Citizens Protest Fracking at Colorado Springs City Hall

City Council’s decision to adopt weak oil and gas regulations proposed by the Planning Commission should be a call to action for all Colorado Springs citizens who appreciate our abundant clean air, water, and soil. We refuse to be silent and consent to the plundering of our pristine surrounding landscapes and deterioration of our quality of life in exchange for a few jobs and temporary profit. Colorado Springs Citizens for Community Rights will continue to educate, organize, and work towards the adoption of a rights-based charter amendment to ban the destructive process of hydraulic fracturing outright. We stand undeterred by today’s vote and more committed than ever to building momentum and protecting our right to safe and clean water, air, and soil.

All’s Not Fair in Sex and War: Petraeus Sex Scandal and the US Army

By Andrew Lam

(NAM) - Long before coming to America, the first English phrase I ever uttered was, oddly enough: “No money, no honey.” The painted girls in impossibly tight, colorful miniskirts who strutted on the sidewalks near my school in downtown Saigon said it shamelessly, and loudly, as they plied their trade with American GIs during the Vietnam War. It became an expression among us pubescent schoolboys. “No money, no honey,” was sometimes followed by this false, if ironic advertisement now popular in America as well: “Me love you long time!” Ironic since neither side, knowingly, could possibly keep to that promise, romantically or geopolitically speaking. Nevertheless that childhood memory comes back now, decades later, as I think of the political scandal that has engulfed our nation on the heels of the U.S. presidential election, and how – incredibly – a little honey and a lot of amorous email missives could take down America’s most beloved general, and threaten to ruin the career of yet another.

NAACP Membership Faces Sharp Decline

By Rev. Edward Pinkney

Since September 2012, approximately 3,000 NAACP members have set their membership cards to the torch, because there is a sense that the national leadership is corrupt, cowardly and has deviated from its mission supporting amorality and corporations that abuse all Americans. The card-burning campaign started by Rev. Edward Pinkney of Benton Harbor, Michigan, has spread all over the nation. Hundreds of formerly loyal NAACP members are disgusted by fraud, the refusal of the organization to combat police brutality, Lynchings, and systematic structural racism by corporations. Allegedly, these corporations pass the national leadership cash under the table.

NAACP Membership Faces Sharp Decline

Continued on page 8

Inside this Issue

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Political Parties: What does it mean to be Black and Brown in El Paso County?

By James Tucker

As a proud African American male, I have lived in El Paso County for 38 years. I have been involved in the community from day one as a soldier, basketball coach, teacher, community activist and publisher. The challenges have not changed over the years. Conditions are worse today.

The Democratic leaders will tell African Americans that the party stands for justice and equality for all people. The Republican leaders will tell African Americans that the party stands for equal opportunity and economic liberty for all people. Both parties in El Paso County ignore African American and Latino issues and do not include African Americans and Latinos in decision-making processes.

During Election 2012, Black and Brown people overwhelmingly supported the Democratic candidates. They turned out to vote in record numbers.

Prior to the election, I made a personal commitment to support President Barack Obama for re-election but did so outside the local Democratic Party. I supported Organizing for Obama and met many Whites from Texas, Washington, California, Idaho, New York, other states and foreign countries. One of the young White males said, “I am sick and tired of these old ignorant White males.” I was shocked to hear him make that statement. Another White male said, “I didn’t walk that neighborhood because I was afraid to leave my car unattended.”

I also met a young Black female doctor and her father from Tulsa, Oklahoma. They were down-to-earth and genuine people. It was inspiring to see them working in the trenches.

I volunteered to canvass with Organizing for America and focused on the South and Southeast part of Colorado Springs where I spent most of my life working for change. It was one of the most positive experiences of my life meeting former students, talking with members of low income families, veterans, single parents, and connecting with people I had not seen for years.

I did not feel comfortable working with the El Paso County Democratic Party after being harassed, intimidated and threatened by the lily-white Executive Committee members at previous meetings. When I served on the Executive Committee some of the members held secret meetings and planned to silence me for asking critical questions about the inclusion of people of color. I was warned by a member who attended a secret meeting that they requested a police officer to attend the central committee meeting and the plan was to arrest me if I asked questions or something to that effect. A police officer watched me the entire meeting.

The member that informed me left the Democratic Party and joined the Green Party. He said, “They are treating you worse than they treated Fannie Hamer, I can’t work with those people.” Fannie was a 60s civil rights activist.

During another incident I spoke to the Latino Initiative and gave the history of minority groups’ struggles in El Paso County. The Latino chair informed me that the El Paso County Democratic Party Chairperson had said, “Don’t invite James Tucker to another meeting to speak.” The young Latinos left the party and encouraged me to not put up with the racism. I continued to be involved until I realized that El Paso Democratic Party leaders are not going to deal with the issues of ethnic minority groups.

El Paso County Democratic Party African American Candidate Tony Exum ran on the coattails of President Barack Obama and was elected to House District 17. Tony Exum has no experience addressing African American issues. During the election process he was advertised with Whites-only media. He and other Democratic candidates disrespected the Democratic Party outreach program, ignored ethnic minority media, and did not address the issues minority groups face during the campaign. El Paso County Democratic Party advertised the election party in Whites-only media.

Who is going to hold Tony Exum, John Morse, Pete Lee and El Paso County Democratic Executive Committee members accountable? The issues are the same? A Civil Rights Commission with no enforcement power to protect the civil rights of people of color? Economic injustice is perpetuated by the failure of local, county and state governments to award contracts to African Americans.

In closing, the El Paso County Democratic Party Executive Committee and majority of Democrats are out of touch with ethnic minorities, their needs and concerns. I strongly encourage ethnic minorities to read the blueprints left behind by our ancestors to organize movements. Now is the time for ethnic minorities to stop voting along party lines and hold elected officials accountable for their failure to be inclusive of all people. Republicans believe in individual responsibility and the American dream. During the next election, we can vote for candidates with a record of addressing ethnic minority groups’ issues.

We must keep the flame of freedom, dignity, and worth burning in memory of our ancestors! When token ethnic minorities, Democrats or Republicans, ask you to support their party ask them to show you how they are connected to our community. When they say, we work with the NAACP, tell them the NAACP is out of touch with our community and are sell outs. Also tell them they misrepresented the majority of African American issues.

Tucker’s Notebook

Member of Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce

Board Member:
Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition

National Juneteenth Organization Foundation

Life Member:
The Retired Enlisted Association

Non-commissioned Officer Association

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Disabled American Veterans

American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO

Education:
B.A. History and Political Science

M.Ed. - Counseling and Student Development

Honorary Doctor of Management: Colorado Technical University

Honorary Degree of the Lambid of Garoua, Cameroon

Publisher’s note:

Did You Know?

Ethnic minority groups include African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islander descent.

Whites-only: Anglo Saxon institutions that do business with whites only or advertise with white mainstream media.

Racist Black: A person of African American decent that ignores African American issues or refuses to address African American issues.

Press conference held by James Tucker in November 2010, covered by the local media, asking the federal government to stop a local school district from advocating an advertising boycott of his publication.
CCDC has joined seven other disability rights advocacy organizations in an amici brief filed in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on November 6, 2012 in the appeal of Moeller, et al., v. Taco Bell Corp., Civil Action No. C 02-5549 PJH. In this California statewide class action lawsuit, filed by four people who use wheelchairs in 2002, plaintiffs challenged numerous accessibility barriers in all of Taco Bell’s corporate-owned stores in California. See Taco Bell California Lawsuit. In 1997, CCDC was a plaintiff in a statewide class action lawsuit in Colorado against Taco Bell, which resulted in settlement that required barriers like queue lines and counter heights being remedied throughout Taco Bell’s Colorado’s stores. See Colorado Taco Bell Case.

In the California case, after a trial, in 2011, the Court entered Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law finding that Taco Bell had violated the ADA and California access requirements in over 160 restaurants, these violations stem from inadequate and ineffective centralized accessibility policies, and the violations likely will recur. The Court did not enter an injunction. Then, in a stunning ruling in September of 2012, the Court reversed its finding that class-wide relief was available and stated it would not enter an order for an injunction until all other trials regarding damages (available under California state law) are completed, which the Court estimates could take a decade.

Under Title III of the ADA, which covers public accommodations like restaurants, the only remedy available is an injunction – a court order making the business owner comply with the law. Damages are not an available remedy for a person with a disability who experiences unlawful discrimination. The ADA makes issuing an injunction mandatory when violations are found. It says, “In the case of violations . . . injunctive relief shall include an order to alter facilities to make such facilities readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities[.]”

In this case, the Court has already found numerous violations and that the violations resulted from Taco Bell’s ongoing policies. The trials going forward only involve claims for damages plaintiffs can seek under California law. There is no reason to delay entering the injunction so Taco Bell can remedy those barriers. Plaintiffs and amici argue the ADA requires an injunction happen when the violations are found.

Waiting ten years to order Taco Bell to remedy these barriers means individuals who use wheelchairs will continue to endure unlawful barriers already identified. Also, Taco Bell is selling off its corporate-owned stores to franchisors. Once Taco Bell no longer owns these stores, it will have no control to remedy the multiple ADA violations found by the Court.

