

DISCUSS CRITICAL ISSUES THREATENING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

African American Women Leaders Call Emergency Summit

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The National Political Congress of Black Women, Inc. (NPCBW), held its 1995 Biennial Convention, July 5th through July 9th, 1995, in Seattle, Washington.

The theme of this year's convention is "The African American Women's Covenant: Revitalizing Our Community Through Political and Economic Parity." The convention will address critical issues threatening the survival of the African American community.

"Our babies are dying, our neighborhoods are spiritually bankrupt, our men are incarcerated and our neighborhoods are beset by drugs and pollution," said Dr. C. DeLores Tucker, NPCBW National Chair and Convening Founder. "African American

unemployment is at an all time high. At the same time, our precarious economic status is being seriously eroded. We can't afford to sit idly by and watch the



REV. WILLIE BARROW

launching the "gangsta' rap" campaign, which was co-chaired by entertainers Melba Moore and Dionne Warwick. One of the objectives of the Biennial



SEN. DIANE E. WATSON

Convention was to consider the next steps to take in this campaign to stop the distribution and exposure of degrading music to children across the



LOIS DE BERRY

country and the stance it will take against the music industry giant, Time Warner and other corporations.

California State Senator



DIONNE WARWICK

Diane Watson was the keynote speaker at the Plenary Session entitled "Where Do We Go From Here: Affirmative Action." (See Women Leaders, Pg 21)



MELBA MOORE

total destruction of our communities."

The NPCBW Entertainment Commission held a special meeting during the convention, and were responsible for

FOR THE LADIES

SAVE OUR CHILDREN

By Bonita Armstrong

Charity begins at home...or that's how the saying goes. Charity in this reference means love. The love that we have for mankind begins at home with our families, our husbands and wives, sons and daughters, sisters and brothers.

This is going to be the key to stopping the violence and despair that is killing our young people today. We have to begin with the home. We cannot afford to wait until our children have gone too far and end up in a group home, correctional center, or dead. We must begin before they leave home every day with guidance, support and understanding.

Everyday hundreds of black boys and girls are released into the world without the tools they need to live a productive life. They may come from homes infested by drugs, poverty, physical, verbal, and sexual abuse and many other products of a dysfunctional home.

And, then we wonder why our children are in the condition they are in today. We wonder why teens turn to gangs for support and call them "family." We wonder why they turn to drugs to find peace. We wonder why they are angry and rebellious with no respect for authority.

The gang members we see in the streets every day are there because there was a break down somewhere in their home. The lines of communication were downed. What they needed the



BONITA ARMSTRONG

most was not there. But they find what they need in those gangs. They find support and a feeling of belonging. But the foundation is negativity therefore the result is destruction.

Rep. Maxine Waters says she never met a dumb gangster. I'm inclined to agree. A young person who can organize, direct, and lead hundreds of other young people is not dumb. A young man who knows how to delegate responsibility to his workers and make money for their organization is not stupid. But the negativity of the actions make ways for tragedy.

These young people are not stupid or dumb. They are in fact bright and intelligent...but very discouraged. Yes...it is true that institutionalized racism has a lot to do with the condition our children are in today. That is not the question...that is a fact. The question is what do we need to do about it now?

It's time out for finger-pointing and time to develop strong solutions for our children. It starts at home. One child at a time.

"LAST WEEK, WE WALKED INTO U.S. BANK AND LEFT WITH 2 BEDROOMS AND A BATH."



Owning a home is something you should be able to do. Even if you don't make a million dollars, drive a fancy car, or have more credit than Donald Trump.

That's why we have designed HomePartnersSM loans. They help more people become home owners because qual-

ifying is easier. And there aren't a lot of hassles, either. So before you write another rent check, apply for a HomePartners loan with U.S. Bank. Just call us at (702) 734-8730, or the NAACP CDRC at (702) 796-4090.

As always, we will leave the welcome mat out for you.



HOME LOANS FROM U.S. BANK
How can we help?