

## North Las Vegas Teen Semifinalist In 'TEEN Magazine's GREAT MODEL SEARCH(R)



Theresa Davis

Theresa Davis, 15, of North Las Vegas, NV, appears in 'TEEN Magazine's February issue as a GREAT MODEL SEARCH regional semifinalist!

Of the approximately 24,000 entries received annually, only 480 are chosen as regional semifinalists. That's 16 per region for 5

months! The field is then narrowed to 96 super semifinalists. And finally to 12 finalists. The finalists receive an all-expense paid trip to the National Finals!

The 1990 GREAT MODEL SEARCH winner will receive a \$5,000 cash award from Maybelline(R) and will appear in a national Maybelline

## New Book Explores Oppression Of Black Men

**Black Men: Obsolete Single Dangerous? The Afrikan American Family In Transition Essays In Discovery, Solution, And Hope.**

Haki R. Madhubuti  
Third World Press  
Chicago, 288 pages  
Paper \$14.95 Cloth \$29.95  
Publication date: March 1990

"Black Men in The United States are virtually powerless, landless, and moneyless in a land where white manhood is measured by such acquisitions...many Black men have defined their lives as Black duplicates of the white male ethos," says Haki Madhubuti, Editor, and Publisher of Third World Press. In his latest book, *Black Men: Obsolete, Single, Dangerous?*, Madhubuti examines key issues impacting the African American male.

Fatherhood, male/female relationships, sexism, Black/Jewish relations, aggression, drugs, AIDS, and power issues are explored. Madhubuti offers viable solutions -- tactics for survival and empowerment that are practicable in the context of the lives of Black men. Madhubuti acts as distiller of the truth, filtering through the plethora of current information about Black men to deliver only substance.

"I had grown tired of reading the sociological and political reports alleging to be about the Black condition. Most of these books, which were published by large trade or university presses and written by whites or negroes, contain only analysis without offering

ad! Also a trip for two to a resort area from Tropical Blend(R)! And a wardrobe of elegant formals from Mike Benet Formals! Plus modeling opportunities with the program's sponsors.

The winner will appear on the cover of the October issue of 'TEEN. If Theresa wins, she will be in a long line of successful models who have launched their careers on 'TEEN's cover. Past TEEN DISCOVERIES INCLUDE Cheryl Tiegs, Cristina Ferrare and Kelly Harmon.

Sponsors of the GREAT MODEL SEARCH program are Maybelline(R), Tropical Blend(R), Clearasil(R), Mike Benet Formals and Impulse Night Rhythms/Verve/Babe.

'TEEN Magazine, a Petersen Publication, serves 4.4 million readers -- one-third of all high-school girls.

workable solutions for improving the status of Black people," says Madhubuti.

A writer for some twenty-five years, Madhubuti has operated Third World Press since 1967. Third World Press is one of the few independent African American publishing houses in the nation and has published such notables as Gwendolyn Brooks, Sonia Sanchez, Mari Evans, Dr. Chancellor Williams, and actress Ruby Dee.

In *Black Men*, his sixteenth book, Madhubuti chose to focus on Black men because of the trends effecting negative change on the African American male and, subsequently, the African American family. The high Black male unemployment rate, the increasing divorce rate, the advent of the single parent family, the continuing prevalence of teenage pregnancy, and game-playing in Black male/female relationships are all discussed. Madhubuti's analysis of Black family arrangements is certain to draw much attention. In particular, his views about resolving the shortage of eligible Black men through exploring extended family structures are controversial. Parents will find his recommendations for aiding the development of children invaluable.

As in earlier works, Madhubuti stresses the importance of reading and continued study as two of our most potent weapons. He frequently refers to personal experience to illustrate his point to the reader. In one chapter, "Never Without a Book," Madhubuti recounts an early incident in the army: "On the bus to basic training I was reading Paul Robeson's *Here I Stand*. The book, according to the drill sergeant that welcomed us to the camp, was written by a Black Communist and would only confuse and corrupt my negro mind. He took the book and held it high above his head as an example of 'forbidden fruit' and, in between gutter invectives, tore the pages from the book distributing them to the new male recruits, instructing the 'ladies' to use the pages as toilet paper."

In *Black Men: Obsolete, Single Dangerous?* a wiser

## Fatherless Families Are Social Castastrophe

Children growing up without fathers are "the greatest social catastrophe facing this country," contributing to educational problems, mental illnesses, violence, and drug abuse, according to an article in the forthcoming issue of *Policy Review*, The Heritage Foundation's quarterly journal.

Much has been made of the "feminization of poverty," caused by the proliferation of female-headed households. Between 1960 and 1988, the proportion of children living without fathers rose from 11.3 percent to 24.5 percent. But, argues Nicholas Davidson, author of "The Failure of Feminism," "poverty is probably the least destructive aspect" of this breakdown of the family. Among the other detrimental effects:

\*Educational problems. Davidson cites numerous studies showing that the academic performance of children from single-parent families is less than that of children who live with both parents. For example, a 1988 University of Illinois study found that "even after taking into account the lower income in single-parent families, the absence of a father has a significant negative effect on...educational attainment."

\*Mental illness. A 1987 survey of preschool children admitted to two New Orleans hospitals as psychiatric patients found that nearly 80 percent came from fatherless homes. In addition, David-

and more inexperienced Madhubuti presents strategies gained over twenty-five years of involvement in Black struggle. Black men focuses less on the macro issues addressed in his earlier works *Enemies: The Clash of Races* and *From Plan to Planet*. Rather, Madhubuti engages the reader in an intimate discussion of the status of African American men in our society. This book will undoubtedly take its rightful place among those classics such as Woodson's *The Miseducation of th Negro*, Frazier's *Black Bourgeoisie*, and Du Bois' *Souls of Black Folks*. Like these scholars, Madhubuti aptly states the condition of Black men and defines Black manhood from an African American perspective.

Haki Madhubuti is a professor of English at Chicago State University.

son writes, studies have found that teen-agers who attempt suicide differ little in terms of age, income, race, or religion, but are "more likely to live in non-intact family settings."

\*Violence. Most gang members, Davidson says, come from female-headed households. He also cites a 1987 study of 108 violent rapists, which found that 60 percent of them came from single-parent homes, study that found "the proportion of single-parent households in a community predicts its rates of violent crime and poverty, but the community's poverty level does not."

\*Lack of self control. Davidson cites studies that find boys without male role models "are prone to aggravated doubts about their masculinity and often respond with 'hyper-masculine' behavior," in some cases abusing their own mothers.

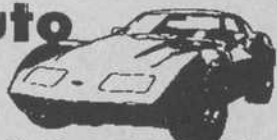
\*Drug abuse. Davidson cites a 1988 UNCLA study which found that among homes with strict fathers, only 18 percent of children used alcohol or drugs, while among "mother-dominant" homes, the figure was 35 percent. "In a father-absent society," writes Davidson, "a war against drugs is a unwinnable."

Davidson argues that public policy should be changed to discourage single motherhood. In particular, he calls for the elimination of non-fault divorce, and denying Aid to Families with Dependent Children to mothers "who deliberately give birth to and raise a fatherless child."

"None of this," Davidson stresses, "is to suggest that mothers are any less necessary than fathers. Current public policy recognizes the deep biological and nuturing bonds between mothers and children, and the indispensable role that mothers play in their children's development. The mistake of public policy is to minimize, and in some cases actually discourage, the father's equally important contribution."

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