Did you know?
The African American Voice is a Veteran Owned Business.
Eating Strategies to Successfully Navigate Your Holiday Season

December 2012

Fiber is the 'treats' of Halloween. The holidays of course are THE time of year to raise your drink in toast to another year past and hope for what lies ahead; however, it's a sneaky way to add LOTS of extra calories. If you must indulge, keep your serving size small and limit the number of drinks you choose. You can always find some lower calorie options of most of your favorite drinks. IF YOU ARE FULL....STOP! This might be the hardest thing to do this time of year because everything tastes so good. Decide in advance that when you feel full you will stop (and be mindful of when you reach that full feeling). You may end up leaving some food on your plate, but it really is okay. If you have always been a member of the “clean plate club” then start out with a smaller plate. Eat what you want but perhaps only one small plate. Always be mindful of your hunger cues. IF YOU ARE FULL....STOP! This might be the hardest thing to do this time of year because everything tastes so good. Decide in advance that when you feel full you will stop (and be mindful of when you reach that full feeling). You may end up leaving some food on your plate, but it really is okay. If you have always been a member of the “clean plate club” then start out with a smaller plate. Eat what you want but perhaps only one small plate. Always be mindful of your hunger cues. The Black Press strives to help every person – regardless of race, color or creed – their human and legal rights. It's easy to get off track, but IF you plan ahead and decide to focus on the joy of the time spent with family and friends, you'll find yourself on the other side, ready to face a new year and back on track with your healthy eating and fitness plan!

Thanks for reading! Have a healthy week!

Contributors: Kim Farmer and Chantel Ayers-Kalish of Mile High Fitness. Mile High Fitness offers in-home personal training and corporate fitness solutions. Visit www.milehighfitness.com or email inquiries@milehighfitness.com

Sources:
http://www.cpmc.org/
http://pcrm.org/
http://www.cpmc.org/

The Black Press Creed
The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonism when it affords to all people – regardless of race, color or creed – their human and legal rights. Hating no person and fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

Contact us at 719.528.1954 or info@africanamericanvoice.net

African American Voice
P.O. Box 25003
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Keeping the Community Informed Since 1991!
Meet Colorado Tech’s New President - Dr. Tim Gramling

By Theresa Ward

After six months as the new President of the Colorado Springs/ Pueblo campuses of Colorado Technical University, Dr. Tim Gramling finally slowed down long enough to talk to the African American Voice about how he is going to increase the enrollment of Ethnic minority students, make sure the university is meeting the needs of the community, and how he plans to reinvest in the Colorado Springs African American community. Dr. Gramling also explained how important it was for the most Americans possible to receive higher education, so the country can retain its competitive edge as an economic and scientific superpower.

When Dr. Gramling was asked how he chose the path that led him to the executive post at CTU, he responded, “I’ve been in the industry for 22 years, serving in a number of capacities, including software development and financial services. I came to higher education a little over ten years ago when I went to work for an adjunct faculty at a community college in south Florida, Broward Community College. At the time I was working for American Express as a director in charge of global infrastructure, where I was involved in a project to set up call centers in India and the Philippines that would respond to U.S. card members and their requests. I began to see the importance of higher education on the global stage, not just for individuals, but for the country. When I realized how important it was for the U.S. to have the most people possible, educated. We couldn’t compete in numbers with the amount of educated people in China and India, for example, China has 100 million people in college. The United States has only twenty million people in college. We have to compete differently in the U.S. We can’t win a numbers game; we have to broaden the pie, where more and more people can get educated.”

"So,” Dr. Gramling said, “when my time wrapped up American Express a couple of years later, I realized that I wanted to enter higher education where we were preparing people for this global stage. Higher education has the game is access—how to get more and more people to have an opportunity to attend college. He began to see that the institutions who were responding to this access issue were the for-profit institutions. He went to work for DeVry University, then Colorado Tech, to follow this goal of expanding the number of educated Americans.

“Our focus here at CTU since we were founded, in 1965, has been to serve the community however it presents itself,” Dr. Gramling responded when asked how minority enrollment will be increased. He added that the university has designed faculty groups and leadership teams to reflect the community and the students they serve. The school is very focused on serving the needs of the community it’s in.

In Colorado Springs we see critical needs in the area of criminal justice, homeland security, business, and computer science,” he said. “We’ve designed programs of a very high quality to address these needs, so our graduates can do so. One of the resources is a library on campus with the students in their ongoing achievement of their goals. We would love to see more and more students achieving their goals, whether that would be take a couple of courses to make a difference in their career, or to complete a degree if that will change the trajectory of their career. Whatever our student’s goals are, our role is to help them achieve them.”

When queried if he thought ethnic minority students came to school any less prepared than other students, Dr. Gramling contended that ethnic minority students at CTU are just as prepared for success as any other student. He stated, however, that the population of students is generally older than traditional public where a student can receive help from a librarian and other support people help you wherever they are.

When asked what happens when a student doesn’t make his or her goal and asks for help, Dr. Gramling replied, “We have a lot of resources to help them. We have a student services group, made up of students. Another group is a Student Advisor group, who help a student understand how to navigate their studies.” He went on to say that the majority of CTU students are working adults, in their 30s and 40s. Not only are they working full time, they are also trying to make huge changes in

"We have to compete differently in the U.S. We can’t win a numbers game; we have to broaden the pie, where more and more people can get educated.”

their careers with the education they are obtaining. He stated that the juggling act can be a challenge, so CTU has student advisors who can help them. The school also has a library on campus with librarians and support people to help them, with space where they can study, with resources, and computers that can help them be successful in their studies.

“I think our focus of reflecting the community is going to increase the enrollment of minorities.” Dr. Gramling was asked how he planned to increase the graduation rate of ethnic minorities. He answered, “There are a couple of aspects to this. We don’t guarantee employment. We’re in the business of helping students themselves achieve their goals. Students play a huge role in their ongoing achievement of their goals. We would love to see more and more students achieving their goals, whether that would be take a couple of courses to make a difference in their career, or to complete a degree if that will change the trajectory of their career. Whatever our student’s goals are, our role is to help them achieve them.”

When asked if the college planned to continue reinvesting in the African American community under his leadership, Dr. Gramling responded, “Yes, so far this year we’ve helped sponsor the Omega Showboat, the Juneteenth celebration, and the Shivers fund concert. One of the benefits of doing this is meeting our alumni out in the community. They often share their talents with us, and provide inspiration for the students here.

Another way CTU alumni helped the community, he said, was during the Waldo Canyon Fire. Because their expertise in the logistics of conducting a large-scale firefighting operation was known to the community, several CTU graduates served temporarily during the fire.

Prior to his role in Southern Colorado, Dr. Gramling was president of CTU Kansas City. He has held a variety of community leadership positions over the years, for example, the Planned Industrial Expansion Authority, which sought to bring economic prosperity to underdeveloped areas of Kansas City. He was a pastor for more than six years for a Baptist congregation in Southern Florida.

President Gramling developed his graduation credentials at DeVry University in Miramar, Florida, where he held a variety of titles, including the senior director of finance, metro academic operations coordinator and the dean of business and adjunct faculty. He received his doctorate in law and policy from Northeastern University in September 2012. He holds a master of science in computer science from UNC at Chapel Hill and a bachelor of arts in computer science from Harvard University.

So, the new president of Colorado Technical University believes that Ethnic minority students are as capable as anyone else on campus, plans to increase Ethnic minority enrollment and graduation rates by reflecting the community as well as providing help to students in the areas needed, and has already begun to reinvest in the African American community.

With a strong start like that, achieving goals like educating more and more Americans for the global stage seems very reachable.

By Theresa Ward

Meet Colorado Tech’s New President - Dr. Tim Gramling

Dr. Tim Gramling

African American Voice Scholarship

The Colorado Springs Campus of Colorado Technical University has established the African American Voice Scholarship to assist eligible students with the opportunity to attend an undergraduate degree program at Colorado Technical University. The scholarship will not exceed 50% of the student’s tuition for the cost of the degree program. To be eligible for the African American Voice Scholarship, a candidate must apply through and be selected by the African American Voice publishers at: www.africanamericanvoice.net.

Scholarships are awarded based on the availability of funding.

• The grant is not available for the ADN Nursing and Surgical Tech programs.
• Refer to the CTU General Scholarship & Grant Conditions. For More Information Call: 719.528.1954

African American Voice Scholarship

December 2012 www.africanamericanvoice.net
The Western Region of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity recently held its 4th Annual Leadership Conference hosted by the Rocky Mountain District (Colorado and Utah). The Western Region consists of five districts which include the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaiian Islands, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and the country of South Korea.

Since its founding on December 4, 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. has supplied voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans and people of color around the world. Alpha Phi Alpha, the first intercollegiate letter fraternity established for African Americans, was founded at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, by seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of Brotherhood across the higher education landscape.

The mission of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. is to stimulate the ambition of its members to prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the cause of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual; to encourage the highest and noblest form of manhood; and to aid downtrodden humanity in its efforts to achieve higher social, economic and intellectual status.

For the past 106 year Alpha Phi Alpha has been committed to making impact through service within the communities and campuses that we serve. The national programs unify the impact of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., within the various communities and campuses. These strategic multi-dimensional programs were designed to re-shape the academic, leadership, personal development, and socialization landscapes within under represented communities. Additionally, Alpha conducts philanthropic programming initiatives with March of Dimes, Head Start, Boy Scouts of America, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha include Jamaican Prime Minister Norman Manley, Nobel Prize winner Martin Luther King, Jr., Olympian Jesse Owens, Justice Thurgood Marshall, United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young, Singer Lionel Richie and Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson.

