

THE HARVEST INSTITUTE

REPORT

Fall 2008

The President's Message by Dr. Claud Anderson

The Best Option for Saving Our Cities

Sometimes life pelts us with lemons and surviving often depends upon one's ability to convert lemons into lemonade and open lemonade stands. Such is the option and challenge before Blacks living in urban America, where cities have become lemons. Nearly 70 percent of Black Americans live in and around 10 major urban centers that are characterized by high crime, poverty, dysfunctional schools, few businesses and jobs, trash-strewn vacant lots, boarded-up houses, homeless and unemployed people. In those ten urban cities, Black elected officials are visibly holding the public seats of power, but neither they nor the Black residents control the economics of these cities. Black Americans have options to achieve economic control. The options are diminishing options, but some still exist. Blacks can view urban cities as crown jewels that can be converted into productive, competitive Black business communities, or *(Continued on page 3)*



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Water Shortages: Have We Reached a Tipping Point?

Water shortages impact human survival at the most basic level. Water is required for drinking and food production. Evidence is growing that the world's drinkable water supplies are shrinking at an alarming rate and that the decrease is directly linked to worldwide population explosion. Over-population contributes to the dwindling supply of potable water because of wasteful use, ground water depletion, global warming and pollution created by humans. Worldwide population growth has affected the supply of fresh water in many ways. In the forty year period between 1950 and 1990, population growth drove water use up by more than 100 percent in the Americas, 300 percent in Africa and almost 500 percent in Europe. There are large areas, even countries, that can no longer produce sufficient water for drinking or growing agriculture products. Water is the key to life *(Continued on page 6)*

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 PowerNomics DVD

The Power of Blackness

(DVD - 1 hour - \$12.95)

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:

- Why Black Americans will be a permanent underclass by the year 2010
- How inappropriate behavior of Black leaders legitimizes anti-Black attitudes
- The special relationship that Black people have always had with God
- “Genderized racism” that confronts Barak Obama’s campaign
- 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.

The Best Option for Saving Our Cities

Economics, political power and quality of life are linked. Political power flows from economic power – not the other way around. Continued from page 1



simply continue their behavior pattern of the last forty years: move to the suburbs and cede the valuable economic assets of the city to ethnic immigrants and returning Whites. Economics, political power and quality of life are linked. Political power flows from economic power – not the other way around. Economic control of assets is the only path to lift Black urban areas, and therefore, most Black people, to a position of self-sufficiency and competitiveness in this country.

Background

When White flight from cities began in the early 1960s, until the present time, the window of opportunity was open for Blacks to develop economic control of the cities they dominated. Unfortunately, Black leadership blinked and failed to build their own economies. Both Black leadership and Black residents associated successful economic development and functional communities with the presence of Whites and non-Blacks. Black leaders devoted their energies to attracting White businesses and residents back to the cities. The Black middle class, looking for a better quality of life, migrated to suburbia.

Within the next decade, non-Black-owned businesses will again dominate urban centers. Returning Whites and economically empowered ethnic immigrants, will displace Black elected officials in mayor's offices, city councils, school boards, state legislatures and the United States Congress. Old suburbs that currently surround these major urban cities will become the new ghettos. Suburban malls will close-up

and the businesses will relocate to cheap downtown land and office space in urban cities. If the Black Americans who live in and around these large urban centers fail to immediately choose to rebuild these urban centers based upon their own cultural, economic and political needs, they can rest assured they soon will be politically and economically dominated by competing ethnic groups.

Why Are Urban Centers so Deplorable?

Since the civil right acts of the 1960s, Black Americans have concentrated most of their time, energy and money on getting Blacks elected to political offices. On the face of it, there is nothing wrong with the concept. The problem is Black elected officials practicing trickle-down economics on those who voted for them. In 1960, there were only 103 Black elected officials in the entire United States. Today, there are over 9,000 which represents a 9,000 percent increase in the number of Black elected officials. However, the socioeconomic conditions of Black Americans from 1960 until 2008 did not appreciate in that forty year time period. According to social discomfort indicators such as income, poor quality schools, unemployment, wealth accumulation, crime, the conditions of Black Americans did not improve with the increased number of Black officials. Conditions actually worsened. Why? First, because Black pursuit of political office was out of sequence. They sought political power before they had economic power. It is a dysfunctional pattern of Black America to

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“There are no incentives for Whites or any ethnic immigrants to provide jobs or business opportunities for Black Americans.”

seek political power while accepting the dire economic circumstances of encroaching poverty, few Black-owned businesses, and irrelevant and low quality schools. Second, the relative conditions of Blacks have not changed because there is no direct correlation between getting a Black person elected to public office and material benefits accruing to those Black voters.

Economics, political power and quality of life are linked. Political power flows from economic power – not the other way around. The root causes of racial economic disparity between Blacks and Whites were set in place in the foundation of our society centuries ago. The fact that it has become socially acceptable to disavow the root causes, pretend they are not operative today and to ignore them, does not change the force of their existence. Socio-economic facts that are ignored do not correct or eradicate socio-economic conditions. When centuries of slavery and Jim Crow segregation legally ended in the 1960s, the structural disadvantages of Black life did not end. It was well accepted that Blacks would need economic help to raise above their assigned economic status. Yet, at the two historical points where correction should have occurred, the end of the American Civil War in 1865 and the end of the Black Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, the legal system addressed only overt and symbolic aspects of slavery, Jim Crow segregation and racism. The laws passed at both points did not produce either racial equality or economic parity for Black Americans. These laws did not correct the historical mal-distribution that had moved all of the nation's wealth, power, privileges and resources into White society.

