CALL A THING, A THING

The current President of the United States has a long history of implicit and overt racially derogatory statements. So why, when he referred to Haiti,— along with El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and seemingly all 54 nations in Africa that benefit from the US visa lottery program as “shithole countries,” does anyone question if Trump is a Racist? Isaac Farris, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s nephew, after accepting a proclamation from the White House, recognizing his uncle, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on MKL Day, Isaac Farris, Jr. said Donald Trump is racially ignorant and racially uniformed “but I don’t think he’s a racist in the traditional sense.” What???? Would someone tell me what is a racist in the traditional sense? When Paul Ryan was asked about the comment, he said it was “unfortunate” and “unhelpful.” Racism is unfortunate? Call a thing a thing, people.

In the wake of yet another open declaration and demonstration of Donald Trump’s racism, one recurring theme is operative. People in every corner of society are fearful to do what Iyana Vanzant challenges those she encounters on her Fix My Life show, to call a thing a thing. Donald Trump is a racist. Now, there, I’ve said it and every definition of the word racist supports this declaration.

These are not racially charged statements. This is blatant racism. Why dance around it? Does anyone need a definition?

(continue on the next page)
Racism is a belief that race is the primary determinant of human traits and capacities.

In a speech he called Mexican immigrants rapists, and said maybe there are a few good ones.

Racism is a doctrine or political program based on the assumption of racism and designed to execute its principles.

He had continuously held that President Obama was born in Kenya and therefore unqualified to be President – even after his birth certificate was revealed.

Racism is discrimination or hatred based on race.

An FBI investigation revealed that in the 70’s and 80’s, Black applicants seeking to rent from him has “colored” and No.9 put on their application and telling Black applicants the rent was twice as high or there were no units available. White applicants who followed were shown available units.

It has been reported that he has said he did not want Blacks counting his money in the casinos.

Racism is discrimination and prejudice towards people based on their race or ethnicity.

He claims to have never said anything derogatory about Haitians. Then said all Haitians have AIDS. Why do we need more Haitians? Take them out. We need more people from countries like Norway.

Racism is the belief that race determines certain individual human qualities, and those qualities render some races inherently superior to others.

He ascribed laziness to blacks and published inflammatory and inaccurate crime statistics about blacks citing a news source that didn’t exist.
He has a history of racial epithets.

1. Put a full page ad to sentence the Central Park 5 to death, and continued after they were proven by DNA to be innocent of any crime.
2. He took out a full page ad asking for the death penalty of 5 Black and Latino youth 10 years after DNA results proved them to be innocent of raping a white woman in Central Park.
3. He’s called for a complete shutdown on Muslims into the United States.
4. He referred to the white supremacists who marched in Charlottesville, very fine people.
5. At an event to recognize Navajo code talkers and veterans, he made reference to Elizabeth Warren for a second time, as Pocahontas. The National Congress of American Indians condemned his use of their ancestor, history and culture in a derogatory manner.

A New York Times article provides further examples. What more do you need? There’s a long history here. Call a thing a thing, people. Donald Trump is a Racist. Stay Woke!


Toni Oliver
NABSW President
Racism is discrimination or hatred based on race.

Spiritual Awakening

By Melissa Smith-Haley

“The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them.”

The late and great Ida B. Wells spoke these words that you will find on the wall of the National Museum of African America History and Culture in Washington, D.C. The museum has a tribute to Sister Wells who dedicated her life to shedding light on truth and exposing the injustice inflicted on African American people in this country in the form of lynching. She wrote and spoke about domestic terrorism, lack of justice, intense cruelty and hatred inflicted on our community primarily for capital gain and to instill fear. She was not afraid to speak out against oppression and sacrificed her safety to empower the community and expose the constant assault against us. We would like to believe that the assaults have come to an end, however daily we see gross disparities and institutional injustice that attempt to define who we are. It is imperative that we let our lights shine and use our knowledge and skills as identified in the National Association of Black Social Workers Code of Ethics to marshal on in the years to come. Liberation is attainable, and our history demonstrates that in spite of oppression we rise, We Rise, WE RISE. Let your light shine.