Recently over sixty-five Alumni and College Brothers gathered for a weekend of leadership development and capacity building based on the theme of “Engineering the Future”. The session was called to order by the General President and Western Region Vice President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Brother Aaron Crutison Sr., and Western Region Assistant Vice President Brother LiQuan M. Hunt. During the weekend, multiple breakout sessions were held to empower members through experiential learning opportunities, professional development and technical assistance to enhance the delivery of services to campuses and communities across the Western Region. Additionally, specific focus was given to our College Brother members, as we discussed the challenges faced by African American males who attend colleges and universities; which are not Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU’s).

Denver will also host the 65th Western Regional Convention, at the Denver Technical Center Hyatt Regency Hotel, April 10 – 14, 2013. Last year’s Western Regional Convention was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. It is estimated the annual Western Regional Convention generates over $100,000.00 for the host community.

For additional information about the 65th Western Regional Convention please contact; Brother Steven L. Jones e-mail address: sljones53@comcast.net.
Continued from page 1

We hope to provide further education about the hazards of fracking for the citizens and the council going forward. All are invited to the following events:

December 8th – The Truth about Fracking Film Fest
Colorado College - Armstrong Hall, Rm. 300 (Max Kade Theatre) 1-5 pm, Free
Several films will be shown, including Gasland, The Sky is Pink, andTruthland – an industry-produced pro-fracking film.

January 8th - The Truth and Myths
Former EPA employee Wes Wilson & Phil Due of Be The Change, Old Town Bike Shop, 426 S. Tejon, 6:30 pm Free but RSVP to info@frackfreesprings.org

Colorado Springs Citizens for Community Rights (CSCCR) issued this response:

“Last night six Colorado Springs City Council Members voted yes for weak regulations which fail to protect us and future generations from the detrimental effects of oil & gas drilling in the city. Colorado Springs Citizens for Community Rights (CSCCR) is a group formed to protect our rights to be healthy and have clean air, water and soil. Our Mission is to:

• Educate our city about oil & gas drilling
• Work with local, state and federal governments to ensure comprehensive oil & gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing regulations.
• Place a rights-based charter amendment on the ballot in Colorado Springs banning hydraulic fracturing.

The public can find additional information at:
CSCCR website: www.frackfreesprings.org
CSCCR facebook pages: www.facebook.com/ColoradoSpringsCitizensForCommunityRights www.facebook.com/NoFrackingInElPasoCountyColorado
CSCCR YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/frackfreesprings

Publisher’s Note:
City officials are misrepresenting democracy. Mayor Steve Bach, Tim Leigh and the City Council Members are out of touch with the total community.

James Tucker
African Americans for Civil and Human Rights

December 2012
www.africanamericanvoice.net
Korean American Voters Turned Away

From Korea Daily

(NAM) - Kun Ho Lee, 64, is a naturalized American citizen from South Korea who was all set to vote for the first time this past week. According to a report in the Korea Daily, however, a poll worker turned the Atlanta resident away after questioning Lee’s citizenship.

The report noted that Lee was told to go to the county office, despite the fact that he produced a valid Georgia driver’s license and naturalization papers for the poll worker. Lee, who has lived in the United States for 30 years, received his citizenship in 2010. He ultimately cast a provisional ballot.

According to the Asian American Legal Advocacy Center (AALAC), a large number of Asian immigrants, including Koreans, experienced similar treatment at polling places around the country on Election Day.

Helen Kim, an attorney with the AALAC, told the Korea Daily that many Asian voters claimed they hadn’t received notification of where their polling stations were. A report in the Huffington Post described what the author called a “scene out of the Jim crow era,” with elderly Korean American voters at a polling station in Virginia told to form a separate line. The article noted poll workers had ordered voters to state their addresses, and had grown frustrated when the seniors struggled to respond in English.

President Obama in his victory speech Tuesday night made note of the problems, which also included long lines and lack of interpreters. Voting and civil rights attorneys, meanwhile, say they plan to file a request with the Justice Department to investigate these and other complaints.

Korea Daily www.koreadaily.com
By Judith Browne Dianis

(Special to The Root) - My heart aches for the parents of Jordan Russell Davis, the 17-year-old African American high-school student brutally killed in Jacksonville, Florida. They’ll never get to see their son graduate from high school, pursue his dreams or grow into a man. Now, they must also contend with the shameful argument that his death was somehow justified.

While the facts have yet to be played out in court, media accounts present a stark and troubling picture. As Davis hung out with friends earlier this month, sitting in the backseat of an SUV parked outside a convenience store, 45-year-old Michael David Dunn pulled up to the vehicle and asked them to turn down their music. After an argument ensued, Dunn pulled a weapon and fired at least eight times, striking Davis twice. The teen died when he got to a hospital.

In an interview with the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office, Dunn claimed he acted in self-defense, that he or the other students inside the SUV had any weapons. Dunn denies he acted in self-defense, and that he felt “threatened” before opening fire on the vehicle. His attorney argues that Dunn “acted responsibly.” He is now calling on a legal hook for his view that his actions were warranted: He is now calling on a legal hook for his view that his actions were warranted.

The law - which allows people to use deadly force, without any obligation to retreat first, when they believe they are being threatened - passed in Florida in 2005. Similar legislation has since passed in 20 other states, including South Carolina, Tennessee and Mississippi. It’s the same legal defense invoked just nine months ago by George Zimmerman of Sanford, Fla., for shooting and killing Trayvon Martin -- also unarmed, 17 years old and black.

The law was somehow justified.

While Dunn feels threatened, he could have driven away. If the argument got too heated he could have complained about loud music, he could have called the police. Instead, he chose to shoot first. Florida’s bad public policy should not be used to justify this killing.

Davis’ grieving parents say they plan to reach out to lawmakers in an effort to get Florida’s “Stand your ground” law changed. I stand with them in calling for not only a change, but an immediate repeal. The state must act now.

Judith Browne Dianis is co-director of Advancement Project, a next generation, multicultural civil rights organization. From its inception, Advancement Project has worked “on-the-ground,” helping organized communities of color dismantle and reform unjust and inequitable policies that undermine the promise of democracy. It combines law, communications, policy and technology to create workable solutions and achieve systemic change.

The Root aims to foster and advance conversations about issues relevant to the Black Diaspora by presenting a variety of opinions from all perspectives, whether or not those opinions are shared by our editorial staff.

Judith Browne Dianis
Co-Director
Advancement Project
http://www.advancementproject.org
The Root
www.theroot.com

‘Stand Your Ground’ Should Be Repealed
The controversial law has an unjust impact on Black boys

By Judith Browne Dianis

The law - which allows people to use deadly force, without any obligation to retreat first, when they believe they are being threatened - passed in Florida in 2005. Similar legislation has since passed in 20 other states, including South Carolina, Tennessee and Mississippi. It’s the same legal defense invoked just nine months ago by George Zimmerman of Sanford, Fla., for shooting and killing Trayvon Martin -- also unarmed, 17 years old and black.

Supporters of the law say that it empowers and protects victims by allowing them to defend themselves in dangerous situations. But the unintended consequence of “Stand your ground” is to create an open season on anyone who is perceived as a “threat.”

It gives legal immunity to people who approach heated arguments with a ready weapon. And it’s no coincidence that in both of these recent high-profile cases, the individuals who were seen as threatening, dangerous or suspicious - individuals who were seen through a lens of racial stereotypes and biases that we all carry to varying degrees - were black boys.

A racial impact also comes into play in how the law is enforced. According to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, which launched an investigation into “Stand your ground” laws earlier this year, reports of justifiable homicides have nearly doubled from 2005 to 2011 in states where the legislation passed.

While white killers of black victims comprise only 3.1 percent of all homicides, these cross-racial killings constitute 15.6 percent of justifiable homicides.

With another unarmed black teen fatally shot after being considered threatening by assailants who ran for protection under “Stand your ground,” this criminal protection law has once again proved itself to be a menace that sanctions, and even encourages, such behavior. We should not have to wait for yet another child to be confronted, profiled and gunned down in Florida before the state sees the futility of this terrible law.

Contrary to Dunn’s belief, driving up to a group of teen boys sitting in a vehicle listening to music and firing eight shots at them is not “standing your ground.” If Dunn felt threatened, he could have driven away. If the argument got too heated after he complained about loud music, he could have called the police. Instead, he chose to shoot first. Florida’s bad public policy should not be used to justify this killing.

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Judith Browne Dianis is co-director of Advancement Project, a next generation, multicultural civil rights organization. From its inception, Advancement Project has worked “on-the-ground,” helping organized communities of color dismantle and reform unjust and inequitable policies that undermine the promise of democracy. It combines law, communications, policy and technology to create workable solutions and achieve systemic change.

The Root aims to foster and advance conversations about issues relevant to the Black Diaspora by presenting a variety of opinions from all perspectives, whether or not those opinions are shared by our editorial staff.

Judith Browne Dianis
Co-Director
Advancement Project
http://www.advancementproject.org
The Root
www.theroot.com

While white killers of black victims comprise only 3.1 percent of all homicides, these cross-racial killings constitute 15.6 percent of justifiable homicides.

With another unarmed black teen fatally shot after being considered threatening by assailants who ran for protection under “Stand your ground,” this criminal protection law has once again proved itself to be a menace that sanctions, and even encourages, such behavior. We should not have to wait for yet another child to be confronted, profiled and gunned down in Florida before the state sees the futility of this terrible law.