Failed Civil Rights Laws

The Civil Rights Acts of 1964, 1965 and 1967, were major symbolic victories. At the time they were passed, Nicholas de B. Katzenbach, Attorney General under President Lyndon B. Johnson, said about these acts that they, “...were only a drop in a large bucket that did nothing for the great mass of Black Americans.... Blacks were still locked into poverty and powerlessness... a state of second class citizenship that Whites continued to feel they were superior to Blacks.” By expressing these candid assessments, Katzenbach acknowledged that while there was some value in these symbolic laws, economic gain is the foundation of racial empowerment. Despite the efforts of many, those symbolic laws caused the economic disparity of treating unequals as equals, to become structural within the American economy. The truth remains that economic independence offers any group of people the broadest options for political control.

It is monumentally harder for Blacks to achieve economic self-sufficiency, reverse the poverty and powerlessness and to control the cities where they still dominate in population. Blacks in America have only three options for economic independence and gain: Option 1 - Own a business or secure a job; Option 2 -Charity or Welfare; or Option 3 - Criminal activity.

OPTION ONE: PRACTICE GROUP ECONOMICS; OWN A BUSINESS OR WORK A JOB

Group Economics - Business: Establishing economic control of urban areas means controlling business and jobs, which in turn control political
(Cont'd next page)

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One out of every ten Asian-Americans and Arab-Americans are in business, followed by one out of 35 Whites, one out of 50 Hispanics, then one out of 100 Blacks.

and social institutions. A stable society is predicated in the belief that government and other institutions acculturate citizens to live and compete within Option One. In my book, *PowerNomics: The National Plan to Empower Black America*, I discuss Group Economics as a foundation concept. Group economics means buying from and controlling the supply chains of your own businesses and making your money bounce 8-12 times before it leaves your community. Whites and competing ethnic groups naturally understand the importance of, and practice group economics to support their own. It is learned as a cultural value passed on through the family unit. The results are evident. Asian and Arabs maintain very tight family units and work together for the good of their ethnic group. Their communities have the greatest number of businesses. One out of every ten Asian-Americans and Arab-Americans are in business, followed by one out of 35 Whites, one out of 50 Hispanics, then one out of 100 Blacks. The relative economic and social status of each group is a reflection of their business strength. Yes, Blacks have been displaced by immigrants in many sectors, but there are lessons to learn from their cultures which encourage, support and reinforce the practice of group economics and support.

In the early 1900s, proportionately more Blacks were engaged in group economics and we had quasi-functional economies. They had businesses and employed their neighbors. However, coming out of the depression in the 1930s, Black intellectuals began to council Blacks to give up their businesses; let others take the risk of busi-

ness ownership and simply strive for jobs. We are suffering the legacy of that short-sighted thinking. It is a major cultural impediment to economic self-sufficiency. But, we must change our cultural values and behavior, beginning with ourselves then our children. By our behavior, we must embrace and master the practice of group economics if we are to survive.

In summary, in order to control urban areas, Blacks need a greater number of business and business communities across America. Business ownership holds the most potential to reduce the wealth gap that exists between Blacks, Whites and ethnics. Business ownership can attract and redistribute wealth 7 to 8 times faster than income from a job. While business failure is also a reality, those who have the resources and skills should be the ones to venture into business. (See *PowerNomics* Chapters 6 and 7 for discussion strategies and recommendations for selection criterion for businesses and industries.)

Group Economics - Jobs: For many individuals, employment may be a more realistic alternative to owning a business. They may lack entrepreneurial skills, business interest or financial resources. Income from jobs, properly directed, can support Black-owned business communities. Those with jobs can have a role in building economic control in urban cities. They can choose where they spend their income and become loyal consumers of products and services provided by Black-owned businesses. They can invest in Black busi-





Water Shortages: Have We Reached a Tipping Point? *(Continued from p.1)*

Americans may find a glass of water hard to come by as its water resources from wells, rivers and reservoirs experience shrinkage.

Pollution created by the population explosion has contributed to global warming and the dead zones that are now evident in bodies of water world-wide from the Baltic Sea, to the Gulf of Mexico, to America's Great Lakes. Dead zones are areas in a body of water, fresh and salt, where the occurrence of deadly human bacteria, such as e.coli and pfiesteria, are so high that oxygen supplies are depleted and water-based life cannot be sustained in the area. The fish, crustaceans, algae, seaweed, the entire food chain, die and the water is undrinkable. Scientists report that there are more than 400 dead zones globally. They have not yet reported the physical effects on humans from drinking the water. The National Academy of Sciences has warned of a massive extinction in the oceans, with unknown ecological and evolutionary consequences, and that the world has utterly failed to appreciate the magnitude of the water problem.