In America today, no Black person, except the selfish or irrational, can claim neutrality in the quest for Black liberation nor fail to consider the implications of the events taking place in our society. Given the necessity for committing ourselves to the struggle for freedom, we as Black Americans practicing in the field of social welfare, set forth this statement of ideals and guiding principles. If a sense of community awareness is a precondition to humanitarian acts, then we as Black social workers must use our knowledge of the Black community, our commitments to its self-determination, and our helping skills for the benefit of Black people as we marshal our expertise to improve the quality of life of Black people. Our activities will be guided by our Black consciousness, our determination to protect the security of the Black community, and to serve as advocates to relieve suffering of Black people by any means necessary.
(continued from the previous page)

Therefore, as Black social workers we commit ourselves, collectively, to the interests of our Black brethren and as individuals subscribe to the following statements:

- I regard as my primary obligation the welfare of the Black individual, Black family, and Black community and will engage in action for improving social conditions.
- I give precedence to this mission over my personal interest.
- I adopt the concept of a Black extended family and embrace all Black people as my brothers and sisters, making no distinction between their destiny and my own.
- I hold myself responsible for the quality and extent of service I perform and the quality and extent of service performed by the agency or organization in which I am employed, as it relates to the Black community.
- I accept the responsibility to protect the Black community against unethical and hypocritical practice by any individual or organizations engaged in social welfare activities.
- I stand ready to supplement my paid or professional advocacy with voluntary service in the Black public interest.
- I will consciously use my skills, and my whole being as an instrument for social change, with particular attention directed to the establishment of Black social institutions.
ABSW Houston Chapter Hosts 45th Annual Scholarship and Awards Luncheon

The Association of Black Social Workers Houston Chapter hosted their 47th Annual Scholarship and Awards Luncheon at The Power Center, 12401 South Post Oak/Main on February 10th. Dr. Thelma Ellen provided the Luncheon remarks for this wonderful community and noteworthy event. National Member at Large and Steering Committee Representative, Sondera Malry received the Social Worker of the Year Award for 2018. Kudos to Sister Sondera.

Brother Ronald Williams received Community Service Award; Sister Ifueko Omorogbe received Community Advocate Award and University of Houston Graduate student, Lauren Hickman received a $1,000 Scholarship.

Janice Toney, outgoing President of the Houston Association of Black Social Workers, rendered welcome and closing remarks. Over 160 members, friends, and supporters attended the luncheon. Outgoing President, Janice Toney, reminded us that "we are standing on the shoulders of our ancestors, elders and parents. Together we can do all things in decency and in order. We must continue to fight the “good fight.” ABSW-Houston will work to be the best professional, advocacy, and activist organization that the Southwest Region can profess and stand Houston Strong for our families and community. We welcome other like-minded participants.

- submitted by Sondera Malry

Membership Committee
Members-at-Large
Houston Chapter
NABSW can now boast of over 81 Chapters, three (3) Provisional, fifty (50) Regular and twenty-eight (28) student Chapters. Let’s give a big African welcome our latest new Chapters: North Central Florida (Gainesville and Ocala areas) joining 12/12/2017; Madison, Wisconsin, joining 1/8/2018; welcome back Denver, Colorado (after a 4-year hiatus on 1/31/2018).

The Membership Committee is actively working with the following potential Chapters toward affiliation: University of Georgia; Clarke Atlanta; Michigan State; Troy (AL), Augusta, GA; Toronto, Canada; Ontario, Canada, Seattle, WA, Austin, TX

From April 3-7, 2018 NABSW will be celebrating our 50th anniversary in San Diego, California. Our Theme: Celebrating our Legacy: Fulfilling the Dream. We expect over 1000 social workers and over 80 Affiliates from across the nation plan to attend. Hats off, NABSW. You’ve come a long way.

Harambee NABSW; See Y'all there!!!

- submitted by Sondera Malry and Cassandra Palmer

Membership Committee
Members-at-Large
March 5, 2018

J. Toni Oliver, President
Denise McLane-Davison, Ph.D.
Archives Committee, Chair
National Association of Black Social Workers
2305 Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20020

President Oliver and Dr. McLane-Davison,

I am writing to inform you both that this document serves as a provisional deposit form for the National Association of Black Social Workers collection materials. The Beulah M. Davis Room appreciates being selected as the organizational repository for the National Association of Black Social Workers collection materials.

The National Association of Black Social Workers collection materials can be deposited in the Beulah M. Davis Room in the Earl S. Richardson Library starting March 6, 2018. These items are temporarily deposited pending the final approval and delivery of the signed deed of gift between the National Association of Black Social Workers and the Beulah M. Davis Room scheduled for April 2018.

