

# THE HARVEST INSTITUTE

## REPORT

Winter 2009

*The President's Message by Dr. Claud Anderson*

### Urban Center Policy Development



**F**or nearly a century, the economies of urban cities and Black Americans have been inextricably linked. Following the end of World War II, urban cities offered Black Americans employment, political opportunities, and an improved quality of life. Today, nearly seventy percent of Blacks live in and around 10 major urban centers which are now in decay and have been deindustrialized. The mission of The Harvest Institute is to develop policies and programs that help Black America become self-sufficient by building alternative economies that complement, yet compete with, the mainstream economy for Black America's disposable income. It is in the spirit of that mission that The Harvest Institute offers guidance to those charged with making urban policy whether at the national, state or local level. *(Continued on p.3)*

### Indian Treaty Lawsuit Goes to Supreme Court

**O**n November 10, 2009, The Harvest Institute Freedman Foundation et al. (HIFF) asked the United States Supreme Court to grant appellate review on a Petition for Writ of Certiorari. The original Complaint\* against the United States Department of Interior was filed in November 2006 in the United States Federal Court of Claims in Washington, D.C.

The HIFF is a collective entity formed by The Harvest Institute, the Black Indians United Legal Defense Fund and William Warrior, great grandson of Chief John Horse. Chief John Horse was a slave who escaped from a Georgia plantation, joined the Seminole Indians in Florida, and became chief. Horse led the Black Seminoles across America and into Mexico in their fight for freedom. For 50 years he and his band fought numerous wars. He was never defeated *(Continued on p.6)*

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*A Vision Beyond  
the Dream*



*The mission of the Harvest Institute is to educate, advocate for and develop policies that help Black America become self-sufficient and competitive*

*New Audio CD*

# **The Power of Blackness**

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*PowerNomics* Corporation presents a totally different lecture by Dr. Claud Anderson. A lecture that will give Black people pride about their Blackness. His analysis will open your eyes to:

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- The special relationship that Black people have always had with God
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- The facts and elements that make Blackness one of the most powerful elements in the universe.

*Taped at Salem Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois on September 28, 2008. See page 19 for order details.*

# Urban Center Policy Development

*Urban issues are complex and multifaceted. Policy makers will have to prioritize the problems they choose to solve.*

*Continued from page 1*

## BACKGROUND

A link evolved between Blacks and cities when post-World War I racism and farming technology pushed Blacks out of rural areas, especially in the South, and into urban jobs where unions promised a better life. By the early 1960s, because of Black migration patterns and White flight from urban cities to suburbs, Black Americans became the majority population in numerous urban inner-cities. Unfortunately, as Blacks naively sought social integration, Whites fled and stripped the urban cities of their wealth, businesses, industries, institutions, jobs and middle-classes. Since then, urban inner-cities have become synonymous with poor, powerless, jobless Black Americans overburdened by societal disintegration - crime, abuse, food shortages, poor quality schools, high unemployment, lack of institutional resources, business and industrial ownership.

The disintegration that has occurred in Black life in urban centers since the mid-1900s, is, I believe, a harbinger of what will occur throughout our entire country if the United States does not restore industrial productivity and gain control of its wealth and economic resources. Like Black America, this nation has de-industrialized, lost its productive capacity and transferred it to developing countries.

In doing so, the nation has become dependant upon those very countries, displaced 50% of its wealth, lost jobs to globalization, and in seeking to raise the quality of life for poor nations, reduced the quality of life for American citizens. The United States is now dependent upon other nations to supply it with food, energy, and other necessities. America and Blacks are on parallel downward spirals. Blacks cannot supply their own food, energy, or other necessities. They do not own businesses in these urban centers and unemployment levels are devastating. The economy of the United States has lost industries and the national unemployment rate is more than 10 percent. In some urban centers, unemployment among Black males is higher than 50%. Whether in Black urban areas or in the United States as a whole, sustained high unemployment causes such intense poverty and human suffering that it disrupts and destroys families, neighborhoods and cities. Unemployment renders large numbers of people unable to take care of their personal and family needs and inflicts deep permanent scars not only on individual families, but also on the entire economy. The Obama administration is seeking to turn around urban areas. Corrective urban policy is required for the health of our country. It necessarily includes crafting remedies specific to Blacks, the majority population that resides within those urban centers and has for more than a century.