Water Around the World

Growing populations equate to growing demands. Where you have the greatest concentration of people you will have the greatest pollution and the greatest demand for water. This is a global phenomenon. Global conflicts over water are already a reality. Nations engage in water wars because of shortages. In China, with its more than one billion people, at least 300 cities are suffering from water shortages. In India, another over-populated country, millions are nearing starvation and engaging in food and water riots. India has over-pumped its underground aquifers and rendered much

of its soil too salty to grow food. Israel is over-drawing water from its coastal aquifers and now seawater is intruding and polluting drinking water. Lack of rain water is producing drought and conflict across much of Africa like Darfur in the Sudan. Water wars might not be far off in countries such as Egypt, Turkey, Syria and Iraq that are struggling over building dams to hold water.

Water is also scarce in European countries, like Spain and Cyprus, where water tankers are daily hauling in millions of gallons of water. In Barcelona, public fountains are dry and a person can be fined as much as \$13,000 if they are caught watering flowers. Australian urban cities are buying water from outlying farms and hauling it into crowded cities.

At Home

In the United States, local governments have enacted moratoriums on watering lawns and washing cars. Diners must ask for a glass of water in a restaurant. Michigan and Maryland now monitor water use from private wells and limit the amount of water that farmers can use to water crops and animal stock. In 2007, the water level of Lake Lanier in Atlanta, Georgia had dropped over 25 feet triggering land and water battles between the states of Georgia and Tennessee. Georgia and Florida are battling over how much water each state can draw from the Apalachicola River. Economies of both states stand to suffer. A number of municipalities in California are fighting over ownership and control of water.

Water Shortages: Have We Reached a Tipping Point *(con-*

(Sources: International Food Policy Research Institute, World Health Organization, Scripps Institute of Oceanography)

The Harvest Perspective:

Implications for Black America

Water shortages are indeed a global and domestic problem. What does it mean for Blacks in America? Nearly 70 percent of all Black Americans live in or immediately around 10 major urban cities. Since water shortages and population numbers are linked, this is yet another issue of importance. In July, 2008, a federal jury in Columbus, Ohio awarded 67 Black plaintiffs \$11 million for pain and suffering because they had been denied public water services by local authorities for decades, based on their race. What happened to Blacks in Columbus, Ohio or similar water access situations, is probably happening in other cities across America because Blacks are concentrated in highly populated urban areas. We have little control or access to drinking water and food production. In majority Black populated cities where they do control water systems, such as the District of Columbia and Detroit, Michigan, surrounding White suburbs have successfully regionalized the water plants once owned by Black-dominated cities. In Detroit, water bills reportedly doubled. On an individual level, few Black Americans own land or have access to ocean, lake, river or underground aquifers.

Recommendations

What can Black Americans do in preparation for the coming water crisis?

- Maintain control of all municipal water facilities. Use control of that asset to increase revenue from the suburbs and protect residents who funded the infrastructure, from unreasonable cost increases.

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- Organize your community to identify and protect sources of water, large and small and educate the population on ways to prevent water waste.
- Prepare alternative drinking water sources as a community and as families.
- Educate your community and family on water purification methods and have supplies on hand.
- Provide public and private incentives to reduce pollution.
- Develop methods and educational programs to remove various medicines that are being excreted into our water supply.
- Oppose policies and practices that bring immigrants into competition with Blacks for water and other resources.

New Business Opportunities

The old Chinese proverb says that for every problem there is an opportunity. As water shortages become more apparent, opportunities in water-related businesses will soon be everywhere. Here are some things to consider.

- When acquiring land, secure water and mineral rights. Drill and install wells on land with water.
 - The opportunities for businesses related to well drilling, will likely increase. Those companies may be sources of employment, investment or ownership.
 - Establish water distilling and distribution companies
 - Building hydroponics food producing centers that recycle water, may provide an alternative or support to traditional agriculture. Hydroponics gardening, established in urban
- (Continued on page 10)*



The Best Option for Saving Our Cities

In the face of staggering unemployment rates and financial turmoil, will jobs provide the economic basis for controlling urban assets?

their money inside the city. They can teach their children to value business ownership.

But, getting and maintaining employment is increasingly difficult. No other population group has as a goal providing jobs and employment opportunities for Black Americans. The federal government has shifted its hiring focus from Blacks to Hispanics. For over 400 years Blacks held zero jobs in federal government. They made their first big entry in the ten years between 1965 and 1975 after bombings, marches, riots and deaths. The generation of Blacks hired during that period is retiring from government service and they are not being replaced by their capable, highly educated Black children. With severe economic retraction, government jobs at the city and state level are also disappearing.

Of the non-government jobs, approximately 95 percent of the newly created jobs go into White communities. Only five percent went to non-White communities. Of those newly created jobs, most went to non-Blacks. Since 2004, approximately 45 percent of all newly hired workers were Hispanics. The new jobs are targeted for Whites, Asians, Arabs and Hispanics. Many are jobs created by ethnic immigrant businesses that employ people from their own group, often in Black neighborhoods. Approximately 98 percent of Black people work for non-blacks outside of the Black community. Ethnic groups – Asians, Arabs, and Hispanics – are not acculturated to employ Blacks. European Whites are the greatest employer of Black workers.