This decision was reached by mutual agreement between President Oliver, Archives Committee Chair Dr. McLane-Davison and University Archivist Dr. Jones to ensure the collective stability of National Association of Black Social Workers materials.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Ida E. Jones, Ph.D.
University Archivist
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 13, 2018

CONTACT: LaToya Henry
(313) 447-6404

OFFICIAL PRESS STATEMENT

DONALD TRUMP: HOW TO MAKE AMERICA HATE AGAIN!

Detroit, MI – It will take more than a presidential proclamation creating a historic park for Martin Luther King Jr. to bring to an end the divisive, hateful, and racist rants of America’s 45th president. For the president to use the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday as a smoke screen to camouflage his own vicious and vile racism, does a disservice to the one known as the Drum Major for Peace and Justice.

Trump said, in proclaiming the nation’s newest park, “Today we celebrate Dr. King, for standing up for the self-evident truth Americans hold so dear: that no matter the color of our skin or the place of our birth, we are all created equal by God.” Yet, in his remarks identifying persons from Haiti, El Salvador, and African nations as coming from “shithole countries” only 24 hours earlier, it clearly demonstrates the innate contradictions residing deep within the spirit of this president.

Often in the law enforcement community, in order to determine whether or not an individual has a propensity for certain types of behavior, they look for a pattern. In identifying Donald Trump as a racist (“one who uses prejudices plus power), the pattern has long been established. Let us review some of his history.

- Donald Trump has been identified in several law suits of racial discrimination against blacks concerning his real estate property in the state of New York.
- Trump never apologized for his wrongful attack, calling for a return to the death penalty for black and Latino youth, in the case of the Central Park Five, exonerated after being accused of assaulting and raping a white woman in 1989.
- Donald Trump is the prodigy of a father who was identified by the New York Times in 1927 for being arrested after a near riot involving the Ku Klux Klan and New York City’s police department.
- Mr. Trump is the originator of the Birther Movement, spreading the lie that America’s first African American president was not born in America but in Kenya.
- He identifies Muslims, with very little distinction, as being “radical Islamic terrorists.”
- He views Mexicans as “rapists and murderers.”

--more--
• Trump has called the judge overseeing the case against Trump University as biased “because he is Mexican. “
• Haitians, according to Trump, “all have AIDS.”
• Nigerians, according to Trump, “will not go back to their huts”, after coming to America.
• NFL players taking a knee over police brutality are “sons of bitches.”
• Nazi’s and KKK members protesting in Charlottesville Virginia, where civil rights activist Heather Heyer was killed, are viewed as “good people.”
• Puerto Ricans who still do not have adequate power and medical supplies are viewed by this President as “wanting everything done for them,” as he made a visit to throw out rolls of paper towels to the victims of Hurricane Maria.

In 1972, Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes recorded a song entitled *If You Don’t Know Me By Now*. Part of the lyrics are, “If you don’t know me by now, you will never, never, never know me. All the things that we been through, you should understand me like I understand you.” The stark reality in 2018 is that we do know you, Mr. Trump. We do understand you. We have been through a campaign and now an election, witnessing your behavior. More importantly, we understand your racist, vile, embarrassing, and dangerous policies. For those who continue to support this man, regardless of what he says and what he does, you are simply co-signing, enabling, and blessing evil, ignorance, and hate. Enough of the milk toast, let Trump be Trump, don’t pay attention to what he tweets or says, he’s never held political office, he’s simply a business man, political nonsense. He is unfortunately the President of the United States. Those who seek to normalize this political poison, choking the very life out of our nation, must not be more passionate in their darkness than others are in their light. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said it well, “Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.”

The President is obviously ignorant of the history of Haiti with our nation fighting for its own independence against England. For if he were not, he would remember that in 1779 a force of more than 500 Haitians *gens de couleur libre* (free men of color) joined American colonists and French troops in the effort to drive the British from Savannah, Georgia. Eight years ago, a monument was raised as a tribute to these men (Chasseurs-Volontaires de couleur de Saint-Domingue) who aided America in its time of great need. For the record, Mr. Trump, please note that Nigerian immigrants have the highest level of education in America, according to census data. 37% of all Nigerians in this country hold bachelor’s degree, 17% a master’s degree, and 4% have a doctorate. This is according to a U.S. Census Bureau survey. They work in the petrochemical, medical, and business sectors in most communities. It is also important to point out that they did not receive any bogus degree from the now defunct Trump University.