Contrary to Dunn’s belief, driving up to a group of teen boys sitting in a vehicle listening to music and firing eight shots at them is not “standing your ground.” If Dunn felt threatened, he could have driven away. If the argument got too heated after he complained about loud music, he could have called the police. Instead, he chose to shoot first. Florida’s bad public policy should not be used to justify this killing.

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This Year’s Optimist International Essay
Scholarship Contest for the Academy Optimist Club Level

Who: Youth under the age of 19 who have not yet graduated from high school or the equivalent.
When: Due January 30, 2013. BUT this year, so students & teachers don’t get complacent, we will take essays starting now until January 30, 2013!
How: Write best essay, fill out Application/Rules Pad: http://www.optimist.org/Form/
email, mail, or call for pick-up:
TheresaNull@hotmail.com
Theresa Null - (719) 322-8465
2104 Eagle View Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80909
2013 Civil and Human Rights Three Point C Plan
African Americans for Civil and Human Rights - 2013 Demands:

Welcome Black Legislators! We are expecting action!
It’s time for action, this is not optional!
Historically, Black legislators have done very little to improve diverse communities and address their issues.

Tony Exum, Angela Williams, Rhonda Fields, John Buckner & Jovan Melton - Stand up for Civil and Human Rights

First Point - Empower the Civil Rights Commission. Enforce civil rights laws for ethnic minority groups (African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, Native Americans) in a timely manner and hold employers accountable. Terminate the current Civil Rights Executive Director. Stop hiring do-nothing’ Civil Rights Executive Directors and staff members.

John Morse & Pete Lee - Reform the Criminal Justice System

Second Point - Reform the criminal justice system to ensure justice and equality for all people. Provide quality legal representation for poor and ethnic minority groups. Ensure that inmates are properly trained and educated during incarceration so they can be effectively integrated back into civil society. Abolish the current prison plantation system and create a prison system that serves and benefits our state. Address or take action to alleviate the disproportionate number of Black and Brown men in Colorado prisons. Stop putting Black and Brown children in the court system for minor offenses. Correct the disparities in sentencing between Black people, Brown people and White people.

Pete Lee - Abolish School Segregation

Third Point - Consolidate El Paso County School Districts. Hire more ethnic minority teachers, hire one Superintendent and streamline administration. One system for all students; stop the outrageous disparities in educational funding.

Now is the time! Don’t sell out ethnic minority groups!
Open Letter to Representatives Pete Lee and Tony Exum,

Did you or your campaign pay for ads in the Independent or mainstream media?

Did El Paso County Democratic Party leaders advertise in the Independent? Did El Paso County Democratic Party leaders pay for ads in the Independent or mainstream media?

Did Tony Exum or his campaign pay for ads in the Independent or mainstream media?

Since you did not advertise with the Asian Press, Black Press and Latino Press, or address African American, Asian and Latino issues during Election 2012, I want to remind both of you that the issues are not going away.

Did you know that the Colorado Democratic Party leaders continue to ignore ethnic groups’ issues? As the voice for African Americans, it is my role to remind you of the issues. I will keep it simple. The Three Point C Plan is the most critical issues facing ethnic groups. We demand action on the Three Point C Plan.

1. Civil Rights: Democrats have failed to support a Colorado Civil Rights Commission with enforcement power to protect ethnic minority groups. Jobs for African Americans and ethnic groups are useless because employment opportunities without civil rights protection are the modern day plantation system – the civil rights ethnic minority groups are routinely being violated. It is another form of oppression when employers can violate ethnic minority groups’ civil rights without ethnic groups having civil rights protection. Civil Rights violations are one of the major reasons for the unemployment of African Americans and ethnic minority groups. I know people of color who have been fired and cannot afford an attorney. Taking positive action to act now will also address other social and economic problems. It is not a secret; the Civil Rights Commission is ineffective. EEOC does not have the staff and funding to handle individual cases. Filing complaints with those agencies is a waste of time. The NAACP is a JOKE. The NAACP is corrupt. The NAACP leaders are sell outs and out of touch with the African American Community.

2. Criminal Justice: Reform the criminal justice system and abolish the prison industry. It is a modern day plantation.

3. Consolidate School Districts: Abolish all school districts in El Paso County and create one school district in El Paso County. Equal distribution of resources and the streamlining of administrators will benefit students. Abolish El Paso County Jim Crow School Districts. House District 17, where a large percentage of ethnic minority groups live, is one of the reasons the school districts are divided. The conservative legislators did this on purpose to keep the rich kids from interacting and attending school with ethnic minority groups. It is time for a change. It is time to focus on reality and invest in students.

In closing, these are the issues that will determine if African Americans will continue to support the Democratic Party. We will not allow a party that believes in justice and equality for all citizens to ignore us. For too long, Democratic Party leaders have taken our votes for granted, ignoring these issues will only create more problems.

Please share the Three Point C Plan with the Democratic Party and the Republicans that understand the value of ethnic minority group’s votes.

I await your reply.

James Tucker
Segregation on the Rise in Public Schools

A cross section of the nation’s advocacy groups, teachers, parents and their supporters, have expressed extreme displeasure with the policies implemented during the past school years, by the US Department of Education. These include the systemic removal of many diverse ethnic and minority teachers, African American teachers, staff and administrators through Civil Rights violations on race, ethnicity, gender, harassment, intimidation, age discrimination and other unexplained disciplinary reasons. The exclusion of diverse teachers, communities and people throughout the nation from policy discussions in the US Department of Education and from Education Summits called under the current US Department of Education’s Administration by Secretary Arne Duncan has precipitated in polarization, discouragement and demoralization among African American educators, parents and communities. His actions in Chicago in the mass firings of African American educators further demonstrate the current trends of the re-segregation through Private Charter Voucher Schools, polarization of ethnic groups and the exclusion of a significant ethnic group, though taxpayers from in substantive input into the education process. The incorporation and greater input of corporations in determining educational outcomes in school districts and the ‘Turn-Around Program’ is destroying public school systems in favor of private charter/voucher schools. This precipitates an unhealthy education policies back on the right track to save the PUBLIC SCHOOLS and to bring BACK THE diversity of teachers, other educational staff, parents and integrated classrooms for the students’ welfare which has been the last issue to be considered in the current US Department’s Administration’s ‘Turn-around Education Plan’.

I submit the following measures to get public school administration’s education policies to get back on the right track to save the PUBLIC SCHOOLS and to bring BACK THE diversity of teachers, other educational staff, parents and integrated classrooms for the students’ welfare which has been the last issue to be considered in the current US Department’s Administration’s ‘Turn-around Education Plan’.

- We, therefore, submit the following measures to get back on the right track to bring a experienced diversity of teachers and others in full partners in this effort to improve public education while not without resorting to discriminatory private charter/voucher schools which have no legislated accountability. This, therefore, will foster a non-law compliance attitude in the hiring practices of teachers and other staff by fostering rules that can violate the Constitution of the U.S.; the State’s legislated laws on Education and the Civil Rights of all involved actively in education (students, staffs and parents/community at large). As is the practice now in Charter/Voucher Schools there not to be rated according to test scores, but to proliferate and grow in numbers in Public School Districts.

- Create a Diverse National Commission from the community inclusive of parents, advocacy groups and educators in which equality and diversity will mandate that teachers and parent representatives play a primary role in education and the schools, this will demonstrate how to best improve the quality of America’s schools with massive constituent support.

- Use the same legislated rules and laws to rate Charter Schools as are Public Schools and impose the same accountability criteria to educate students.

- Just as in other professions (such as doctors, lawyers, accountants, etc.) Allow Educators to have a greater input in determining the ‘best practices’ in the classroom’. Hire District Heads that exemplifies this ethic and respect of the ‘Educator’ as it has been done on the large ‘State’ stemming from, Doctors, Lawyers and other Professionals went through the Public School Systems and are now leaders who got their education through what has become a ‘political and corporate company advertisement’ - FAILING SG. 30LS.

- We believe such policies will create an outpouring of good will on the part of all teachers, parents/community and students no matter what race, ethnicity, gender, age and social standing. It will allow for creative teaching and educational innovation. This will lead to far greater improvements in the nation’s schools rather than the corporate and political policies which encourage a proliferation of student testing and private charters and voucher schools while using public money. This has fostered a political platform and corporate greed and input which has fostered ‘taxation without representation’ on the large ‘State’ stemming from, constituents and consumers. The students’ welfare has been the last to be considered in the current Administration’s ‘Turn-around Education Plan’.

- There is no accountability in the use of bond money. Much of the one half billion dollars is unaudited by the District for the taxpayers and has been put in a company that has lost it Wall Street. The District has had to put up interest money of almost thirty million dollars. Twenty schools serve as collateral for the 494 million bonds passed by taxpayers in 2008. Do not vote on the 2012 Bond issue touted for building buildings and putting in air conditioners in 2008. This was not done.

Our Public Schools are an American Heritage forged and protected by Constitutional guarantees and rights as citizens. We need to, as taxpayers, value and protect it from private interests which want to create docile working classes which can be dictated to without fully educating them. This is ‘Southern Plantation Economics.’ Public Education would involve active thinking which produces positive educational values for ALL which Corporate America wishes to control and suppress.

By Cozette Hammock-West

"Political reasons and greed motivate the use of federal funds to compel states and municipalities to use student test scores in the evaluation of teachers and as the basis for closing low performing schools which comprise predominantly ‘ethnic people of color.’"