The factors cited above, plus the escalating and permanent loss in jobs in America, effect the potential of employment to be a vehicle to Black economic control, and has produced a structurally high unemployment rate in Black America. Unemployment among Blacks has hit astronomical numbers. The official national rate is 35%. In Detroit the rate is 48%, Baltimore is 48%, Pittsburgh is 49%, in New York City the Black male unemployment is 51% and the national unemployment for Black youth is 89%. Even these statistics are under-reported because of they do not include the long term unemployed who no longer collect unemployment compensation or are so discouraged they are not actively searching for work.

Compare Black unemployment statistics with White European Americans who have a 4.6 percent rate of unemployment, Asian- Americans and Arab-Americans with less than one percent rate of unemployment and Hispanics with 4.8 percent unemployment rate.

Will jobs provide the economic basis for controlling urban assets? As this newsletter went to press, the federal government aggressively intervened in failing financial markets and demanded Congress devise an instant trillion dollar fix. When the national unemployment rate for the entire country reached 25% during the 1930s Great Depression, the federal government declared a national disaster, mobilized public

A Word of Explanation... You will notice that The Harvest Institute capitalizes the words Black and White when referring to people. This may feel unfamiliar but we do it out of respect for both the Black and White race. It is inappropriate to capitalize Asians, Hispanics, and other groups and not give Whites and Blacks respect to which both are entitled.

The Best Option for Saving Our Cities

Acquiring sufficient capital to rescue our cities will require that Black people produce jobs for their own people.

resources, and made correction a top priority. For years unemployment for Black America has been 10% higher than the 25% national unemployment rate during the depression and government has not raised an eyebrow. The Black labor force is structurally unemployed. Jobs hold some promise, but one must first have a job. Realistically, then, the burden of correcting the job disparity, rests on Black Americans. Acquiring sufficient capital to rescue our cities will require that Black people produce jobs for their own people.

OPTION 2 - CHARITY AND WELFARE:

Black Americans who cannot own a successful business or secure employment, will be forced to descend to Option 2 - Charity and Welfare - for legal options. Contrary to popular myths, Black Americans have never been the primary beneficiaries of charity, welfare and other forms of public assistance. Whether one looks at modern times or slavery, more poor Whites have received help from the public dole than Blacks. Slaves and their families were totally dependent upon the master's generosity for survival. Emancipation may have freed Black slaves legally, but they never received the economic bootstraps they were promised by the government - 40 acres, a mule and \$100. They were set free without clothes, land, homes, food, education, weapons, tools, animals or any economic resources. They were forced then to remain in an dependent state.

OPTION 3 - THE CRIMINAL ROLLS

For those Blacks who cannot own a business, find a job, get on welfare rolls, and who

are not able to magically disappear, like members of any other group will find that crime or imprisonment are the next steps. Crime is not an acceptable nor a viable means for Blacks to achieve economic control of urban cities. The community is harmed by criminal activities. Statistics show that Blacks tend to commit blue collar crime instead of the more lucrative white collar crime. Blue collar crimes are usually visible and the perpetrators are more easily apprehended than the crimes of a Wall Street banker. The result is that while Black Americans make up only 12.4 percent of the nation's over-all population, they are more than 51 percent of the prison population. Black prisoners, the majority of whom are between the ages of 18 to 45, will not contribute to taking economic control of urban areas. They are spending, what should be their most productive years of life, in prison. Approximately 40 percent of all Black males in America are either in jail, in prison or on parole. Crime does not produce the appropriate economic control of businesses and jobs that we must achieve to reclaim urban cities.

Conclusion: While the reasons for crime and poverty in urban areas are numerous, the root issue is whether Blacks can or will successfully practice group economics. It is the only way to improve the low social status of the group and repair dysfunctional communities. Ethnic and racial groups who successfully practice group economics and control business development and employment are in a position to practice group politics. In our capitalistic democracy, economic power begets and dictates political power. It is not the other way around.

The Flag of Our Nation's First Terrorists

The *Washington Post* printed an article in the Metro Section on March 22, 2008, entitled "Flying in the Face of Controversy," which described a developing racial situation in a high school in Cumberland, Maryland. The article described how White students at the school proudly and boldly display Confederate flags and the reaction of Black students, some of whom were offended and even intimidated. The White students echo the rationale frequently given by those who fly the Confederate flag: that the flag is not about racism, but about the history and heritage of their ancestors in America. Racial tensions and taunts have escalated to the point that some Blacks are even leaving Cumberland. In hopes of bringing about peace and harmony, the principal of the high school banned the wearing and display of the Confederate flag on school grounds. The principal's flag policy was not well received by all. Some White students reacted with anger. They argued that the ban prevented them from expressing their appreciation for a symbol of history and therefore violated their freedom of speech. Black students, on the other side, said that display of the Confederate flag violated their Constitutional rights to be protected from intimidation and the racial hatred that the rebel flag symbolizes.

The Harvest Perspective:

Are the White students racially insensitive or are the Black students too racially sensitive? A look at the historical origin and intent of the Confederate flag provides some answers and context. When the first Southern states seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America in 1861, a civil war was inevitable. South Carolina, one of the states that seceded, actually started the war when its troops intentionally fired upon Union soldiers at Fort Sumter in South Carolina

The northern Union labeled those rebelling states that had attacked Fort Sumter as "traitors" and "terrorists."

Confederate soldiers had fired on and killed American troops and dishonored "Old Glory," the flag of the United States of America.