It appears that Dr. King’s meme of conscientious stupidity is reflected in Trump’s past statement, “I can stand in the middle of 5th Avenue and shoot somebody and I wouldn’t lose any voters.” How low can America go under this president? This president does not have the moral authority to bring people together. He provides a terrible example of leadership to our children. He cannot stand on the stage with world leaders, with true dignity and respect, trying to prop America up
as the leader of freedom and democracy for the world. This is demonstrated by his forced withdrawal from a state visit to one of our oldest allies, Great Britain, due to his blatant racism.

The tragedy of Mr. Trump is that he is still in office. Therefore, the people must stand against him and his policies. It is his rhetoric, overwhelmed by his policies, which make this such a dangerous time. We must not forget that 91% of Trump’s judicial nominees are white, 81% are male. Of the 58 nominees, reflecting positions in Appellate, District, and the Supreme Court at the end of last October, 53 were white, three Asian, one Hispanic, and one African American. Through his Attorney General, Jefferson Beauregard Sessions, he is ending the emphasis placed on 21st century policing, initiated by a Presidential Commission during the Obama Administration. This is a community approach to mutual respect forged between law enforcement and people in the neighborhoods in which they serve. He has moved away from prosecuting those who violate our voting rights. He has retreated from cases in federal courts which advocate for the right of citizens to exercise their voting franchise. There is only one African American in his official cabinet. He has moved to repeal the individual mandate from the Affordable Care Act resulting in 13 million few Americans being covered by health insurance through his disastrous tax plan. Certainly, his rhetoric will not enhance relations between African, Caribbean, and Latin American countries working with America on issues of terrorism and national defense.

We are forced to help save America from itself. America is better than Donald Trump. Therefore, the people must stand up to him and his policies. If Trump is not impeached for breaking the laws of the nation or violating the duties of his presidency, he must be un-elected. The actions of Donald Trump cannot be normalized, excused, or condoned. The very survival of our nation is at stake. Therefore, we must all step up in the mid-term elections in 2018. We must step out in the national elections in 2020. We must mobilize and organize against his policies, standing up against the efforts to return America back to a time when black folks had not rights that white folks had to respect. Take Your Souls To The Polls and vote like the future of our nation depends upon it, because quite frankly, it does!

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Central Indiana Chapter (CIC) has been on the move since last featured for the Newsletter!

After 33 years, our Chapter has continued to grow, prosper and make a difference to the city of Indianapolis, the state of Indiana, nationally, and abroad; due to our collective efforts.

Under the dynamic leadership of President Dayvid Brown and Vice President Catina Anderson, we are proud to have 45 members, renewed and new, joined our organization during the 2018 membership campaign. Our monthly chapter membership meetings average 13-15 members in attending on a regular basis.

On the national level, President Brown continues to serve on the Constitutional Review Committee and VP Anderson serves on the national Membership Committee. President Brown and Frankye E. Johnson continue to both represent the chapter on the national Steering Committee.

CIC is now certified to offer CEUs; and, at our chapter meetings informative in-service trainings are offered. Over the past quarter: training topics have included “Opioids, Drugs & Alcohol: Treatment & Recovery in the Black Community” (facilitated by our member Debra Bucker, LCSW, ICADDA); “The Impact of Mass Incarceration & Re-Entry in the Black Community”; and in December at our Annual meeting & Kwanzaa Celebration, our member Felix Okhifo, presented on “Reclaiming Our African Culture”. Member Aarika Anderson presented the “Principles and Symbols of Kwanzaa, and was our much-deserved recipient of the 2017 Dr. T.L. Roberts Service Legacy Award. Renee Vaughn, Member-at-Large, provided leadership on Public Advocacy & Community Service Collaborations, focusing on social justice initiatives this quarter.

Other highlights this quarter include members of the CIC receiving “special” invitations and attending both a private dinner/meet and greet with Nontombi Naomi Tutu, daughter of Bishop Desmond Tutu on Oct. 4, 2017. We attended a presentation and award ceremony for Sis. Tutu on Oct. 5, 2017, honoring Sis. Tutu for her work with SOHO-“Saving Orphans Healthcare and Outreach”. The Chapter members donated 53 new positive Black books to the Marion Academy High School as our Kwanzaa community “give back” Members also made financial contributions to the Home of Hope Orphanage in South Africa, facilitated by member Dr. Jacqualyn Green. CIC continues to offer scholarships to SW/Human Service students; as well as acknowledge Founder, Dr. Theresa L. Roberts, who offers a National Book Scholarship.

