The continent's biggest coal producer, South Africa, is also seeing funding dry up. South Africa's Nedbank has stopped funding coal-related projects, while FirstRand cut greenfield thermal coal projects to less than 0.5% of its lending.

Antarctica logs hottest temperature on record with a reading of 18.3C

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Antarctica has logged its hottest temperature on record, with an Argentinian research station thermometer reading 18.3C, beating the previous record by 0.8C.

The reading, taken at Esperanza on the northern tip of the continent's peninsula, beats Antarctica's previous record of 17.5C, set in March 2015.

A tweet from Argentina's meteorological agency on Friday revealed the record. The station's

data goes back to 1961.

Antarctica's peninsula – the area that points towards South America – is one of the fastest warming places on earth, heating by almost 3C over the past 50 years, according to the World Meteorological Organization. Almost all the region's glaciers are melting.

The Esperanza reading breaks the record for the Antarctic continent. The record for the Antarctic region – that is, everywhere south of 60 degrees latitude – is 19.8C, taken on Signy Island in January 1982.



Witnessing two history-makers in action

From page 4

with supreme talent, and intelligence make audiences aware of the lacerating psychological damage this basically white supremacist society inflicts on way too many black men. The lead character, played by David Alan Grier, is a demonic, self-hating black sergeant who is basically a black white supremacist. With

scorn and disgust, he physically and emotionally brutalizes the mostly rural young black soldiers under his command. "It's people like you," he continuously snarls at them, "who justify the attitude of white folks about us." Eventually he is mysteriously killed.

The second leading character is a black army captain, played by Blair Underwood, whose job is to find out who killed the despicable sergeant.

Throughout the play, which takes place during World War II, Charlie includes conversations from white officers about confronting the Nazis. What they didn't talk about was the brutality and terrorism being inflicted on black folks by white supremacists in the United States.

A wise person will take advantage of any opportunity to see the two great history-makers in action.

Botswana auctions off permits to hunt elephants

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Botswana held its first auctions for the right to hunt elephants since lifting a ban last year.

The country has some 130,000 elephants, the largest population in the world.

The government sold seven hunting licenses on Friday, with each allowing hunters to kill 10 elephants in "controlled hunting areas."

Officials revoked a 2014 ban in May, saying human-elephant conflict and the negative impact on livelihoods was increasing.

The lifting of the ban has been popular with many in rural communities but has been

heavily criticised by conservationists.

Seven packages of 10 elephants each were sold at the auction in the capital Gaborone on Friday afternoon, the BBC's Southern Africa correspondent Nomsa Maseko reports.

Only companies registered in Botswana were allowed to bid for the licenses. Bidders put down a refundable deposit of 200,000 pula (\$18,000; £14,000).

The government has issued a quota for the killing of 272 elephants in 2020.

The hunting would help areas most impacted by "human wildlife conflict", wildlife spokeswoman Alice Mmolawa told AFP news agency.



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Culture

Which race and ethnic card to play?

From page 3

options and who determines the categories?

Answer: You and your neighbor fall into what is called the MENA classification: Middle Eastern and North African. There was a proposal to add MENA to the 2020 form, but the Office of Management and Budget, which makes the assigned identity group determinations about the census, decided to keep the same basic categories that were on the 2010 census form.

FAQ: So, if I'm MENA, what box best describes me?

Answer: That's a personal choice. Many MENA residents, and others, end up checking "Some other race," the third-largest race category after White and Black or African American.

FAQ: But I thought Hispanics and Latinos were now the second-largest racial group in the United States according to their population. So how do you get "Some other race" as the third-largest group?

Answer: As far as the census is concerned, Hispanics and Latinos are ethnic classifications not racial classifications. Some will check the "White" box and some will check the "Black" box or write in Afro Latino, for example, as an addition. Many will check the "Some other race" box. MENA respondents also frequently check the "Some other race" box as well. They don't see themselves as Black or White, and in most cases, they are not of Hispanic or Latino origin.

FAQ: Have census categories changed over time?