*Wealth and prosperity are achieved by producing items of value to others, not through consuming products made by others*

The actions the Obama administration takes on urban policy will likely be the last opportunity for Blacks to get a hearing ear and to address the historical barriers that have plagued them. Blacks are now very weak politically and economically and are nearly a permanent underclass. Political will has never been strong to address problems based in racism. The following guidance from The Harvest Institute is offered to those charged with making urban policy whether at the national, state, or local level.

### **PUBLIC POLICY FRAMEWORK**

Public policy refers to government planning, decision making and allocation of public resources. Public policy issues are dynamic and change continually. In America, every issue is at least partly an issue of race. The framework for developing urban public policy should include the following working principles:

- Blacks have been the majority minority population for nearly 150 years, and there are few jobs in urban cities;
- Private businesses have moved out and government programs and jobs in urban cities are disappearing or dominated by non-Blacks;
- Blacks have become acculturated to seek rather than produce jobs and own few businesses;
- The inherited condition of living in poor socio-economic conditions is unique to Blacks and ought not be compared to, nor equated with the socio-economic conditions that immigrants bring with them from their country of origin;
- As immigrants begin to build alternative economies, returning Whites gentrify cities, and historic industrial shifts occur, Blacks will become buried and forced into a status of permanent dependency, if their systemic plight is ignored;
- In the past, the framework for federal, state and local governmental urban policy was that Blacks would provide attractive consumer markets for businesses owned by big box stores, immigrants, returning Whites, or 'cool artists'. Whether stated or implied, this is an immoral policy base and denigrates the very real legacy slavery and Jim Crow semi-slavery imposed on Blacks;
- Economic development focus should be on creating new industries not just new businesses (See selection criteria in Chapter 6 of PowerNomics: the National Plan);



The President's Message by Dr. Claud Anderson

*Revitalization of urban centers will improve the economic health of the nation. The disintegration seen in the cities today presages growing instability in the country and racial problems in the country.*

- Governmental policy agencies should adopt a working pledge that no policy will be enacted that harms, diminishes or ignores the affect on Blacks, even while considering contemporary issues such as immigration and returning White populations.

**HARVEST RECOMMENDATION:**

**Appoint an Urban Reindustrialization and Trade Czar**

The Harvest Institute recommends that the Administration appoint an Urban Reindustrialization and Trade Czar (URT Czar). Wealth and prosperity are achieved by producing items of value to others, not through consuming products made by others.

The following would be some responsibilities of The Harvest Institute would assign to the Re-industrialization and Trade Czar.

Since the 1960s, industries that used to manufacture in urban centers have been surrendered to other countries. The Urban Reindustrialization and Trade Czar would work to reverse that trend and bring back the old industries that make good business sense, (such as the shoe and textile industries) to urban cities.

Like prospering nations, urban centers and export their products to new markets. Urban cities are now experiencing a trade imbalance. They buy more products from outside their geographic boundaries than they manufacture within their borders. The purpose of the URT Czar would be to reverse that trend.

The Urban Reindustrialization and Trade Czar would *design programs, public policies,* and direct federal dollars and other resources to urban centers to facilitate development of these new industries. The purpose of program activity should be to accomplish goals such as training a cadre of entrepreneurs and workers, conduct industry research to help entrepreneurs establish the new businesses, build a functional educational system that provides trained workers for the new industries and help businesses negotiate the necessary implementation steps.

*Developing new sources of capital* will be a key function of the Trade Czar. The following are sources that come from the PowerNomics National Plan:

- Levy import fees on products coming into urban areas.
- Establish a quasi-public funding corporation that operates a low interest revolving loan fund to support industrial and business development with a two percent interest cap. These funds would be subordinateable to traditional banks.

# Indian Treaty Lawsuit Goes to Supreme Court *(Continued from p.1)*



and his band became scouts for the Black Buffalo Soldiers. The Black Seminoles who were forced out of Florida, built their own towns and homesteads in Texas, Oklahoma and Mexico, that exist to this present time. The Complaint seeks the benefits promised by the United States government to Black Indians and former Black slaves who were owned by the so-called Five Civilized Tribes (Seminole, Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw and Chickasaw). The benefits that we seek are those the government promised specifically to Blacks in the post civil war treaties of 1865 and 1866 that were signed between the United States and the Five Civilized Tribes. Previous Courts ruled that the statute of limitations had expired and opposition to those treaties should have been filed by 1906. That rationale ignores the historical reality that Black freedmen and Black Indians were intimidated, exploited, and denied access to the nation's legal system until a few decades ago.