(continued on next page)
Special Recognitions:

CIC VP: Catina Anderson, after 14 years of Service with the Indiana Department of Child Services, effective 1/14/18 is the new Local Office Director of the Marion County North Office of DCS. Currently she is the only Black Director out of 4 directors; with the last Black director serving 14 years ago in this capacity. Another CIC Board Member, Charlisa Davis, is one of two Blacks serving as a Division Manager for DCS, and will report to Ms. Anderson. We are proud of you Catina and this most prestigious and well-deserved promotion as you strive to advocate for the welfare of our children and all children!

Frankye E. Johnson, CIC Founder & Board Member at Large, on Dec. 14, 2017 was the only Black female nominated, and recipient of the 2017-2018 Mental Health of America of Indiana “Heroes For Recovery”-Mental Health and Addiction Professional Award, for her over 25 years of work in the above mentioned areas; with primary focus on working with the underserved and minority populations. Frankye is also serving her final year as NABSW Co-Chair for the Comprehensive Health and Wellness Committee; and is a Co-Chair for the 50th Anniversary Committee.

Our Chapter eagerly awaits the glorious celebration of NABSW’s 50th Anniversary; and continue to operate and embrace our code of ethics, as we look to transform our city, state, nation and abroad…”by any means necessary”. ASE’

- Submitted by Frankye E. Johnson
Philadelphia Alliance of Black Social Workers, Inc.
50th Anniversary Gala and Awards Ceremony
at African American Museum of Philadelphia

On Saturday, November 4, 2017, the Alliance of Black Social Workers, Inc. held its 50th Anniversary Gala and Awards Ceremony at the African American Museum in Philadelphia, Pa. It was our pleasure to honor three dynamic individuals who embody the spirit of our founders. Dr. Ellyn Jo Waller, Mr. Bryant Greene, and Dr. Thaddeus P. Mathis are all engaged in addressing the needs of others. They received the Social Justice, Community Service and ABSW Pioneer Awards respectively. Our honorees received several citations, including those from James Kenney, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia; State Senator Shareef Street, and State Representative W. Curtis Thomas. Our chapter received citations for our 50 years of service as well. We had a “sold out” crowd for this auspicious occasion. Among the attendees were Baba Leonard Dunston, Baba William “Bill” Merritt, Nana G. Rosaline Preudhomme, Dr. Patricia Reid Merritt, five of our chapter’s founders, and State Representative W. Curtis Thomas. Members of the Fundraising Committee worked hard to make this event a memorable one. It was an overwhelming success. At the hands of a local caterer, Eatible Delights, we enjoyed a bountiful and delicious meal.

State Representative W. Curtis Thomas gave us a charge to continue advocating for services to those in need as we have in the past. He further charged us with addressing current issues that threaten the quality of life for Black individuals, Black families, and the Black community as a whole.
Congratulations Philly, on 50 Years!!!
Celebrating Our Legacy
Fulfilling the Dream

NABSW
50th
Anniversary

San Diego, California
April 3 - 7, 2018
NABSW 50th Anniversary

Community Health Fair

Theme:
“Life-Long Health: Mind, Body, and Soul”

Please join the San Diego Chapter and your Comprehensive Health and Wellness Committee by participating in our Annual Community Health Fair.

Date:
Tuesday April 3, 2018

Time:
10am – 2:00pm

Location:
Bayview Baptist Church
Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium
6134 Pastor Timothy J. Winters Street
San Diego, CA

Several agencies and service providers will be providing health related information, as well as free screenings and testing for high blood pressure, diabetes, and depression along with interactive fitness activities such as yoga and line dancing, to get you moving!

“It’s all about committing to “Life-Long health” as we celebrate NABSW’s 50th!

Transportation will be provided from the Sheraton Hotel to the health fair location.

Please plan on joining us for one of our best health fair yet!

“The head and the body must serve each other” - WOLOF Folktale
41st International Education Conference
“Crusing in the Footsteps of our Ancestors-
Looking Back to Go Forward”

CARIBBEAN/MEXICO CRUISE (on the MSC cruise line)

SAVE THE DATE
Friday, August 10, 2018 – Saturday, August 18, 2018

For more information, call the National Office at (202) 678-4570.