Answer: Yes. Mulatto, octroon or quadroon once were options on the census form to describe African Americans of mixed heritage. One estimate calculates that 500,000 of these individuals checked the "White" box on the 1920 form. In later years, public demand and pressure resulted in the OMB removing "Negro" as an option for American-born residents of African descent. The term still appeared on the 2010 decennial census, but on the 2020 form the choices are "Black" or "African American."

FAQ: What if I was born here, but my parents are from Africa?

Answer: There is a lot of subjectivity involved in making these choices. For some, Black has come to mean anyone who is a descendant of the African diaspora, regardless of where they were born or live. One Somali man, a longtime resident and U.S. citizen, married an American woman who identified as Black. When asked how he describes his U.S.-born children, he said, "Well, now that I think about it, I guess they are African American."

FAQ: What if I am of mixed heritage? My parents are African American, but I know some of their ancestors were from Europe. They were Irish, for ex-

ample, Dutch or German. Other ancestors, we think, were Native American.

Answer: The questionnaire is set up so that you can "Mark one or more boxes AND print origins." We know America has had a complicated history (<https://tinyurl.com/EMS-FAQ>), as more people are discovering through genomic testing. One adult census respondent recalls discouraging his mother, who identifies as Black, from checking every major race category box on the form.

FAQ: Why would it have mattered if she had? What difference does the box I check make or any information I may add?

Answer: For one, you have a better chance of "owning" who you are. Therefore, you are less likely to be misrepresented by a census employee who, without that information, would make a determination about your identity. So, in that sense, checking every box would be a more accurate contribution to understanding our country's history. Individual census data is sealed for 72 years, but in the future your descendants or distant relatives will be able to look you up by name on the census form you respond to this year. In fact, the census is among the primary tools genealogists and researchers use to trace family histories. You might also reflect on that first constitutionally mandated census in 1790. To achieve a political compromise, those held in bondage were counted only as three-fifths of a person, and their names were not recorded on the census. Even as late as 1860, the last census before the Civil War, some owners reported the age and sex of their captives, but not their names.

FAQ: But how does filling out the census or not filling out the census affect my immediate financial or economic condition?

Answer: For practical purposes, as a measure of population, census data is used to determine how the federal and state governments allocate funds and resources, in addition to determining the number of seats states get in the U.S. House of Representatives. Data can be a double-edged sword. Some data are critical to attempts to address structural disparities among America's peoples, but data also can be used as a guide to steer resources away from those deemed political adversaries. How and why data are used is an important conversation, but it's a different conversation from whether it is in your interest to respond to the census. However, unless you are clear about who you are by identity, you may be grouped with a different race than your preference. That was why the individual discouraged his mother from checking every box. He wanted to make sure that if there were resources linked to her identity, those resources would be allocated to and benefit the community with which she primarily identified.

8-year-old boy banned from private schools in London because of his hair

Philadelphiaobserver.com

Farouk James, an 8-year old boy from London, is not being allowed to attend several schools in the city because of his long, natural hair. His mother, Bonnie Miller, has since been advocating for his son and others who are experiencing discrimination based on hair.

Farouk, whose father is from Ghana, has been growing his natural hair for years. Due to cultural reasons, his parents didn't cut his hair until he was at age 3.

"At that point he was attached — and so was I, to be honest — with his beautiful hair," Bonnie told CBS News. "We just kept the hair."

Bonnie has been looking for a private secondary school for her son when she first found out that two of the schools of her choice wouldn't allow her son to attend because of his hair.

Bonnie first considered inquiring at The London Oratory School, where her older son who is now-23-years old attended and had issues for very short hair. She thought that because years have already passed, the school might have changed its strict policies. But she found out that it didn't and Farouk's long hair violated the school's policy as well.

Bonnie then thought of Fulham Boys School, which changed their policies after another mother



filed a lawsuit when her son was banned from the school because of his locks. But upon reading the school policies that stated "the maximum hair length is above the collar and the minimum hair length is a number 2 cut," Miller knew her son's long hair was still against it.

Rihanna to be awarded one of the NAACP's top honors

Philadelphiaobserver.com

This year's recipient for the NAACP President's Award is none other than Rihanna. The organization announced on Tuesday that the singer would be awarded the honor during the NAACP Image Award show, according to Pitchfork.