While the prospect for our Supreme Court filing is now a political issue, the legal foundation of this case is the strongest point of law that remains for Blacks to use to receive economic justice. The Department of Interior enforces every aspect of these treaties, with the excep-

tion of those parts that deal with benefits for Blacks, the primary purpose of those treaties. A treaty has the force of constitutional law. The treaties of 1865 and 1866 are the basis for all the government benefits that so-called Native Americans have received for the last 140 years. HIFF seeks enforcement of those treaty provisions for descendants of Black Freedman and Black Indians which include such benefits as *property rights, tax exempt status, free college education, rights to own and build casinos, annual income allotments and medical, health and housing service.*

# Indian Treaty Lawsuit Goes to Supreme Court *(Cont'd)*

*The treaties of 1865 and 1866 are the basis for all the government benefits that so-called Native Americans have received for the last 140 years.*

If the United States Supreme Court hears our case, it is possible that former slaves held by Indians and Black Indians may receive their economic due. If not, Blacks may never receive corrective compensation that could reverse their bottom-rung status. Similar compensation has been awarded to other groups, including non-Black Indians. A favorable decision by the Court could uplift Blacks and put the group in a position to become economically competitive and self-sufficient.



\* (Harvest Institute Freedman's Federation, et al. v. United States, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Case No. 2008-5036).

## Support Freedman Foundation Lawsuit

I want to donate to the Harvest Institute to support the legal action on behalf of Black Freedman and Black Indians.

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# Don't Live Without An Estate Plan

*One of the most valuable gifts you can leave your loved ones is a properly prepared and witnessed plan.*



The death of the late King of Pop, Michael Jackson, turned a spotlight on the importance of estate planning. Every adult, regardless of wealth, should have an estate plan. In making an Estate Plan, you determine who should manage your assets in the event you are alive, but unable to make decisions; how and to whom your assets will be distributed after your death; how and who will make health care decisions in the event you are unable to make those decisions; and where there are minor children, an Estate Plan should designate who will care

for and raise them. Estate Plans can change as circumstances change, but the most important thing is to carefully consider the issues and prepare a written, properly prepared and witnessed, plan. It is the most valuable gift you can leave your loved ones. Families have been alienated forever due to lack of estate planning. **THINK and ACT NOW!** Don't leave it to the state to make decisions about what happens to your children and your assets upon your death.

I have many years of experience working with families to sort through estate planning questions and issues and to craft plans best suited for their particular family and circumstances. I am not a lawyer, but I see family after family make the same preventable costly mistakes. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. You worked hard to acquire your assets and when you depart this life, you want to pass them on the people you choose. That won't happen without some well thought out plans on your part.

I am a resident of California. Each person must learn the legal requirements in their own state, and I recommend seeking professional legal assistance. But in the spirit of PowerNomics®, I hope readers will find my experience and research helpful. PowerNomics principles make clear that it is our personal responsibility to make arrangements for the assets we have acquired in this life and see that they are passed on in a way to benefit those that we choose. *Continued on page 9*



# Don't Live Without an Estate Plan *continued*

## Estate Planning Documents

In California, for estates that exceed \$100,000, a Last Will and Testament and a Revocable Living Trust are two essential estate planning documents to put in place.



### 1. Last Will and Testament

A Will is a legal document in which you:

- Designate who will receive your assets after your death, rather than having your assets divided according to a state formula;
- Nominate an executor who will manage your estate, pay your debts, expenses and taxes and distribute your estate according to the instructions in your will;
- Nominate a guardian for your minor children.

### 2. Revocable Living Trust

With a Revocable Living Trust, your assets are transferred into a trust, often administered by yourself for your benefit during your lifetime and transferred to your beneficiaries upon your death, without the need for court involvement. Your last Will and Testament, a supplemental document to your trust, covers any assets that have not been transferred into the Revocable Living Trust. A Revocable Living Trust allows you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime, quickly transfer them to your beneficiaries upon your death, and avoid the agony, expense, and delay of Probate Court. A Revocable Living Trust also helps to reduce or eliminate federal estate taxes.