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THE ALLIANCE FOR JUSTICE

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December 2012

www.africanamericanvoice.net
December 26 – January 1 is a period when Kwanzaa is traditionally celebrated in Africa. Meaning "first," Kwanzaa signifies the first fruits and the traditional celebration of the harvesting of the first fruit crops in Africa. Kwanzaa emphasizes humanistic and cooperative values, and celebrates African American efforts to work and build together.

**Mazao (The Crops)**
These are symbolic of African harvest celebrations and of the rewards of productive and collective labor.

**Mkeka (The Mat)**
This is symbolic of our tradition and history and, therefore, the foundation on which we build.

**Kinara (The Candle Holder)**
The Kwanzaa candles and harvest are symbolic of our roots, our parents, people – continental Africans.

**Muhindi (The Corn)**
This is symbolic of our children and our future which they embody.

**Mishumaa Saba (the Seven Candles)**
These are symbolic of the Nguzo Saba, the Seven Principles, the matrix and minimum set of values which African people are urged to live by in order to rescue and reconstruct their lives in their own image and according to their own needs.

**Kikombe cha Umoja (The Unity Cup)**
This is symbolic of the foundational principle and practice of unity which makes all else possible.

**Zawadi (The Gifts)**
These are symbolic of the labor and love of parents and the commitments made and kept by the children.

### The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa

The seven principles of Kwanzaa comprise Kawaida, a Swahili term for tradition and reason. Each day of Kwanzaa is dedicated to one of the following seven principles:

- **Umoja (Unity):** To strive for and to maintain unity in the family, community, nation, and race.
- **Kujichagulia (Self-Determination):** To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves, and speak for ourselves stand up.
- **Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility):** To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers’ and sisters’ problems our problems, and to solve them together.
- **Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics):** To build and maintain our own stores, shops, and other businesses and to profit from them together.
- **Nia (Purpose):** To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.
- **Kuumba (Creativity):** To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.
- **Imani (Faith):** To believe with all our hearts in God, our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders, and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

“For tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today” - African Proverb
December 2012

Blackonomics

Sowing and Reaping

All the talk about how “minorities” were successful in getting Barack Obama reelected should give us pause to reflect on just how this nation got to this point. Listening to the grieving Romney supporters and the shock they were experiencing (and probably still experiencing) brought with it the realization that the 2012 election is a result of things that took place hundreds of years ago.

When this country decided to create its wealth by using free slave labor and then exacerbating the situation with Black Codes, Jim Crow Laws, segregation, lynching, and disparate treatment of Black people, indigenous people, Chinese people, and other so-called minorities, it put itself on a path that inevitably would prove to be antithetical to its stated mission.

The Laws of the Harvest: We will reap what we sow; we will reap more than we sow, and we will reap after we sow. This nation sowed seeds of racism, discrimination, and subordination of entire groups of people. Because of its power to take, to use, to discriminate, and to exact punishment, our country unwittingly set itself up for what we see today. The collective power of so-called “minorities” to determine the outcome of national elections.

This nation of immigrants has demographically evolved and is continuing to move toward what many are calling a “minority majority.” As oxymoronic as that term is, the reality is that folks who have been subordinated and mistreated for centuries are growing in numbers and will, in a couple of decades, outnumber what is now the collective White majority. Pat Buchanan warned about demographic and cultural changes, and power shifts among ethnic groups in his book, The Death of the West. While I do not subscribe to Buchanan’s reasoning, I believe much of the remorse we saw and heard on the “morning after” emanated from persons who received their wake-up call regarding the true face of America — what it was and has become. Some call it the “Browning of America.” Mix politics with that reality and you get paranoia among the elected and the electorate.

Sow seeds of discontent and discontentment will grow. Sow “majority rule” and reap likewise. The yield will be greater and will come after the sowing, which may be hundreds of years later; but it will surely come. We have come full circle in the U.S. What was sown long ago is ready for harvesting, some good — some bad. That harvest is reflected in our political environment and discourse and in the minds of some who fear the next four years.

So, as Rush Limbaugh noted after the election, “We’re outnumbered!” As newspaper headlines announced, “Minorities won [the election] for Obama.” As one Republican County Commissioner cited, “We got drilled in the non-white population.”

On the “morning after,” some Republicans began rethinking their strategy to win elections. They finally realized that neither they nor anyone else can ignore the changes this country is going through, and they cannot afford to ignore the two largest so-called “minority groups” in the U.S. In order to win elections they must now reach out much more to those who have been marginalized for so many years.

Prior to FDR, Black people voted almost entirely Republican. Now we see that more than 95% of Black voters support Democrats. While that is not a prescription for success in either direction by the Black electorate, maybe now we will come to our senses as well by understanding the power of the collective. But that’s another article.

The nascent United States, what some called an “experiment,” has evolved to another level of discovery, and some dislike the current results of that experiment. Had the experiment been conducted without an unbiased thumb on the scales of justice, without mistreatment and malice toward those who were darker in complexion, without religious prejudice, without suppression and oppression, but instead with the understanding of the Laws of the Harvest, the latest political outcome would not be about Black, White, Hispanic, and minorities. It would be about the best man or woman winning each election.

We have become so polarized by race, which was sown when this nation was established, that there are those among us who are actually fearful now that another race, long considered inferior and subordinate, has the power to determine the political landscape. Rather than the result of the elections being a simple majority rules scenario, it was interpreted by many as a minority rules sea change, which caused unfounded trepidation and uncertainty. That’s simply the reaping that must occur from the sowing that took place previously.

The Democrat/Republican thing has gotten out of hand and has been used by some to further divide races and ethnic groups. Thus, we continue to sow seeds of discord and acrimony. What do you think we will continue to reap?

We cannot live in the past, but we can learn from it. In the beginning, this nation sowed arrogance, superiority, and hate. It is now reaping fear, guilt, and division. Although we have made significant strides socially, educationally, politically, and economically, we must continue to change and, at the same time, embrace the new face of America.

James Clingman
Writer on Economic Empowerment
www.blackonomics.com

I found information in Nielsen’s newest report, Affluence in America: A Financial View of the Mass Affluent, so

The Rise of the Mass Affluents

interesting that I thought you might too. Mass Affluents are defined as households with Income Producing Assets (IPAs) of $250,000 to $1 million (not including real estate), reporting actual average annual income of $105,000. Mass Affluents are 11.1% of the population or 13,000,000 households. And we, as Blacks, are represented in these numbers. According to Nielsen’s in-depth report, African-American Consumers: Still Vital, Still Growing, developed through our collaboration with the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), 10% of African American households earn $100,000 or more.

Mass Affluents are not celebrities or jet-setters from Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous, that early 90s forerunner to many of today’s over-the-top reality shows based on the most obscene excesses money can buy. According to the Affluence report, Mass Affluents work for the money — heading everyday to white collar jobs in management, business or finance; or own their own business(es).

Mass Affluent households are broken down into distinct segments, based loosely on differences in age, income, and family makeup by Nielsen PSYCYLE, a household segmentation system. I’ll bet we’ll see ourselves or someone we know. First, there are the Globetrotters. These are empty-nesters over 65, who have or had six-figure incomes, have paid their dues, are comfortable financially and are spending their free time traveling. Business Class is defined as 50-something childless or empty-nest couples who are kind of “chi-chi-la-la,” as Oprah used to say. You know, the country club lifestyle with an extravagant spending style, scoring high for business and pleasure travel and high-end catalog shopping. Power Couples are described as well-educated, mostly 45 to 54-year-olds with six-figure incomes, no children, designer homes, diversified investment portfolios and love shopping at stores like Nordstrom and Lord & Taylor. Civic Spirits are over 65-year-old retired couples who are anything but retired. These are the activists in our communities — the people who write the letters to the editor

Continued on page 12

www.africanamericanvoice.net
and their political representatives. They are also the more cautious investors, ranking high for buying long-term care insurance and residential insurance for their condos. And, the kids are gone. The Family Fortunes are described as college-educated 45 to 64-year-old suburbanites with more children than any other segment, high incomes, expensive homes, multiple investments and an energetic lifestyle who enjoy “pricey” sports like skiing and tennis. Capital Accumulators are 45 to 64-year-old empty nest suburbanites who pay a great amount of attention to their real estate investments, IRAs and 401(k) retirement accounts. These smart cookies have parlayed upper middle-class income into serious income-producing assets and tend to lead very active lifestyles. Lastly, we have the Savvy Savers. These are well-invested retirees who have raised their children and enjoy low-key lifestyles – like watching sports like golf on TV and are active in their social clubs. Even though they have invested cautiously and carefully with sizable nest eggs, Savvy Savers take full advantage of senior discounts, coupons and value-oriented travel options. Once upon a time, those considered well-off typically congregated in monied pockets in big cities or in posh, sunny golf communities. As that demographic has expanded and diversified, Mass Affluents are increasingly found in the suburbs and exurbs, which are small, prosperous areas beyond suburbs, of the nations’ big cities all over the country. However, data shows that Mass Affluents are more than twice as likely to live near the San Francisco area, followed by Washington, D.C., Hartford and New Haven, Conn., Boston, New York, Honolulu, Baltimore, Monterey-Salinas, Calif., San Diego and Santa Barbara, Calif. Consistent with Nielsen’s report on African American consumers, the top five Designated Market Areas (DMA) for African Americans with $100K-plus household income are: Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Atlanta, Norfolk, Va. and New York. Analysis of the consumer habits of Mass Affluents also describe this consumer segment as engaged – going online multiple times each day; and as being adopters of high-end technology like digital recorders, tablet devices (31%) and smart phones (59%). In closing, let’s congratulate our sisters and brothers who have achieved such financial success. If that happens to be you, my message, as always, continues to be the same as my message is for all Black consumers: Be sure you’re using your power for good.