The award, which is given "in recognition of special achievement and distinguished public

service," was previously awarded to Jay-Z in 2019.

"From her business achievements through Fenty to her tremendous record as an activist and philanthropist, Rihanna epitomizes the type of character, grace, and devotion to justice that we seek to highlight in our President's Award," NAACP President Derrick Johnson said.

Rihanna who last put out an album in 2016, has dedicated her time to other business and philan-



thropic ventures.

Clara Lionel Foundation, Rihanna's organization named after her grandparents, was honored at the Diamond Ball for its outreach efforts back in 2019, as Blavity previously reported. The foundation works to provide health care and education to underserved communities.

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Black artists passing up Black media at Grammys was disappointing sight to see

By Victoria Uwumarogie

Black media lost out big on the red carpet during the recent televised Grammy Awards where plenty of winners, including Lizzo won three gramophones. BlackTree Media, which has covered the show for the last 14 years, was present with their camera crew on the big night, and captured plenty of disappointing video of Black artists walking past them and the few Black media correspondents who were all thrown together at the end of a long red carpet.

"There's a struggle, especially for Black media," Jamaal Finkley, CEO of BlackTree, said over B-roll of stars on the carpet. "The struggle is multifaceted. First, there's the placement that we are on the carpet, which is usually we're all bundled near the end of the carpet.

"Second is the publicists that represent the talent, which you'll see in some of these videos, and third, it's the talent themselves, who make conscious efforts or lack of effort to take time to speak to the few Black-owned media."

As he pointed out, there is not more than four or five Black media representatives on the carpet at one time out of a sea of non-Black ones, but by the time celebrities get past the major white publications at the beginning of the carpet, they, along with their publicists, zone out.

Finkley can be heard in the video telling the likes of Rappers Gucci Mane and Quavo of the Migos, "Don't just do PEOPLE!" (Interesting enough, both mens' names popped up for interviews secured with Billboard that night.) Other stars who walked past were H.E.R., Questlove, Lil Nas X and reportedly Rick Ross. Rapper Gunna did stop with his publicist, but wasn't able to answer questions for long.

"Been doing it for too long to continue to watch this BS happen," Finkley wrote in the comments on YouTube. "Each of these award shows cost Blacktree \$1500 to cover and to see people just ignore us for white media is ridiculous. They thirsty for that 30 seconds on a white outlet while ignoring 4 Black outlets. Maybe 5. Like you can't make the time sis or bro? We here to cover you."

Finkley was able to speak with some talent, including Misty Copeland, but more people walked by than they did stop by for one question. While

it's understandable that people may need to get inside a show by a certain time, enough time should be allotted to speak with more than just the mainstream outlets or don't speak to any.

In addition, it is somewhat hypocritical that some of these same artists and names are outspoken about feeling like their work isn't respected or properly acknowledged by the Recording Academy because it's Black or want to acknowledge poor treatment of Black folks in general, but won't give the time of day to people who help them build their name before becoming part of the A-list.

And before you go about talking about Black media being messy, the reputable sites they tend to flock to, from PEOPLE to E! and Entertainment Tonight, often focus on the same angles and drama they specifically point the finger at Black reporters about.

At the end of the day, if they can stop for those publications and sites, what would it hurt to give your own people the chance for at least one question? As previously mentioned, it's disappointing, but not surprising at this point.

There is hope, though. If you'll recall, **Halle Berry** made time for the two Black journalists at the premiere of "John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum" (one of them being for Blacktree) after her publicist claimed she had no time. She made it clear, "I can't skip my brother and my sister," and that gesture meant a lot more than Berry realized to the reporters she spoke to. Hopefully soon enough, other stars of color will take a stand in the same way, especially since it doesn't require very much at all... #BlackMediaMatters. Link: https://madamenoire.com/1128801/grammys-black-artists/?fbclid=IwAR334WwJje—iP4GgRxyPg3iTL2ycNT2meYQU_etg4Xitvk7YIFVGWrvOfc. Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Gu0t54bKFM&feature=emb_title Video Of Black Artists Passing Up All The Black Media At The Grammys Is A Disappointing Sight To See