The Civil War lasted four years, destroyed untold lives and millions of dollars of property. After the South surrendered, Union generals, abolitionists and elected officials held the South accountable. Jefferson Davis, the president of the Southern Confederate States of America, and many of his supporters were indicted for treason. Congress passed the Davis-Wade Bill which held the rebel states accountable and punished those who had actively borne arms, held any office, civil or military, under the rebel flag. They were openly called rebels, traitors and terrorists. Southern rebels, acknowledging their war crimes, sought amnesty. The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which enacted equal opportunity for former Black-slaves, also included a provision that allowed Southern rebels to swear an oath of loyalty to the Union and thereby escape war crimes prosecution. Rebels used this provision to regain citizenship. *Continued on p. 13*

Water Shortages: Have We Reached a Tipping Point? *Continued from page 7*

areas, can reduce the expense of transporting crops from farms to consumers in the city. The process uses water efficiently, provides fresh fruits and vegetables to urban residents.

- There will be opportunities in businesses related to managing water sources, cutting water waste and pollution, improving sanitation, identifying and treating water-borne diseases and educating water consumers.

Water resources are drying up and there is no known substitute. One day water will be like "Blue Gold." Anticipate the coming shortage and plan for the future for your family and your community.

LEGAL BRIEFS

Status of Harvest Institute Freedman Foundation Lawsuit

In November 2006, The Harvest Institute Freedman Foundation (HIFF) filed a complaint against the United States Department of Interior in the United States Court of Federal Claims. The HIFF is the collective entity formed by the Harvest Institute, the Black Indians United Legal Defense Fund and William Warrior. The suit seeks the benefits promised by the United States government to Black Indians and former Black slaves that were owned by the so-called Five Civilized Tribes (the Seminole, Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw and Chickasaw). The benefits that we seek in the Complaint, are those that the government promised specifically to Blacks in post Civil War treaties between the United States and the Five Civilized Tribes. The monetary relief we seek includes 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.

The government has filed their response to our appellate brief. Our reply will be submitted by 10-8-08. After we reply, the case will be set for oral argument before a three judge panel of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington.

This is an expensive legal action and we need your help. Please contribute to this effort. You can donate to The Harvest Institute through your Combined Federal Campaign(#10008), on line at www.harvestinstitute.org or send a check, money order or credit card charge to The Harvest Institute at 623 Florida Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001.

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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Does Your Family Have DAWES-Roll Number?

Soon The Harvest Institute will make a public request for information from Black American families that will be used in the next steps of The Harvest Institute Freedman Foundation (HIFF) lawsuit.

You can get ready. Search your family records and the Internet to see if your family has a Dawes Roll number. The Dawes Roll lists people accepted between 1898 and 1914 by the Dawes Commission as members of Native American tribes. It is a two to six digit Federal Case Number, that references a particular family's Census Card Roll number assigned to Native American Ancestors by the Dawes Commission. When you find this number, put it in a safe place until The Harvest Institute requests the information in a future newsletter.

**Support The Harvest Report
and The Harvest Institute
...A Vision Beyond the Dream**

CFC # 10008
See page 22 for details

CHANGE TO DIGITAL

The world is going digital and so is The Harvest Institute. VHS has been replaced by DVDs. Television will soon change from analog to digital. The Harvest Institute is changing too.

We are upgrading and redesigning the website. Beginning with the next issue of The Harvest Report, we would like to begin replacing the mailed hard-copy newsletter, with an electronic PDF. Electronic distribution of the newsletter would reduce our printing and mailing costs substantially. It would allow us to produce the newsletter more frequently and give us more flexibility in preparing items for distribution.

The Board wants to be good stewards of the donations that we receive from supporters. We think that electronic distribution of the newsletter will help. We could redirect those savings into other programs, such as the legal costs associated with the Indian lawsuit (*see page 11*) and educational conferences.

But *The Harvest Report* is for you. Before we make this change, we want your input.

First, please send us your email address and the survey below. You can copy and paste it into an email and send it to info@harvestinstitute.org, fill it out on our website www.harvestinstitute.org, or fax it to us at 301-564-1997. To send using the United States Postal Service, please mail to The Harvest Institute at 623, Florida Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001.

1. Do you have easy access to a computer? Yes No
2. Do you have an email account? Yes No
3. Would you like to have the newsletter delivered to you in a PDF format in order for The Harvest Institute to save money? Yes No

Comments:

The Flag of our Nation's First Terrorists

(Continued from page 10)

Today, it is sad and ironic that some people still wave the Confederate flag, mistakenly assuming that it demonstrates their patriotism and love for America when it is the reverse. While the flag is historic, they seem unaware of the Anti-Americanism it was originally intended to represent; that it is still the nation's oldest and most enduring symbol of terrorism and traitorous behavior against the United States of America. Even today, it is a symbol of intimidation directed to Black Americans, whose labor drove the economic development of the nation, and who are, without a doubt, the most patriotic population in America.

Blacks are the only ethnic group that has fought in every major war in support of America. No African country has ever declared war on or fought a war against the United States. At some time in its history, the United States has fought American Indians, England, Britain, Germany, France, Italy, Cuba, Puerto Rico, China, Japan, Russia, Vietnam, Korea, and most other countries around the globe. But, neither Black Africa nor Black Americans have ever militarily attacked this country. These facts alone distinguish Black Americans as the most patriotic group in the country. No others can make such claims of patriotism. Least of all those who wave the anti-America Confederate flag. Americans should recognize and publicize the Confederate flag for what it is – a symbol of the nation's first and oldest terrorists and traitors.

