## BUSINESS

**BUSINESS IN THE BLACK** 

Chief enemy of children of color's education is the President of the United States

## BUSH'S B.S. DEGREE

By Charles E. Belle

George Bush deserves yet another set of initials behind his name. The man often mentioned as having the longest resume in Washington is wasting the nation's time and energy with his newly proposed public school system scheme. Since nearly everything he proposed is voluntary action including funds from the debt ridden states and social service volunteer time donations a la "Peace Corp." you could give up the idea of him initiating an improvement in the nation's public schools. Selecting your own school is a nice way for white folks to separate themselves from Asisans, African and Hispanic Americans under the protection of the law. The laws for education under George Bush's plan is to put the education of the poor children of this nation back to "separate and unequal."

Everyone agrees with the President that the pupils in public school should develop world standards in the subjects of English, math, science, history and geography, as well as a foreign language (not included in this plan.) Paying for the proper education is the problem

dear George. Getting George a good education at the "proper" schools was no problem for George's rich parents. Paying for all his college education did not call for any sacrifice for the "filthy rich" Bush family. Finding the funds for college for people of color is a real commitment, not a comma in a checkbook. Bush believes that he can talk

about what the US public school education system needs and not provide the funding for the programs.

Pay for the programs to have national and state report cards, alternative certification systems for teachers, teachers' incentives and "skill clinics" for workers would have to come out of state budgets. But fewer than ten

percent of the fifty states have a positive budget to pay for these program. Perhaps an elimination of various state national guards which is a part of the national defense effort could ease their cash flow, but Bush would not back that thought! The federal defense budget itself is still ballooning.

Ballooning also will be big at

schools under Bush's proposal to allow parents greater choice in selecting where to send their children to school.

The dwindling European stock of children are being told by the Bush Administration to circle their wagons. Once they are identified as "The schools," adequate covert and overt aid can be contributed to these



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schools which - surprise - will
have very few children of color.
Calling for a complete overhaul
of the nation's public school
system seems like a system in
America, which is to Educate All
The Children - George. Everything else in education is like
your new four letter B.S. Degree.

## BUSINESS EXCHANGE

## IS WE LIVIN'

By William Reed

Ignorance of business success in our history has had a devastating effect on today's African-American. In these times, rather than deal with our economic failings in this capitalist system, "Afrocentric" activists are busy debating the degree of blackness of Egyptian queens and pharaohs. Living in a country that has a \$2 trillion Gross National Product, of which we produce less functionally useful than black-developed business plans for shopping malls, office buildings, grocery

chains or automobile dealerships.

Ignorance of our long tradition in enterprise cause today's blacks to grapple with deteriorating institutions without gaining clear insights that in the past 50 years we've bypassed important opportunities to create the type of economic base normal in the development of other ethnic groups. Our history shows that today's Black American's impotence in capitalism can be traced to the battle for Black Mind that happened between W.E.B. Dubois and Booker T. Washington.

DuBois taught that blacks should press for integration and recant our own cultural and economic development. Booker T. Washington, on the other hand, instructed the masses toward a doctrine of self-reliance. One taught that "the white man's

ice is colder and we should be allowed to use it immediately." The other admitted that whites indeed had colder ice, but that "we have the capability to make our own just as cold."

In the 1900's it was Booker T's intent to create a cultural climate within the black community that would foster our own economic development. Dubois pressured for immediate entry to institutions already created for whites. Today, you see the results of this debate when major black groups such as the NAACP, Urban League, SCLC, and our frats and sororities, hold their annual conventions at the Hyatts, Hiltons and Holiday Inns. Instead of having a mind-set to create our own hotel systems, our "talented tenth" seek immediate entry to white hotels to spend millions of dollars, seemingly unaware that nothing will

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come back to us in jobs or economic development.

Dubois, who lived almost 50 years longer than Washington, had more time to spread his errant philosophy. Washington died at the age of 58. With a steady diet of Dubois' assimilative ideas, many of today's black government employees and corporate managers feel that they are "livin' large." The "talented tenth" now have BMWs. Rolex watches, a condo in the suburbs and two kids in lvy League schools. fully 25 percent of today's blacks have incomes that exceed the nations median income level. Black politicians who represent urban enclaves, like Bill Gray and Willie Brown, have been "assimilated" into the Ole Boy Networks. But, when good government jobs get riffed, corporations downsize, and political districts get

redrawn, or repopulated, the "talented tenth" will have to park their imports and take a long look at the bottom line of their advancements. When the integrationists stop to see, they will note that the group is at its worst point since Booker T. walked around Tuskegee.

Had he had his way with the black mind-set, Washington could have helped us build institutions as he did with Tuskegee. We'd be livin' large with a chain of black hotels, have movies starring, made by and shown by blacks, write checks drawn on our banks, and get insurance from black companies.

If we knew our successful history in enterprise we'd immediately start to put our skills, intelligence and capital resources to work to lift ourselves, our families and friends out of poverty and the victim mind-set.