"I can't skip my brother and my sister," said Halle Berry, Academy Award-winner

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Flick chat

Foxx to receive 'Excellence in the Arts Award'

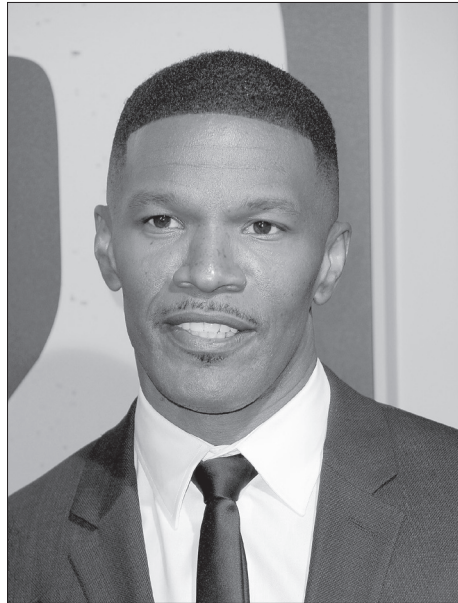
Posted By Don Thomas

The American Black Film Festival (ABFF) announced Academy Award winner **Jamie Foxx** as the recipient of the "Excellence in the Arts Award," which honors a contemporary artist whose work has received critical acclaim. Foxx is a multi-award-winning actor/singer, and comedian whose career spans more than 30 years.

He has received multiple nominations and honors for his portrayal of Walter McMillian in the powerful drama "Just Mercy," which is also among the nominees for the ABFF Honors "Movie of the Year" Award.

"We are honoring Jamie Foxx for his phenomenal body of work, which spans comedy, music, television and film. We are honored to celebrate his achievements and contributions to Black culture and entertainment," said Jeff Friday, CEO ABFF Ventures.

Foxx began his career in entertainment as a stand-up comic, which soon led to his being cast in "In Living Color" (1990) and from 1996 to 2001, he starred in his own comedy, "The Jamie Foxx Show." For his portrayal of Ray Charles in the 2004 biographical film "RAY," Foxx won an Academy Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role,



Honoree Jamie Foxx

a BAFTA Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role, a Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture – Comedy or Musical, and a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award for



Host Deon Cole

Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Leading Role.

That same year, he was also nominated for an Academy Award, BAFTA Award, Golden Globe and SAG Award, for Best Performance

by an Actor in a Supporting Role, for his work in the thriller "Collateral."

Foxx is also a Grammy Award-winning musician, releasing four albums which have charted high on the Billboard 200 chart: *Unpredictable* (2005), which topped the chart, *Intuition* (2008), *Best Night of My Life* (2010) and *Hollywood: A Story of a Dozen Roses* (2015).

Presented by ABFF Ventures, the 2020 ABFF Honors, hosted by Emmy-nominated Comedian/Actor **Deon Cole** will take place on Feb., 23 in Los Angeles, California.

ABFF Honors is an annual awards season gala dedicated to saluting excellence in the motion picture and television industry. The ceremony celebrates Black culture by recognizing artists who have made distinguished contributions to American entertainment through their work, as well as those who champion diversity and inclusion.

Individual recognition awards include Hollywood Legacy, Excellence in the Arts, Rising Star, Industry Renaissance and Pro Hollywood. Recognition of outstanding content awards include Movie of the Year and Classic Television Award. Visit ABFF Honors and to stay up-to-date on upcoming announcements for the 2020 ceremony, at www.ABFFHonors.com

Trump courts African Americans in speech while harming African-Americans in policies

From page 3

honor – to radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh, among the greatest purveyors of racist comments about Black people of all media personalities, including championing the so-called "birther" lie that President Obama was not born in the U.S.

Trump invited Joshua Smith, the brother of a teenaged cyber-bullying victim who committed suicide to sit in the audience at the SOTU just before going on one of his usual cyber-bullying tirades against Republicans and Democrats who opposed him or simply told truths during impeachment hearings.