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Financial Turmoil

It is September 2008 and Wall Street icon corporations are disintegrating. The nation is experiencing the biggest financial shock since the Great Depression. The crisis was so threatening that it forced the top financial leaders in the United States government to intervene drastically in the capital markets. The home mortgage market is in a state of collapse and foreclosures are at record levels. Foreign banks have successfully lobbied for inclusion in any United States government bank bail-out. The FBI is investigating fraud at the failed Wall Street investment banks and insurance company. And while the financial markets are in shambles, the reasons are far from transparent. Congress and citizens are raising questions which seem to evoke few acceptable answers. In a column in *The Washington Post* on September 18, 2008 (pA21), Harold Meyerson, economic columnist wrote about an important aspect of the crisis that is seldom understood – Wall Street’s foreign investment. He concluded his column with the words, “Wall Street’s investment banks plainly deserved to die.”

According to Meyerson, the \$700 billion financial bail-out the administration has presented to Congress, may not actually fix what is wrong. Lawmakers have not carefully defined what is wrong nor do they have a full context for analyzing the problem because they have not stepped back and performed an historical analysis. One cannot fix a problem that is not defined. Meyerson does the historical analysis and looks backwards from the present. He writes that while many lament the demise of Lehman Brothers and Merrill Lynch, during the last five boom years, “America’s leading investment institutions were plenty bullish on China’s economy, on exotic financial devices built atop millions of bad loans, and, above all– judging by the unprecedented amount of wealth they showered on the Street – on themselves. The last thing our financial community was bullish on was America – the, America where the vast majority of Americas live and work.”

*...today’s Wall Street,
“... plainly preferred
to fund production
abroad and consump-
tion at home....”*

Meyerson describes the recent economic shift that began changing Americans from producers to consumers. During the 19th and 20th centuries, there was a public commitment to building this country’s economy. Investment banking houses invested capital from Europe into the United States economy and infrastructure. Government implemented industry building programs that generated wealth that stayed in America, created a strong economy, infrastructure, employment and capital for individuals. Meyerson says that today’s Wall Street, “... plainly preferred to fund production abroad and consumption at home. ...Where (J.P.) Morgan once funneled European capital into American production, for the past decade, Morgan’s successors have directed Asian capital into devices to enable Americans to take on more debt to buy Asian products.”

The economy created only five million new jobs over the last eight years and the number declines every year. Household income has dropped. Our infrastructure is in decay and literally collapsing. *Continued on page 16*

Financial Turmoil *continued*

The ravages inflicted by Katrina have not been repaired and still define New Orleans. Our economy no longer makes things and sells them to other countries. Investment money no longer flows into our infrastructure. Instead of generating capital the old fashioned way, now 70 percent of our economy is generated by shopping. When we shop, what do we purchase? According to statistics we purchase consumer goods from foreign countries, especially China. American consumer dollars strengthen China's economy and Americans purchase lead-laced toys and tainted seafood from China.

Government instituted policies such as tax cuts, only increase the spending ability of the average American, who purchases more consumer products from foreign companies with the money. Meyerson concluded his column with these words, "Someone must invest in the United States of America."

The Harvest Perspective:

There is a parallel between the economies of the United States and Black America. Today, the United States is afflicted with same deadly disease that invaded and destroyed Black America – an inability to recognize and act in its own best self interest; to hold accountable those who accept the label of leader.

The financial crisis in the United States mirrors the crisis in Black America in the following ways. America and Black America both:

- engage in inappropriate behavior that aids and strengthens competitors;
- devise strategies and plans intended to correct complex situations, but without adequate knowledge, investigation, definition of purpose or overall goals and filled with flawed provisions.
- allow the capital aggregated from their group to leave the country/neighborhoods to enrich foreign countries/immigrant groups;
- allowed their citizens to become marginal labor forces, their own people and jobs to be displaced for the benefit of foreign countries;
- allow creation of new jobs to decline every year;
- watch as their country/neighborhood infrastructure deteriorates and crumbles at the same time allowing their consumer dollars to be aggregated into investments that build infrastructure in foreign countries/neighborhoods;
- allow those who abuse their group and benefit from its dollars, to reap unseemly personal financial rewards with impunity.

Yes, the parallels between Black America and mainstream America are disturbing because the fates of both are intertwined. Both are in precarious circumstances and have become marginalized. The PowerNomics solutions proposed for Black America, if applied to the United States of America, could help it reclaim economic self-sufficiency and independence. Black America has not yet changed its behavior and it is now nearly a permanent underclass. Will America repeat the same mistakes and suffer the same fate?

Did You Know?

What is Racism?