Cheryl Pearson-McNeil
Senior Vice President of Public Affairs and Government Relations
Nielsen
www.nielsenwire.com

Civil and Human Rights Violators

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act

“No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

#1 Civil and Human Rights Violator

The State of Colorado
The William Storms Allergy Clinic
T-Mobile
United States Army
United States Olympic Center
University of Denver
University of Northern Colorado
University of Phoenix
US Navy Federal Credit Union
USAA Bank
USOC
VA Mortgage Center
Verizon
Wal-Mart
Widefield School District 3
Woodmen Nissan
YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region

Publisher’s note:

*The African American Voice is 100% Veteran owned. I drafted the African American Voice while serving in Iraq. I am the founder and publisher. I am a decorated war veteran. I earned a Bronze Star during the Gulf War. I am also a disabled veteran. The African American Voice is a victim of high tech lynching. I served my country for 20 plus years and during the Gulf War in Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Without the military, businesses wouldn’t exist in the United States.

Why am I treated like a second class citizen? Why do businesses and other institutions discriminate against a Black veteran?

I AM A MAN!

My civil and human rights are being violated in 2012.
Environmental Racism, Global Warming, and Climate Change

December 1 is World AIDS Day. If you have HIV/AIDS and cannot work, you may qualify for disability benefits from Social Security. Your medical condition must be serious enough to prevent you from working for at least 12 months or expected to result in death.

We pay disability benefits under two programs: the Social Security disability insurance program for people who paid Social Security taxes; and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program for people who have little income and few resources. You may qualify for one or both of these programs.

The easiest and most convenient way to apply for disability benefits is online, at www.socialsecurity.gov/disability.

We process all applications we receive from people with HIV/AIDS as quickly as possible. Social Security works with an agency in each state called the Disability Determination Services.

The state agency will look at the information you and your doctor give us and decide if you qualify for benefits.

We can pay you SSI benefits right away for up to six months before we make a final decision on your claim if:

• You are not working
• You meet the SSI rules about income and resources

Your doctor or other medical source certifies that your HIV infection is severe enough to meet our medical eligibility rules.

You can help speed up the processing of your claim by having certain information when you apply. This includes information about:

• The names and addresses of any doctors, hospitals, or clinics you have been to for treatment
• How HIV/AIDS has affected your daily activities, such as cleaning, shopping, cooking, taking public transportation, etc.
• The kinds of jobs you have had during the past 15 years.

If you or someone you know has HIV/AIDS and is unable to work due to their condition, read our publication Social Security For People Living With HIV/AIDS. It’s available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10019.html#a0=7.

Social Security joins the President and government leaders, agencies, and organizations around the world in raising awareness of HIV infection and AIDS.
The current crisis in America and the world requires that we as African people take a deep reflective look at our condition in light of the streams of violence in our communities.

Day in and day out we can observe the increased number of African people killing each other, mentally and physically abusing each other, stealing from each other, being dishonest with each other, and the list goes on and on. These negative incidents occur, in part, because segments of the African community in the United States are disconnected from the moral and ethical traditions that have characterized relationships among African people in the past.

The problem with segments of African people in this country being disconnected from the great contributions of African people to the civilizations of the world has resulted in far too many of us believing that the current situation we find ourselves in cannot be changed. Many African people believe that the condition of African people in America in many respects is nothing we can do to change our circumstances. Therefore, this disconnected group of African people has chosen the easy road. They travel on the road of cooperating and collaborating with the forces of white supremacy who continue to demonstrate they will do any and everything in their power to keep African people in this country, and the rest of the world on the bottom. This has resulted in many African people in America (and the world community), developing a “bottom mentality.” In other words, many of our people buy into whatever the white supremacy forces feed us through the media, (mis)educational institutions, and religious institutions.

What we are constantly being fed is that we are on the bottom and we will remain on the bottom. What the white supremacy forces offer individual African people in America, is that as an individual you can get off the bottom if you join us, if you “pull yourself up by your bootstraps.” Never mind your group, your family and your cultural ties, “there is nothing that can be done with those people. Join us and everything will be alright.” If you join us, “you can obtain a good job, buy a nice house in a good neighborhood, buy a nice car, take nice vacations, and some of you, whom we chose, can even live with us.”

We were not always like this as a people. We did not have a “dog-eat-dog” mentality and this is what we must examine as we continue to struggle to overthrow the system of white supremacy and its impact on us as a people.

The Creative Force of the universe has endowed us with the capacity to make great contributions to the world. A simple inspection of the ancient Nile Valley civilization of Kemet (Egypt) should inspire all African people to respect their history and to hold themselves in high esteem. Kemet and the Kemetic people, our ancestors, were the creators of, mathematics, science, architecture, writing, governance, astronomy, astrology, medicine, art, and so much more. The Kemetic people amassed great wisdom that was left as instructions written in Medew Netcher (Divine Speech) or what Europeans call hieroglyphs.

One place we can examine this ancient Kemetic wisdom is in a book entitled, Secret of the Ancient Wisdom of Ancient Egypt. The Huisia gives insight into how our ancestors viewed life, death, human relations, marriage, parenting, use of power, God, family, and the standards of moral and ethical conduct. Reading these spiritual texts elicits strong feelings in and for African people in a most profound and spiritual way. Peruse these words from The Huisia: The Book of Paht Hoyet:

“Do not terrorize people for if you do, God will punish you accordingly. If anyone lives by such means, God will take bread from his or her mouth. If one says he shall be rich by such means, [he] she will eventually have to say my means entrapped me.”

This passage continues:

“If one says I will rob another, he will end up being robbed himself. The plans of men and women do not always come to pass, for in the end it is the will of God, which prevails. Therefore, one should live in peace with others and they will come and willingly give gifts, which another would take from them through fear.”

Written about five thousand years ago, the words of instruction should cause African people to reflect on their significance as we struggle to create a greater good for our race. The wisdom of our ancestors should give us the inspiration to rededicate ourselves to the continued struggle for the liberation of African people worldwide.

As a race of people our survival and development is dependent upon each other. A greater responsibility is placed upon those of us who have lived in the African Way after the ravaging of African civilizations, African culture, African minds, and African lands.

As I have repeated many times in previous columns, we have a responsibility to be a duty to our brothers and sisters to build institutions based on African spirituality, ethics, and morals, and give back that which the Creator has given us, “All Life, Power, and Health, like the Sun Forever.”

The time has come for us, African people to take a meditative moment and look deeply inside of ourselves as a people. Let us restore what the ancient Black people of Kemet called Maat: Divine Order, Harmony, Balance, Truth, Justice, Righteousness, and Reciprocity.

We had, and lived by Maat before the coming of Europeans. We must return to the ways of Maat so we can survive the white supremacy genocidal onslaught.

Kipp Carr’s Point of View on the NAACP:

The NAACP is perpetuating false inflated membership numbers. They have used the 500,000 number in press releases but they haven’t had that in at least 50 years (since the Roy Wilkins/Walter White days). Does the organization purge dead people who had life memberships? If you subtract the dead people, the actual number of real active members nationwide would probably be below 100,000. Did the membership recovery after the 1998 fee increase?

Publisher’s Note:

Based on my experience, the NAACP is the #1 enemy of African Americans. Recently Whirlpool purchased NAACP memberships to destroy a grassroots African American minister to vote him out of office. I was a victim of a similar NAACP conspiracy.

Grassroots African Americans are not joining the NAACP.

For more information contact:
Rev Edward Pinkney
269-925-0001
bpinkney.org
Blogtalkradio.com/rev-pinkney
Every Sunday at 5 p.m.
Pinkney to Pinkney Show
Burn Baby Burn

Dr. Conrad Worrill
National Chairman Emeritus
National Black United Front
www.nabufront.org

NAACP Faces Membership Decline

Continued from page 1

racial attacks, police brutality, and mass incarceration.
• The endemic rumors of national officials taking cash from companies
  that practice racial discrimination while
  officials taking cash from companies
  • The Husia: Sacred
  Election from the Husia: Sacred

Kemp Carr

Disgusted Americans of all walks of life are preparing a 10,000 person march against the corruption and betrayal of American values by the NAACP by Marching on the civil rights organization’s plans of men and women do not always come to pass, for in the end it is the will of God, which prevails. Therefore, one should live in peace with others and they will come and willingly give gifts, which another would take from them through fear.”

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Afro-Brazilian.com Announces Second Quarter Winners for First Year Anniversary Sweepstakes

Los Angeles - Afro-Brazilian.com, a website dedicated to educating African Americans and others on the richness and diversity of the Afro-Brazilian culture, is proud to announce the second quarter winners for the First Year Anniversary Facebook Sweepstakes.