Among the best descriptions of the speech probably came from Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi who ripped up her copy on live TV and then called it a "manifesto of mistruths" in a CNN interview.

From funding for HBCUs to an African-American unemployment rate being the lowest in history – while failing to give proper credit to his predecessor, President Obama, for that downward spiral, the 78-minute State of the Union Address revealed back to back conflicts from the impeached president, who was acquitted by the U. S. Senate the next day.

But, the Center for American Progress, in a pre-SOTU report, had already documented the harms done to African Americans by the Trump Administration.

According to Trump, "There's a revolution going on in this country. I mean a positive revolution. So African American, Hispan-

ic-American, Asian-American. We have the best numbers we've ever had. African-American, the poverty numbers are now reverse and they're the best they've ever had."

But, according to CAP, "Trump has nothing to brag about when it comes to his treatment of people of color. The Black unemployment rate remains two times the rate of White Americans. We also know that most Americans cannot afford an unexpected \$400 expense.

The fact check document on Trump's record on communities of color was entitled "365 Harms: The Trump Administration's Record on People of Color aims to document "the numerous ways in which the Trump Administration has been harming people of color. They are releasing seven instances each week and will document 365 instances of Trump harming people of color between November 5, 2019 and November 5, 2020," according to CAP spokeswoman Julia Cusick.

Among some of the harms listed by CAP:

Immigration - President Trump shut down the federal government for five weeks from late 2018 through early 2019 in order to secure funding for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. This action cost the U.S. economy \$11 billion and jeopardized the financial security of more than 228,000 federal employees of color.

Criminal justice - Black teenagers are arrested at higher rates than white teenagers. However, the Trump administration dissolved the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Preven-

tion's research arm—the only federal office that consistently compiled data on racial patterns in juvenile arrests and incarceration. The Trump administration scrapped Obama-era federal guidance designed to ensure that school discipline policies do not discriminate against students of color or students with disabilities, U. S. Department of Education data show that Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, and American Indian or Alaska Native male students experienced a disproportionate amount of out-of-school suspensions during the 2015-2016 school year.

K-12 education - Under the Trump administration, the U.S. Office for Civil Rights upheld fewer than 2 in 10 complaints of racial harassment, compared with a rate of 31 percent under the Obama administration.

Addiction Crisis - The Trump administration attempted to withhold funds for combating the opioid crisis from the city of Philadelphia due to its sanctuary city policies, which protect immigrants.

Nutrition - The Trump administration is reversing Obama-era rules ensuring that Title I schools—schools in which more than 30 percent of students qualify for the free and reduced price lunch program—receive adequate funding. This will disproportionately affect students of color, who were the majority of students in Title I schools for the 2016-17 school year.

Drug laws - Drug laws disproportionately affect Black Ameri-

cans, who are six times more likely to be incarcerated for drug-related offenses than their white counterparts. Despite these clear racial disparities, the Trump administration is instructing federal prosecutors to pursue the death penalty in both violent and non-violent drug cases.

Incarceration - The Federal Bureau of Prisons is cutting back on its use of halfway houses and other rehabilitative services, despite evidence of the importance of these services for successful reentry of the formerly incarcerated. Black Americans make up 40 percent of the incarcerated U.S. population, while Hispanics make up 19 percent of the U.S. incarcerated population.

Economic Opportunity - The Trump administration wants to eliminate the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), which provides business consulting services to people of color who wish to start or expand their own businesses. The MBDA is the only federal agency focused on the development and growth of minority-owned businesses.

Shootings of unarmed Black men - The growing media coverage of shootings of unarmed Black men since 2012 has brought attention to the importance of data collection in officer-involved shootings. Yet the Trump administration has delayed implementation of a law mandating data collection on arrest-related deaths until 2020.

Juvenile Justice - Despite disproportionately high arrest rates

of Black teenagers in the United States, the Trump administration removed training manuals for local juvenile justice officials aimed at eliminating racial disparities.

White supremacy - In response to White nationalists rampaging through Charlottesville, Virginia, and ultimately murdering one counter-protester, President Trump responded by defending the white nationalists and blamed "both sides" for the violence.