Racism is a wealth- and power-based competitive relationship between Blacks and non-Blacks. The sole purpose of racism is to support and ensure that the White majority and its ethnic sub-groups (Hispanics, European ethnics, Arabs and most Asians) continue to dominate and use Blacks as a means to produce wealth and power. Centuries of Black enslavement and Jim-Crow semi-slavery resulted in the majority society becoming 99 foot giants and Blacks one-foot midgets. This massive inequality in wealth and resources made Blacks non-competitive and totally dependant upon Whites for the necessities of life. True racism exists only when one group holds a disproportionate share of wealth and power over another group then uses those resources to marginalize, exploit, exclude and subordinate the weaker group. In America, Whites have used wealth and power to marginalize, exploit and subordinate Blacks. Whites can deny Blacks political office, employment, educational opportunities, business resources, a place to live or the right to vote. Therefore, according to this definition, Black people cannot be racists. No group of Blacks has the power or exclusive control of resources to the degree that they can educationally, politically, economically and socially exploit and marginalize the White race. Blacks can only react to White racism and try to alter the conditions that it creates.

Do not confuse racism with discrimination, prejudice, bias, or bigotry. These are personal and individualized attitudes and behavioral patterns that all humans need in order to make everyday decisions. Racism is a group-based phenomenon with a sole purpose of maintaining racial superiority and group-based power and wealth.

Group-based economic self-sufficiency and competitiveness are the anecdote to racism. That is the purpose of PowerNomics.

(Excerpt from PowerNomics: The National Plan to Empower Black America by Dr. Claud Anderson, page 5)

HOW SHOULD I VOTE?

The PowerNomics vision is a Black America that is a self-sufficient and competitive group. Politics is a process that decides who gets what benefits. Many Blacks have asked The Harvest Institute for guidance on how to choose candidates and policies that will advance the PowerNomics vision. The check list below, distilled from Chapter 7, of PowerNomics: The National Plan to Empower Black America, is offered as a guide to make voting selections that accomplish that vision.

Play to Win

Principle : **PLAY TO WIN.**

Politics is a game that decides what groups will receive what benefits. Do not participate in a game that is not possible to win. **PLAY to WIN.** Do not vote to exercise a right. Vote to get benefits.

Negotiate Quid Pro Quo

Principle : **Negotiate “Quid Pro Quo” agreements from political candidates and their parties.**

Be able to list the benefits your group will receive from candidates and political parties in return for your votes. Just as politicians promise specific benefits to Hispanics, women, business, immigrants and other interest groups, Blacks should vote for those who clearly promise and deliver the most benefits to Black Americans for their votes.

Aggregate Group Resources

Principle : **Aggregate group resources. Vote as a bloc.**

Voting is a game. Do not participate (vote) in a game that is not possible to win. As this nation’s only planned, permanent minority, Black Americans must always vote as a bloc.

Vote Economic Interests

Principle: **Vote your economic interests first.**

Economics controls politics, education, media, law enforcement and all levels of government. In reality, economics controls every aspect of American life.

Hold Politicians Accountable

Principle: **Hold every political candidate and political party accountable based upon their record of delivering benefits to your group. Use voting referendums, recalls and other legal measures to hold politicians accountable.**

Benefits Before Politics

Principle: **Benefits supersede political partisanship and political alliances. To date, no political party has promised and delivered any specific benefits to Black Americans.**

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Urban Farming

Puts Down Roots

There is wisdom and great economic benefit in City Farming.



West Oakland, California is like many urban cities with industrial roots. Healthy food is a scarcity. The city has old railways, abandoned warehouses, too many liquor stores and corner stores, but few grocery stores. Sixty-percent of its 20,000 residents live below the poverty line and the community struggles with high rates of obesity. This could describe most Black urban cities. But a non-profit organization, City Slickers Farms, is helping residents produce healthy fresh food by turning backyards and vacant lots into farms. Started in 2001, more than 80 urban farms in West Oakland produce everything from zucchini to watermelon to goats and chickens. Last year, Oakland's City Slicker Farms produced more than 10,000 pounds of produce.

"We're about feeding the community and teaching it to feed and sustain itself," says Barbara Finnin, executive director of City Slicker Farms. The organization began by purchasing a half-acre lot at a land tax sale and planted the first community farm which sells produce to residents at a discount. There are now five community farms in West Oakland.

City Slickers started the backyard-garden program to teach residents how to set up their own farms and make them productive. A 2007 regional health report, noted that West Oakland residents lived an average of 10 years less than people in nearby more affluent neighborhoods. The report attributed that disparity in part to, "lack of sufficient food sources." This backyard farm program saves residents money, improves overall health and creates community spaces that children and adults can enjoy. (*Wall Street Journal*, August 26, 2008, A15)

The Harvest Institute Perspective:

In *PowerNomics: The National Plan*, Chapter 6, Dr. Anderson discusses the necessity for Blacks to control as many resources necessary to sustain life as possible. Food is one of the necessities of



life. Our cities are filled with abandoned empty lots and backyards that produce nothing more useful to life but grass. As grocery stores flee low-income Black neighborhoods, residents find themselves with few choices to buy fresh fruits and vegetables to include in their diets. Whatever their choice, they will travel outside their neighborhoods, pay increasing prices, have access to poor quality produce or eliminate fruits and vegetables from their diets. Raising goats and chickens may be a level of farming that is more than some want to tackle and would require zoning changes and very tolerant neighbors. However, raising vegetables with and for your family, friends and neighbors is one way for individuals and neighborhoods to work together on building a sustainable source of food. Gardens are a way for neighborhoods - a place where people only live and sleep- to grow into cooperative communities. Urban gardens can also be business ventures with the urban farmer selling produce to neighbors.

