

Doll

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 to hold school segregation to be unconstitutional in the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kans., case. Arguing against the separate-but-equal doctrine in 1952, Thurgood Marshall, then an attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, cited Clark's work as proof of the doctrine's damage to the self-image of Black children. On May 17, 1954, Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren announced the court's decision to desegregate schools in Brown v. Board of Education. Clark's doll test was one of his citations as proof of the psychological damage on Black children.

The Davis test shows that psychology has not changed

very much at all. "I'm really not shocked, I am sad to say," said Julia Hare, a San Francisco psychologist. "If you keep doing what you've always done, you're going to keep getting what you've always had. Our children are bombarded with images every day that they see on television screens and on coffee tables — either the light-skinned female that everybody is pushing or they give preference to the closest to White images."

Davis' film also features brief interviews with four teens who object to having been stereotyped as less intelligent or uglier simply because they do not meet the expectations of advertisers' perceived standards of beauty.

That White-is-right image is also projected through music.

Gail Wyatt, a professor of clinical psychiatry at the University of California at Los Angeles, says she would recommend to any parent to instill racial pride into their children well before preschool.

"Youngsters come into their homes making disparaging remarks about being brown or African-descended or about nappy hair," said Wyatt. "It is a definite concern of any parent. We want to know how our children can grow up in their own skin. We can't leave that part of a child's development to the school system or the neighborhood."

Children should be social-

ized between the ages of 2-4 to understand culture and skin color, Wyatt said. "They should be taught a concept of beauty and a context of ancestry."

Kiri's mother, Ursula Davis, an education consultant, says educating her daughter and instilling pride about her heritage was a high priority around the home.

She said that when Kiri was in pre-kindergarten, enjoying the tales of Cinderella and Snow White, she once said aloud at school that she wanted to be a princess, too.

A little friend, a Hispanic boy, quickly dispelled her dream. He told her she

couldn't be a princess because she was Black and that only White girls were princesses.

For a while, Kiri believed her little friend — but not for long.

"She grew up with African art around her. We took her to an exhibit in the Smithsonian about Black women in Washington, D.C.," Davis recalls. "She began to read voraciously about Black heritage and African-American studies... She has immersed herself since she was very young and we've immersed her in the celebration of who she is."

It has obviously paid off

as Kiri looks forward to a future in filmmaking that will also instill pride.

Some parents say their children are bombarded with negative images daily.

"I make sure I know what they see and what they watch on television. And many times we are watching things together," says Alethea Holland, a Washington, D.C., mother of three daughters ages 7, 9 and 15. "And I give them each a mirror, and I try to make them look in the mirror and appreciate their beauty, and I make sure that they hear what I say, not what other people say — especially at school."

NAARPR

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 pull out [their] gun and shoot, even if it means killing someone, then having a couple of weeks pass by and being judged by a jury of my peers. I would rather do that instead of turning around and possibly dying that night..."

Tate introduced the discussion about racism in education.

"In this town there is a real crisis in education because students are not being taught. They are only being educated to take on roles as porters and servants at the local casinos. That, to me, is inappropriate, and we need to make some immediate corrections regarding this and other issues on education."

Dr. Ronan Matthew, principal at Canyon Springs High School, the only other panel member with Tate, spearheaded the discussion of edu-

cation at the forum. Several problems were named:

—Racist attitudes of the school district administration and board of trustees.

—The need for hiring staff members who are sensitive to the needs of minority students and their parents.

—The need for a curriculum that is challenging and academically enriching for all students.

—Instructional and administrative action biases based on fear and the perceived defiance of Black male students.

—Parental involvement and empowerment in the education process.

—Special education placement and unfair tracking of some minority students.

Matthew said, "There is an undercurrent of racism in

our schools. The racism comes directly from the top and goes all the way down to the classroom dealing with our students."

Another problem addressed is the shortage of African-American administrators in predominantly Black schools, he said.

Following a brief question and answer period, the 75-minute forum ended with the various candidates in attendance introducing themselves to the audience.

Another forum by NAARPR is schedule for September 13, at the Las Vegas Library from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Tate said candidates who advanced in the primaries and elected officials are invited to attend the forum, which is open to the public.

For more information contact (702) 382-5344.

Man guilty in Oprah scam

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (AP) - A travel company operator pleaded guilty to bilking about 60 people, mostly senior citizens, by selling them bogus tickets and charter bus trips to Chicago to see the "Oprah Winfrey Show."

Terrance M. Hawkins, 45, pleaded guilty Friday to 17 counts of aggregate theft over \$500.

He agreed to pay full restitution within two years, prosecutors said. Hawkins has paid back some victims and now owes about \$22,000.

Hawkins faces seven years in prison, but under a plea deal, most of his sentence will

be suspended, prosecutors said. He also faces supervised probation for three years at a sentencing hearing Sept. 29.

Operating his business under the names Royal Travel and Royal Stages Travel Group, prosecutors said Hawkins accepted payments between December 2004 and April 2005 for trips that were never delivered.

The "Oprah Winfrey Show" is free, with tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis. "Hopefully, these victims will someday get their chance to see Oprah in person without having to worry about scam artists like Mr. Hawkins," State's Attorney Glenn F. Ivey said in a statement Monday.



SPEECHLESS
 The self-dubbed "Man of a Thousand Voices," Julius, middle, was voted best male R&B performer and entertainer of the year at the Las Vegas Sounds of Soul Music Awards on Sunday at Cashman Field. The Black Music Academy Association of America put on the annual event. Congratulating Julius on his award were Judge Wendy Cooley-Williams, left, and singer Genevieve.

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