Trump administration rhetoric - President Trump attacked African American professional athletes for protesting systemic racism and bringing attention to police brutality, [calling them SOB's] and calling on team owners to fire them. He further inflamed emotions when he joked that police officers should rough up suspects upon arrest.

Affirmative Action - The Trump administration rescinded an Obama-era policy that encouraged universities to consider race in university admissions to promote diversity. Instead, the U.S. Department of Education is advocating for race-neutral methods.

Higher education - While boasting about increasing funding to HBCUs, The Trump administration tried to cut funding for the Federal Work-Study program and the Pell Grant program. This funding is essential for students of color: In 2015, 55.7 percent of Hispanic students, 54.1 percent of Black students, 48.2 percent of Native American students, and 25 percent of Asian students received Pell Grants.

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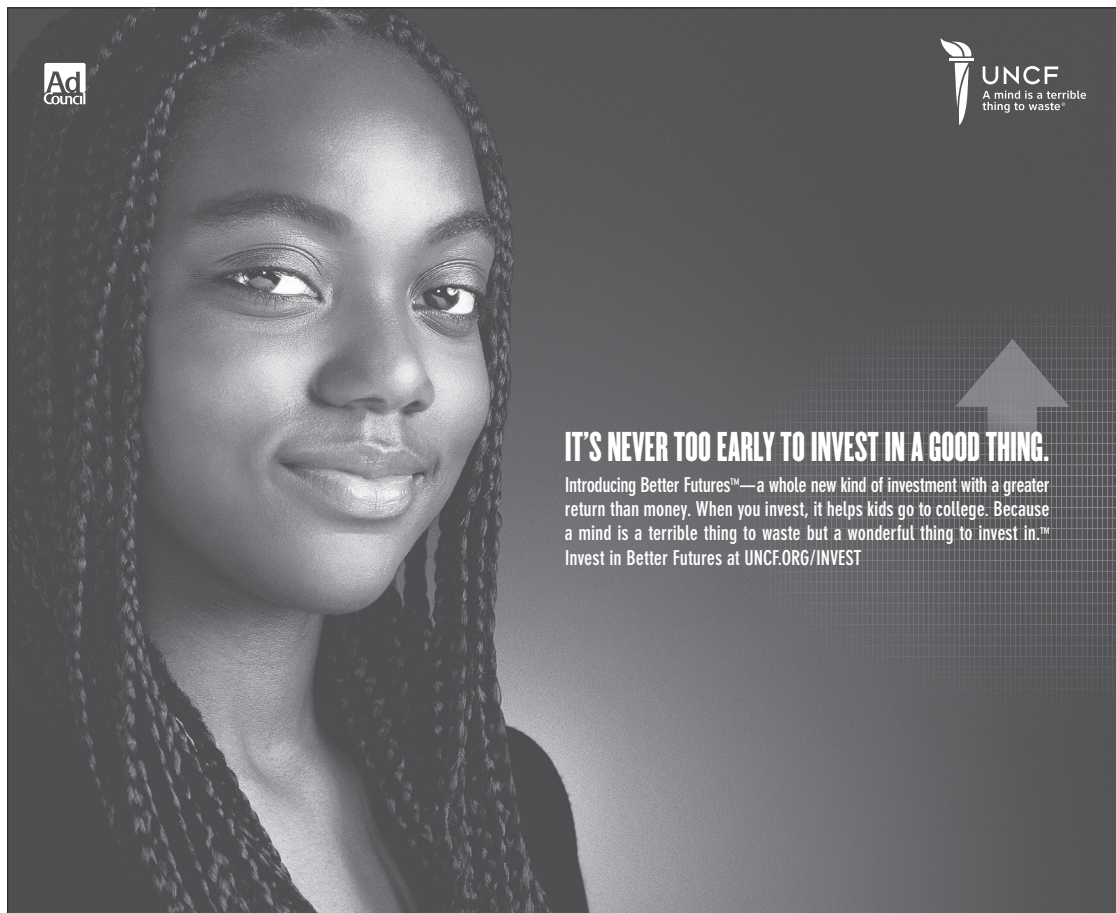
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