Ownership and control of those resources necessary to sustain life is a foundation PowerNomics principle. Tools to sustain life require planning and work. Urban farming gives individuals and neighborhoods a useful tool.

PowerNomics

On the Move

Eastern Shore, Maryland

Report on WaterLand Fisheries, Inc.

WaterLand Fisheries, a major PowerNomics project, is proceeding on schedule. To date, project operation and expansion has been hit by rising costs like the national economy, but we have absorbed the increased costs, raised the price of our product and the impact has been manageable.

To recap, WaterLand Fisheries officially opened its doors for business in the Spring of 2007. The company devoted five months to renovating its newly acquired 11,000 square foot production and processing facilities. The Corporation purchased the first fingerlings and placed them in its nursery tanks in the Fall of 2007. After carefully growing the fish, the company held its first sale of adult Tilapia to a distributor on April 14, 2008. WaterLand's first sale was a major economic community event, attended by the city's mayor, city council members, officials from local banks, Maryland State legislators, representatives from various state agencies, the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Small Business Administration, the local Fox News Channel and three local newspapers. The attendees were so enthusiastic, many stayed hours after conclusion of the event's planned brief program. (See the photo of some of the attendees below.)

At the beginning of June, WaterLand Fisheries received a construction loan for the second factory building. In today's dicey financial environment, WaterLand is thankful and appreciative that its loan request was funded. We immediately began construction on the 34,000 square foot production, office space and equipment room. WaterLand projects that completion will be accomplished by the last week of October, 2008. While building is proceeding, approximately 40 additional specially designed tanks are under construction and will be installed beginning in the first week of November, 2008. With the additional production space and tanks, WaterLand Fisheries will become the second or third largest producer of indoor, organically grown seafood in the nation. When the new facility is fully functional, currently projected for early Summer 2009, WaterLand will produce 1.5 million pounds of adult Tilapia and Hybrid Striped Bass for annual market distribution.



With completion of this building, WaterLand Fisheries will have finished Phases I and II of its long range plan to become this nation's first Black-owned, vertically-integrated industry. In the Spring of 2009, the company will commence Phase III by building additional vertical components: fingerling ponds, an additional 280,000 square feet of production space and a hydroponics demonstration project. We plan that Phase IV, establishment of a national chain of seafood restaurants, will move into development around the Spring of 2010. So, be proud. Pray for continued success and prepare to buy WaterLand Fisheries organically grown fin fish.

PowerNomics

On the Move

Memphis, Tennessee

Occupy Till I Come...

Dr. Sammie Holloway, pastor and founder of Breath of Life Christian Center in Memphis, Tennessee, a committed supporter of PowerNomics principles and The Harvest Institute, realized a vision for his church that supports Black people owning and supporting Black-owned businesses. While seeking God's direction for his church, Dr. Holloway was inspired to start an association of business owners in his membership. For years it had been Dr. Holloway's desire to see the Black community possess the true prosperity this country has to offer. He understood early that ownership is an integral part of prosperity in America and that we, Black people, were largely failing because as a group we do not understand that we must own our businesses, our homes and land.

Since we now have a generation of Black Americans after integration with no working memory of Blacks doing over 90% of their business with other Blacks, other than funeral homes and barber and beauty shops, Dr. Holloway understood the importance of laying the ground work. Through an extensive Sunday morning series lasting almost two years entitled Enlarging Our Borders, Dr. Holloway taught biblical principles of how God instructed the Jews to: 1 Do business 2. Do business with fellow Jews, and 3. When to do business with non-Jews. This helped enlighten the membership that it is not racism to actively seek out your own to do business with, but it is God's direction and plan of how to provide for the needs of our families and community.

Established in 2002, the Breath of Life Business Association(BOLBA) makes businesses and professionals more successful by identifying and attracting markets for its member businesses by sponsoring business trade fairs and expositions, establishing networking and partnership opportunities, and by providing business educational resources. BOLBA is also committed to its members and the Black community to raise the level, quality and quantity of services its members deliver to the marketplace and to continually improve the professional image of its association and its members within the Black community.

A perk for BOLBA members is the Sunday morning BOLBA Business of the Week. Information for the recognized business is printed in the church bulletin and the owner(s) introduced to approximately 1000 people in the sanctuary and countless worldwide viewers on the live internet feed. Their goods and services are also displayed expo style after service in the grand lobby for the membership to browse and/or get information. Similar to the Black business directories often found in major cities, BOLBA offers a business directory free to the membership and visitors. Non- BOLBA business owners also display the BOLBA directory in their businesses.

Dr. Holloway faithfully encourages his members to support BOLBA and the variety of services they offer including accounting and finance, HVAC, apparel, beauty, childcare, computer services, construction, dry cleaning, home improvement, irrigation, landscaping, marketing and communication, pest control, real estate and property management, coffee shop, catering, restaurants and tax services.

We must support the Black community by keeping our money in our community as long as possible by seeking out and actively supporting Black owned businesses.

Do business with these until I come back. Luke 19:13b NRSV

Submitted by Pearl Holloway, Breath of Life Christian Center

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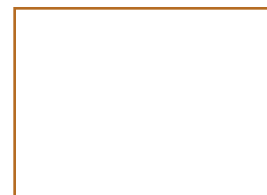
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