### 3. Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

In this document, you name a person of your choice, and who has agreed, to make medical decisions for you and to act in your behalf in health care matters if you are unable to make those decisions. This authority expires upon your death.

### 4. Durable Power of Attorney for Property Management

This document designates and authorizes a person of your choosing to make financial decisions and manage your assets on your behalf to the same extent and effect as if you were present in person. The word durable means that they may also act for you in the event you become incompetent or incapacitated.

### 5. Living Will

The living will is a document that allows you to state your desires regarding the use of life-support devices to prolong your life in the event you are stricken with a terminal illness or when there is no reasonable hope for recovery from an injury or illness. *Continued on p. 11*

Did You Know?

## Black Blood - Black Heritage

**A**rcheologists, geneticists, and scientists who study mitochondrial DNA have concluded from ample evidence, that the first natural inhabitants on earth were Black. As the original people, Black people are the common beginning of all of the earth's peoples. The many shades and colors of skin that we see in mankind today are adaptations that occurred, in part because of biological changes that developed in response to migration patterns and changing geographic and climate environments. Over time, a rank order of skin color developed with preferences for White and abhorrence for Black. One of the great wonders of the world is why descendants developed such a strong aversion to blackness and the Black race, when the original skin color was Black. Instead of a nation of immigrants acknowledging a common Black origin, in America, Black skin and blackness became 'bad' and blackness became a trait that was passed on through a person's blood. The amount of Black blood a person had in their veins became the basis for racial identification, legal definitions, and a cornerstone of our culture.



As Black-skinned and White-skinned people intertwined, it was increasingly harder to place people in discreet color categories. Visual clues for determining race became unreliable and life became confused and complicated for those to whom it mattered. Some with Black blood had alabaster White skin. But White skin and the notion of pure White Blood were highly prized. At one point in our history, Black blood was considered so powerful that even 'one drop of Black blood' could totally defile White blood. Any amount of Black blood was a dirty little secret of lineage that politicians and other highly placed people tried to hide.

In the 1940s, researcher George S. Schuyler, brought this issue out in the open. In his book, *Racial Intermarriage in the United States*, he put a shining light on the Black blood in high society, particularly in Virginia. Schuyler uncovered many hypocritical secrets. The special focus he put on Virginia was ironic because that state was the birth place of American slavery, the center of the Southern Confederacy, and the seat of many anti-Black ideologies.

Schuyler's book publicized the upper class blood lines. His revelations about racial mixing in Virginia caused such an uproar in the state that it became a problem for Whites who had publicly acclaimed their 'pure White' blood. His research (apparently Schuyler himself was unaware of the fact that Blacks were the original people) indicated that about 45 percent of Virginia's big money 'blue-bloods' actually had Black blood. This caused such a stir that the Virginia state legislature considered passing a racial integrity bill. *The Richmond New Leder* newspaper in Richmond, Virginia threw more gasoline on the genealogical fire. It reported categories of living and dead Virginians who would qualify as Black, if the one-drop-of-Black-blood rule was enforced. In the 1940s, *The New Leder's* list included:

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 2 presidents of the United States  | 1 United States Ambassador to France  |
| 2 Secretaries of War               | 3 governors of Virginia   |
| 2 United States senators           | 5 United States Army generals   |
| 3 distinguished Southern novelists | 1 Speaker of the House of Representatives   |
| 2 prominent bishops                | 1 Rear Admiral of the Navy  |
| 3 United States Congressmen        | 2 judges on the Virginia Supreme Court and many of the foremost and honored officers of the Southern Confederacy Army |

The entire human race may have evolved from Black people, and the one-drop-rule may have turned that fact on its ear, but whatever else it did, it made it more difficult to prepare an acceptable guest list for social events.

# Don't Live Without an Estate Plan

*Continued from p. 9*

## Which Settlement Process Do You Choose?

In California, if your estate is worth \$100,000 or more it must go to Probate Court. Probate is a court process for transferring a deceased person's assets to the beneficiaries listed in his or her will. Other states may have different thresholds, but in every state, Probate Court requires fees such as appraisal fees, attorney fees, court fees, and sometimes a bond fee. This is money that could be passed on to your loved ones. In California, in the case of an uncontested will, it may take a year or longer to close Probate. I have witnessed contested Probate proceedings that lasted more than five years.

