

FOR THE LADIES

BLACK WOMEN ... THE KEY TO THE BLACK MAN'S RETURN

By Bonita Armstrong

Black women in America face the greatest challenge of any people in America today. That is to love and support the black man. Our people have suffered and struggled in this country now for more than four hundred years. When your ancestors were brought here, the prize the oppressor sought was the Black man. The black man was spiritual, strong, athletic, family-minded, full of dignity and strength. It was not easy for the oppressor to break his spirit. It was not a matter of simply saying to the black man "jump" and the Black man asking "How High?" It took chains and shackles, a leather whip, the stripping of education and the native tongue, and a strong dose of methodical self-hate to bring the black man under submission.



BONITA ARMSTRONG

more now than ever before. We cannot become complacent. We still have a lot of work to do to overcome the brainwashing of the last 400 years.

If the Black man is the key to the Black people's future, then the Black woman is the key to the Black man's return.

But there were two things the oppressor did not count on ... God and the Black woman. When the Black man came in from the fields, who was there to anoint his cuts and bruises? Who was there to support him and pray with him for a better day? Who was there to tell him trouble didn't last always? It was the black woman.

The Black man is the key to the Black people rising up and reclaiming self-love. It will be the Black man that eventually leads our children out of gangs and wars in the inner city. The Black man will be the tool God will use to turn our people around, away from drugs and violence and self-destruction.

But it is the Black women who is God's key to raising up the Black man. The process has already begun. All through history, when we took note of Black men taking a stand, there was always a strong black woman somewhere in the background. Whether it was a mother or a wife, she was there, supporting him, encouraging him and praying for him.

We, as Black women, cannot turn our backs on Black men. Yes, many of them are in despair and lost. Many of them are in prisons or involved in drugs or gangs. Many of them have lost their identity and want to forget who they are because of self-hate. Many of them are still slaves in their minds. But we have to see them as the kings they were meant to be.

The challenge is great, but God has placed Black women in a position of worthiness, just as he did Mary the Mother of Jesus ... or Coretta Scott King .. or Betty Shabazz ... or many other great women who stood by great men.

This is the time for Black women to stand by their men

SUGAR PUDDY

Sugar Puddin, I saw Troy Brown yesterday... girrl... that brother is just so... so... fine

Did you work it Girrl... what happen

NAIL ART

I was standing in the background... just checking him out... all of a sudden my mind, girrl jumped on a plane, landed on one of those little Virgin Islands where those Reggae drums beat louder and louder... and... and... that's when his girlfriend came from around the corner with his big mac and fries

sugar Puddin, I knew I should have gone to Burger King and had it my way

BY ZEIDA FURYEAR. (9)

CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Ann Jones, author of Next Time She'll Be Dead: Battering and How to Stop It, will be the keynote speaker at Domestic Violence: a Community Response, the first annual conference on October 14, 1994. Ms. Jones will speak at the conference luncheon which will also include a silent auction organized by and benefiting Temporary Assistance for Domestic Crisis, Las Vegas' domestic violence program. This conference is designed to promote a community-wide response to domestic violence. The Plenary session will feature experts from each of the national resource centers.

Anne Menard: National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Michelle Olvera: Battered Women's Justice Project, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Maureen Sheeran: Resource Center on Child Protection and Custody, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; Janet Nudelman: Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Family Violence Prevention Fund.

A series of workshops will highlight national, state and local efforts to address domestic violence.

More than 250 people are expected to attend. Participants will include survivors of domestic violence, advocates, law enforcement officers, social workers, therapists, nurses and judges.

MS. SENIOR PAGEANT APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Clark County at the Ms. Senior Nevada Pageant. Contestant applications are currently available for women who are interested in participating in the 1995 Ms. Senior Clark County Pageant. Applicants must be 60 years of age or older and have been a resident of Clark County for a minimum of 3 months. The pageant is held annually by the Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation. The pageant winner will represent

Clark County at the Ms. Senior Nevada Pageant.

This popular event is designed to honor women who have reached the "Age of Elegance". Contestants will be judged on community involvement, philosophy of life,

poise and talent. All eligible applicants will be contacted for an interview to determine the final ten contestants.

Contact Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation at 455-8238 for applications and information.

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