The following are the second quarter winners:

- 2 Night Stay for Two at British Colonial Hilton in Nassau, Bahamas
  - Jess Peters
- Dinner for Two at Hilton Checkers Downtown
  - Oteka Macklin
- Daven Baptiste
- Marcus Carter
- Brandon Rainey
- Joseph Apodaca
- Angela Weaver
- Cherise Caleswell
- Five Complimentary Sanginitto Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Classes
  - John Jones
  - Brennon Edwards
  - Michael Howard
- Universal Art Gallery Art Framing Services
  - Shoshonna Muhammad
  - Ericah Thomas
- Cheryl Womack
- Dinner at Café Brasil
- Kambría Perkins
- Scott Coleman
- Steven Turner
- California African American Museum Gift Basket
  - Lydia Samuels
  - Dinner at Bella Vista Gourmet Pizza
  - Phillip Vargas
  - Brandon Harris
  - Christy Amezca
  - Shae Wiley
- Monique Cooper
- Contemporary Arrangements from Downtown Flowers
  - Tiara Budd
  - Krista DeFlis
  - Selene Contreras
- Joseph Apodaca
- Angela Weaver
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- Joseph Apodaca
- Angela Weaver
- Cherise Caleswell

The third quarter sweepstakes has already begun and will end on January 31, 2013. Winners will be announced on February 15, 2013.

To enter and register to win, contestants must visit Afro-Brazilian.com’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/AfroBrazilian) like the page, click the sweepstakes app and click the “enter now” button to provide registration information.
When Public Policy Hurts the Poor

Social Security earnings, although they are lower, at age 62. Tired, and with sometimes broken bodies, they’d rather take less money than keep working. Consider the construction worker who has not moved up into management. Will he (or in 10 percent of cases, she) still want to wield a hammer, climb onto roofs, or do other heavy work? Raising the Social Security retirement age hurts these people.

These folk are also hurt because their life expectancy is also lower. People with less education have shorter life expectancies than those who are more highly educated. African Americans have lower life expectancy rates than whites (although this gap is closing), Thus, people who have paid into the system, but they will get less out of when they live shorter lives. Again, those at the bottom are disadvantaged by public policy that seems race and class neutral.

Why the gap in life expectancy? Part has to do with higher rates of smoking among less educated people, deaths caused by the lack of health insurance, especially among those with lower incomes and less education. Obamacare partly solves the insurance problems, but those living in an untamed rural part seem to think Mitt Romney won the election and they are acting accordingly by attempting to repeal health care reform.

Most of us got the memo about the dangers of smoking, but women who lack a high school diploma are more likely than others to smoke. Indeed, among women the levels of smoking have risen, while smoking rates had declined among men. Researchers who study these issues suggest that women are smoking more because of the many pressures women face, including being part of the “sandwich generation” juggling both elder care and child care. I was talking to an elder whose smoking habit spans more than 50 years, and when we talked about the issue, she responded that she was over 70, still living, and wasn’t about to change. We talked a bit about stress and ways that smoking is a tension-tamer for her. I suggested she try yoga, and she just about laughed me out of the room.

The health insurance gap between those who are highly educated and less well educated is growing. Among working age adults without a high school diploma, 43 percent have no health insurance, up from 35 percent a decade ago. On the other hand, only 10 percent of those with a college education lacked health insurance.

While Americans do not like to talk about class, poor and working class people do less well in our society than others. For example, attempting to eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood has a greater impact on poor women without health insurance than others whose contraceptive needs are covered by their insurance. Yet the right wing attempts to characterize Planned Parenthood as an abortion center, not a place that offers education on contraception, breast cancer, and other health issues.

Extending the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy certainly has a disproportionate impact on the poor and working class, but there are hidden attacks on the poorest in our nation. Raising the Social Security retirement age, eliminating Planned Parenthood, and attacking Obamacare are all implicit attacks on the poor. The class status of our federal elected officials (with median wealth of more than $750,000 excluding the value of their homes, compared to just $20,000 for the average person) suggests that Congress just doesn’t get it. But we elect these people. What does that say about us?

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Rhonda Fields Named Chair of House Local Government Committee


Rep. Jonathan Singer (D-Longmont) will be Rep. Field’s vice chair on the committee, which monitors issues concerning local governments, special districts, housing, and land use planning. The committee has legislative oversight responsibility for the Department of Local Affairs.

“I am a believer that strong and independent local governments build a stronger Colorado,” Rep. Fields said. “And I look forward to bringing my keen eye on policy that is business friendly at the local level to the committee.”

In January, Rep. Fields will begin her second term in the state legislature. She has sat on the Local Government Committee since being elected last year, she served as ranking member of the minority. Rep. Fields has championed issues dealing with accountability in government.

“I’m going for BOLD change!”

-Rep. Fields

Angela Williams Named Chair of House Business Committee


Rep.-elect Tracy Kraft-Tharp (D-Arrowhead) will be Rep. Williams’ deputy on the committee, which oversees proposed changes to business regulations and labor law, and will be the committee of reference for major components of the House Democratic 2013 legislative package to boost the state’s economy and put more Coloradans back to work.

“We will have the opportunity to work on jobs and address economic issues for Colorado,” Rep. Williams said. “I am also pleased to reinvent the word ‘Labor’ into the committee’s name.”

Rep. Williams is beginning her second term in the state House of Representatives and remains an active businesswoman; aside from her legislative activities she owns the Angela Williams Agency, an insurance and consulting firm.

She was recently awarded a certificate of completion for the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, and has a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to hearing from you and working together as we begin work on the 2013 legislative session, which begins on Wednesday, January 9th.

Sincerely,
Representative Angela Williams
State Representative
House District 7
www.Angela4Colo.com
303.866.2909

Rhonda Fields
State Representative
House District 42
www.RhondaFields.com
303.246.8280

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www.africanamericanvoice.net December 2012
Racial Attitudes in America: A Brief Summary of the Updated Data

By Maria Krysan & Nakesha Faison

This document provides a very brief summary of the main trends reported in this update. It is based on data updates provided to the tables in the volume Racial Attitudes in America: Trends and Interpretations, Revised Edition, by Howard Schuman, Charlotte Steeh, Lawrence Bobo, and Maria Krysan (Harvard University Press, 1997).

General Summary of White Racial Attitudes

Over the years since the 1997 edition of Racial Attitudes in America was published, the survey research on attitudes in racial attitudes shows improvement, stagnation, or declines, depending on the dimension of racial attitudes on which one focuses. The principle-implementation gap largely persists, though two of the implementation questions that continue to be included on surveys show an interesting disengagement with the issue—that is, increasing percentages of respondents opt not to answer the question, instead saying they have “no interest” in the issue. On questions of government expenditures and preferential treatment, whites are stagnant: there is little change in levels of support, and in general there is rather lukewarm support, if not outright opposition, to the kinds of policies and programs presented by these survey questions.

Questions of social distance and stereotyping show perhaps the clearest signs of improvement: fewer and fewer white Americans readily endorse statements that blacks are less intelligent and hardworking than whites; and fewer verbally object to increasing levels of inter-racial mixing in neighborhoods and in marriage partners. These trends must be interpreted with caution, for they may reflect at least to some extent changes in social norms about what kinds of answers ought to be reported on surveys rather than changes in actual levels of stereotyping and in openness to living with and marrying African Americans. Studies that use increasingly sophisticated measurement approaches that can disentangle the possible explanations for the pattern of changes are certainly warranted. This might include the use of experiments on surveys, the further development of measures of unconscious stereotyping, as well as in-depth qualitative studies of racial attitudes. One might interpret this pattern of changes to reflect quite strong changes in racial norms (Schuman et al. 1997) that now apply to questions of this type. That is, it may no longer be acceptable to admit to these kinds of attitudes in a semi-public setting like a survey interview. This in itself reflects a change in racial attitudes in this country even if it does not reflect changes in the hearts and minds of Americans. What

the implications of this change are, however, is subject to interpretation.

Finally, there are a set of questions that have become less liberal over time. Specifically, questions that ask whether African Americans continue to experience racial discrimination and if the consequences of past discrimination and slavery continue to shape the experiences of today’s African Americans. Essentially, the trend is for fewer whites to acknowledge that African Americans are adversely affected by past and persistent discrimination. This in itself reflects a conservative turn, since support for policies targeted toward helping African Americans are closely related to whether or not an individual believes that African Americans continue to face these kinds of barriers.

General Summary of African American Racial Attitudes

On many of the dimensions of racial attitudes that our long-term surveys have tapped, there has been little change in African American attitudes. This was true when the 2nd edition of the book was published, and continues to be true today. To some extent, the lack of change is because of the high levels of agreement with the racially liberal position that had already been reached, especially on questions related to the principles of racial equality and social distance. At this point in time, for many questions, white attitudes have “caught up” with black attitudes. However, on questions related to implementation, affirmative action, and explanations of inequality, the black-white gap persists. African Americans are more likely than whites to support race-targeted policies (e.g., implementation of equality, government expenditures, and preferential treatment). And they are also to a much greater extent likely to perceive that African Americans face substantial structural barriers in American society. Despite this “racial gap,” it is also the case that in recent years there is some evidence that this gap has narrowed—a narrowing caused by African American respondents becoming less likely to perceive discrimination and more likely to oppose some kinds of racial policies. In other words, African American attitudes are moving in a direction that brings them slightly closer to white attitudes.

Methodological limitations of these national survey data make it difficult to know how to interpret this somewhat conservative turn. First, because of small sample sizes in any given year of the survey, it is unfortunately not possible to tell whether there are subgroups in the African American population that are more likely to have shifted attitudes than others.

Second, and perhaps more importantly, there is the persistent challenge of race of interviewer effects. We know that African American respondents interviewed by white interviewers for some (though not all) racial questions tend to give different answers (e.g. Davis 1997; Krysan and Couper 2003). Typically the effects run towards more conservative responses when an interviewer is white.