Once you die, the State will see that your assets will be dispersed in one way or another. If you die without a will, the State will pay your debts and distribute your assets according to their own formula. If you have a Revocable Living Trust, all the valuables titled to your trust such as home, monies, or cars, will be available for your loved ones after a 40-day period. If the estate must go through Probate, the process is much more burdensome. The Executor will have to decide who will pay the mortgage during these extensive procedures? Who will occupy the house? Do your loved ones have enough money to pay the Probate costs or will they be required to sell the property below market value? Which makes more sense, the State determining who gets your assets, years of waiting for resolution, or 40 "hassle free" days to settle the estate? In California, if your estate is worth less than \$100,000, you do not need a Revocable Living Trust. However, you will need a Will and Powers of Attorney for Healthcare and Financial Affairs. Let's not lose any more real estate or other assets for lack of knowledge or because we simply didn't make the effort at a point in time when we could. Estate Planning; do it for your loved ones.

*Submitted by Dr. Rosie Milligan, West Coast Supporters of The Harvest Institute, with acknowledgement to the State Bar of California, Do I Need Estate Planning?*

*(323) 750-3592—Ask for Dr. Rosie Milligan*

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *continued*

- Establish a quasi-public funding corporation that operates a low interest revolving loan fund to support industrial and business development with a two percent interest cap. These funds would be subordinateable to traditional banks.
- Redefine the use of SBA funds from loan guarantees to making direct loans to entrepreneurs
- Develop strategies to encourage Blacks to pool their money, perhaps in investment like clubs, as a means to aggregate their individual resources into a mechanism that can provide capital for business development.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF BLACK AMERICA**

There is a clear government role in revitalizing urban centers, but Black America has responsibilities too. Black church leaders, elected officials and community leaders must become disciplined as they articulate the needs of their group and present the group case precisely. They must frame the issues based on the unique historical dilemma of Blacks and must not gratuitously allow government focus to slide and shift from a rationale of corrective measures for Blacks to corrective measures for everyone or for minorities. Those who speak for Blacks must themselves not slip into using the term 'minorities' or 'everyone' when they are speaking of problems unique to Blacks. If the problem is a uniquely Black problem, the solution must be uniquely Black also. If those who represent Blacks are careless with their words when asking for government attention, they will not guide government to correct the historical root problem that has us in a hammerlock.

Blacks are the majority populations in most Urban centers and should organize to ensure that the focus and end result of urban policy development will correct the exclusionary

structural and historic economic barriers directed at them.

- Hold elected officials accountable, especially those who gained office because of Black votes. Blacks have been a loyal constituency to many successful candidates, but have never received quid pro quo benefits, commensurate with their loyalty, from White or Black elected officials.
- Establish a new non-profit national leadership policy organization dedicated to PowerNomics principles and the self-interest of Black America. This group would monitor and work with the Urban Reindustrialization and Trade Czar to keep a focus on creating Black-owned and operated economies and industries, perform urban policy research to contribute the ideas to develop urban policies in the best interest of Black Americans, and offer implementation guidance.
- As new industries start-up and evolve, Blacks should require that cities, states and Congress establish no-crime zones around these industries and businesses and provide protection for products produced in these urban centers by erecting trade barriers.

**CONCLUSION**

Revitalization of urban centers will improve the economic health of the entire nation. The disintegration seen in the cities today presages growing instability and racial problems in the country. Both problems will yield only to intense and targeted self-help, economic remedies in Black urban centers. Government must open socio-economic opportunities, as only government can, and Black Americans in urban centers must equip themselves with businesses and industries so that they can benefit from whatever advantages come from having a Black man in the office of the President of the United States.

# PowerNomics

## *On the Move*

**Eastern Shore, Maryland**

## Acquaculture Facility Expands

**O**n April 25, 2009, Dr. Claud Anderson, President and CEO of WaterLand Fisheries, Inc., (WFI) introduced the company's new and expanded seafood factory to representatives of Maryland's Governor O'Malley, Congressional staff, State and local elected officials, seafood buyers, financial and many other supporters from throughout the nation. The Open House was held at WaterLand's environmentally-controlled sea-



food production operation on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The event debuted WaterLand's newest building which increased the physical plant to 45,000 square feet and its annual production capacity to over one million pounds of live Tilapia. The expansion makes WFI the largest indoor seafood producer in Maryland and a major producer in the nation.

This project is an example of PowerNomics principles at work. The following photos capture highlights of the event.



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