Beginning in 1988, the ISR surveys have provided information on race of interviewer, which allows us to determine what percentage of African American respondents were interviewed by white interviewers. There have been slight variations over the past several decades in these levels, but African American respondents across all years are overwhelmingly likely to be interviewed by white interviewers (with a range of 83 percent to 99 percent). On the one hand, given the persistently low race-matching of interviewer and respondent, one might conclude that any changes over time in actual responses could not be explained by race of interviewer, since the racial mis-matching between respondent and interviewer has been essentially unchanged. However, this pattern, taken together with the trends we observed for the attitudes of white respondents on these kinds of questions (e.g., a declining recognition of discrimination), raises a concern. That is, the racial climate (vis-a-vis whites’ attitudes) in which African Americans are answering these questions has changed in a direction of being less sympathetic on these particular issues. It is possible that the effect of being interviewed by a white interviewer has become greater over time—so that even a stable level of non-matching of interviewer and respondent may have a different impact in the contemporary racial climate where whites are increasingly sympathetic to the idea that discrimination persists. The conservative trend in African American attitudes, then, could be a result of the greater consequences of race mis-matching rather than being entirely due to a more conservative turn among African American respondents.

To be sure, more complete studies with greater numbers of African American respondents are necessary to test this and other hypotheses about the current state of African American attitudes.

REFERENCES


apply to a business that is a subsequent owner that did not create the barriers. Because delaying mandatory injunctive

relief frustrates the goals of the ADA and may lead to the ADA violations never being addressed, CCDC joined Disability Rights Legal Center, National Disability Rights Network, Disability Rights Education And Defense Fund, Disability Rights Montana, Disability Rights California, The National Federation Of The Blind, Washington Lawyers Committee For Civil Rights And Urban Affairs And Legal Aid Society – Employment Law Clinic, who filed a lawsuit in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, requesting an order

compelling the district court to enter an injunction now for all ADA violations that have been determined.

Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition www.ccddonline.org

Women of Color Won the Election for Obama - And They Protected Reproductive Health

By Jessica González-Rojas

(NAM) - On election night, Latinas and other women of color played a historic role in deciding the future of our country by helping President Obama secure the White House and blocking state-level attempts to curb rights, including reproductive rights. Over and over again, in state after state, Latina and women of color providers voted the winning margin: 76 percent of Latinas and 96 of black women voted for Obama, and Asian voters chose Obama at even higher rates than Latinas. It’s no wonder that women of color chose a president that has taken strong positions in support of health care access, support for a woman’s reproductive decision-making, and equal pay, key issues for this constituency.

We have long known that Latinas, and other women of color, are poderosa and a constituency that can make moves. We proved that by defeating attacks on insurance coverage for abortion, defend the rights of our LGBTQ hermanos/as, casting deciding votes in battleground states and, across the country, raising our voices. Policy makers in state houses and on Capitol Hill now know that they ignore our concerns at their peril of their own re-election.

On Wednesday morning November 7, one truth was crystal clear: a new American majority made of people of color, single women, young people (a high percentage, and growing, of which are Latino/a) and LGBTQ Americans turned out to vote and fueled election night victories. Take for example, Florida, where anti-choice politicians and opponents of reproductive justice have promised to pursue restrictions of women’s health care. The latest attack was Amendment 6, a ballot measure that would have further restricted insurance coverage for abortion and interfered with personal decision-making. There was simply no denying this amendment would take away a woman’s right to make basic health care decisions that affect her health and the health of her family.

In 8 weeks and months before the election, the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health (NLIRH), my organization, worked to educate and mobilize Latino/a voters in Florida to oppose this measure.

In partnership with the Miami Latino health organization Mi Lola, NLIRH developed and distributed bilingual voter-education materials, phoned Latino/a to talk about the harms of voting “yes” on Amendment 6, and encouraged Latino/a to register to vote. Latinas secured a significant victory when the hard work paid off and the measure was defeated.

This election, Latinas also used the ballot box to reject false, outdated narratives that women are less conservative. For years this narrative has persisted in the media. Yet, polling from NLIRH, in partnership with Lake Research Partners, shows that Latinos and Latinas don’t want politicians interfering with a woman’s right to make decisions. In the poll, nearly three out of four Latino registered voters agreed that a woman has a right to make her own personal, private decisions about abortion without government interfering, and nearly as many agreed that we shouldn’t judge someone who feels they are not ready to be a parent. Other polls show that a majority of Latino/as support marriage equality, and are more supportive than their white counterparts.

And those views were apparent at the ballot boxes on Tuesday in key battleground states, like Virginia, where Latinos/favored candidates who pledged to support policies that protect reproductive rights were defeating candidates who helped pro-choice candidates go on to victory. Latino/as across the country. Latinas across the country joined successful efforts to expand marriage equality, and young Latino/a advocates, like NLIRH volunteer, columnist, and immigration reform leader Angy Rivera, led the Maryland state DREAM Act to victory, paving the way for similar measures across the country. Latino/a supported President Obama, and his historic health care gains, by more than 70 percent. That’s the largest margin among Latino/as in history, and concern about the Ryan budget and proposed cuts to healthcare helped motivate Latino/as to vote for candidates who would oppose it.

This polling tells me what I know from personal experience: many of my own friends and family voted in this election to support reproductive justice, LGBTQ rights, and access to affordable health care. The myth that Latinos are less engaged or single-issue voters is finally giving way to reality. We vote our values: and our values support our diverse families and health, dignity and justice for ourselves, our loved ones and our communities.

Sadly, despite the best efforts of women of color, especially Latinas and Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Arizona, some anti-immigration candidates managed to win. Latino/a advocates led a groundswell of protest against the infamous Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, who’s become known for his harsh, hurtful, inhumane rhetoric about immigrants. Thus far, Arpaio’s re-election campaign (voters are still being counted), but immigrant activists have successfully forced the sheriff into his toughest re-election battle, putting other candidates on notice that people of color will not remain silent when our brothers and sisters are abused.

This election was a turning point in our power - policy makers can no longer doubt it. Our job, and the job of other organizations who represent women of color, is to work together with the President and other policymakers to hold them accountable to their promises, find solutions that make quality, affordable health care more accessible for women of color, protect the rights of immigrants and ensure that every woman has access to the reproductive health care she needs.

Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas Executive Director National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health

It’s Obama

By Frederick H. Lowe

(NorthStar News & Analysis) - President Barack Obama, the nation’s first African American president, on Tuesday was re-elected to a second four-year term, defeating Republican Mitt Romney, well-heeled political action committees and Republican legislators who passed restrictive voter-ID laws designed to suppress the black vote. President Obama won 303 Electoral College votes, 33 more than the 270 needed to win the White House to Romney’s 203 Electoral College votes, according to television network projections late Tuesday night.

The President also won the popular vote. The former one-term Massachusetts Gov. received 51.9 million votes to President Obama’s 52.4 million votes. The popular and electoral vote totals, however, were extremely fluid and numbers changed every minute.

President Obama was projected to win the states of Vermont, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Michigan, New York, New Jersey, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Minnesota, Mississippi, Iowa, Washington, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and the important swing states of Ohio and Florida. In winning re-election, President Obama received solid support from African Americans, Hispanics, white women and younger voters. Nine out of 10 blacks voted for Obama. He also received strong support from low-income voters in an election in which most voters expressed concerns about the economy.

The Obama team ran a strong campaign against billionaires like Sheldon Adelson, chairman and CEO of Las Vegas Sands Corporation, who has donated close to $100 million to Romney’s campaign to defeat Obama. Other businessmen also threatened to fire employees if Obama was re-elected.

The Obama Re-election Campaign and other groups also launched a full scale, well-funded campaign to defend restrictive photo-ID laws for this election that were passed by Republican dominated state legislatures. The laws were designed to suppress the black voter turnout in the general election, say political observers.

The president’s re-election also was due to his strong ground organization. During the campaign, volunteers contacted 125 million people either by telephone, door-to-door canvassing. The campaign also registered 1 million new voters.

Toward the end of the campaign, President Obama was helped by Hurricane Sandy, which raked much of the East Coast. Republican N. J. Gov. Chris Christie praised President Obama for the federal government response to the hurricane, much to the chagrin of Romney campaign officials.

Frederick H. Lowe

The NorthStar News & Analysis www.thenorthstarnews.com

When I woke up I had been praying for the President in my dream. We must pray: Father in heaven, we pray a Hedge of Protection around President Obama and his family. We plead the Blood of Jesus to cover them. We ask that you send the Warring Angels with

compelling the district court to enter an injunction now for all ADA violations that have been determined.
AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LATINOS FOR OBAMA
COALITION WATCH PARTY - NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Photos by Kurtney Jackson

Children supporting the event: Trinity DeClue (L), Tyrell (C) and Teandra (R) Evans.

Pastors Randle (L) & BJ Cameron (C) and their son Minister Kurtney Jackson (R) of Passionate Hope Int'l Ministries.

Jean (L) and John (R) Trujillo.
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(303) 832-7565

Michelle’s Coffee Cup

Pouring Coffee at 7:00 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Ron White
Office: (719) 432-7347

OFFICE HOURS: 6AM-8PM DAILY

Scott Cooper
Master Barber

(719) 271-5699 (cell)
425 N. Circle Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Carrie L. Barnhill
Owner & General Manager
LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED

1111 Quivira Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Phone: (719) 822-7300
Fax: (719) 822-7301

(719) 382-4900 Bus
Monday - Friday 9:00AM - 5:00PM
cbranch@amfam.com

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