

Hate

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ican" because his mother was White and his father was a Black African, applauded Williams' charge of dishonesty against Obama.

Recently, after the inauguration, Williams was forced to apologize when he suggested on Fox's *The O'Reilly Factor* that First Lady Michelle Obama "she's got this Stokely Carmichael-in-a-designer-dress thing going. If she starts talking... her instinct is to start with this 'blame America,' you know, 'I'm the victim.' If that stuff starts to come out — people will go bananas."

NPR, Williams' primary employer, was so deluged with complaints about Williams' remarks on Fox, that the company formerly asked Fox to no longer identify Williams' association with NPR during his appearances. He was forced to apologize, and now there's pressure to have him fired from NPR.

The brazen attacks on Pres. Obama haven't been limited to just politics and commentators. Several Black ministers have gotten in on the act, using the Bible to say some of the most outlandish things about the historymaker.

Conservative Rev. Jesse Lee Peterson, a frequent guest with Sean Hannity on Fox News Channel, heads up a Los Angeles-based organization called BOND Action, Inc. He has issued "10 Reasons to Fear an Obama Nation" which include "dangerous, corrupt appointments; surrender in the war on terror; perpetuating genocide against the unborn; and 'unrestrained socialism' which he further describes as "turning America into a ghetto."

Peterson is known for saying that only Republicans and conservatives can be Christian, and "96 percent of Black people are racist" towards Whites. When preachers like T.D. Jakes and pastor Shirley Caesar hailed President Obama's victory, Rev. Peterson publicly attacked them as "worshipping the wrong Messiah."

But even Peterson's rhetoric is nothing compared to fiery attacks leveled by Rev. James David Manning, pastor of Atlah Worldwide Church in Harlem, NY.

Manning, who has made numerous radio and television appearances, and can be seen on YouTube online, made headlines last year for saying that Obama "was born trash" because he had a White mother and Black Af-

rican father. He has also called Obama a "mack-daddy."

"He got started — you didn't notice him 'til he brought out those big-chested White women with their tight T-shirts and their short pants," Manning preaches in one of his infamous videos. "That's what a pimp does. He's a mack daddy. He pimps White women and Black women. Obama is a long-legged mack daddy."

Manning has also alleged that every speech Pres. Obama has made is tinged with his "hatred for America" and White people.

Recently, Manning has alleged that "the jury is still out on whether Obama is Black or not," and suggested that Blacks really had nothing to be proud of in his election.

Amazingly, Manning does have a growing following, thanks to the Internet.

Black Republicans like new GOP chair Michael Steele have taken shots at Obama in the past, and still do, but mostly those jibes are political in nature and rarely as deeply personal.

Many analysts say that what many of Obama's critics have in common is that they are virtually divorced from the African-American community. They have no real base of Black support. Intellectuals like Shelby Steele and Walter Williams work at high profile universities and conservative think tanks, so their salaries are paid by Whites, not Blacks.

That's one of the reasons why when they attack Obama or anyone else in the Black community, they are seen as doing so from outside of the community, and thus, get no respect from inside.

The list of Black notables who have sought to person-

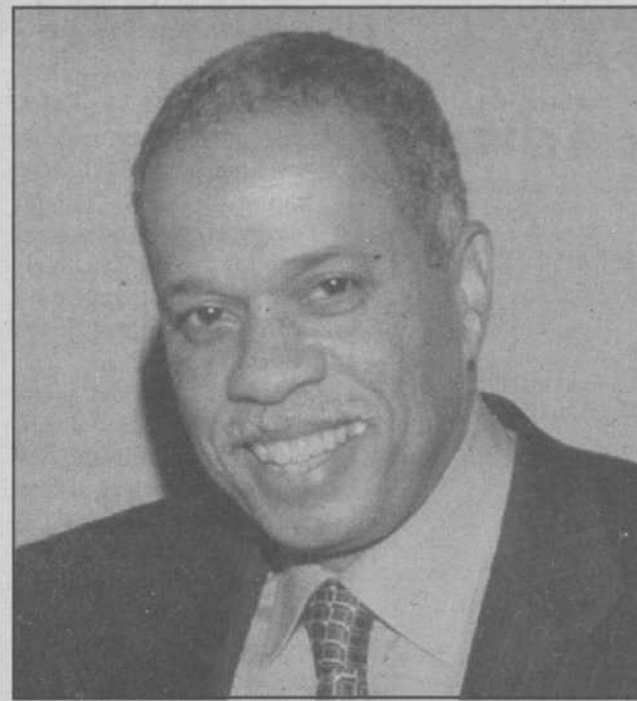
ally and politically diminish Barack Obama is by no means limited to conservatives, a fact proven in January 2008 during the South Carolina Democratic presidential primary when billionaire Black Entertainment Television founder Robert Johnson, a Hillary Clinton friend and supporter, tried to undermine Obama, telling an audience that then-candidate Sen. Clinton and her husband, former president Bill Clinton, "have been deeply and emotionally involved in Black issues — when Barack Obama was doing something in the neighborhood; I won't say what he was doing, but he said it in his book — when they have been involved."

Johnson was making a thinly veiled reference to Obama's published admission of drug and alcohol usage as a troubled youth. Johnson later apologized, but three months later, bashed Obama again when he said that if Obama were White, he wouldn't be leading the Democratic primary race over Clinton.

Conservatives, both Black and White, were enjoying the free-for-all as Black Democrats seemed to line up to take cheap potshots at the young, foreign-named political rookie who dared to say he wanted to be the next commander in chief.

When then-Sen. Obama prepared to face-off against Sen. Clinton and others in the primaries in December 2007, former Atlanta Mayor Andrew Young, a close lieutenant to slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., made it clear during a television interview that as far as he was concerned, the Illinois senator was an upstart and lightweight.

Referring to former Pres. Bill Clinton's alleged philandering in an effort to ques-



Juan Williams is a regular contributor for Fox News and has been a frequent critic of First Lady Michelle Obama.

tion how "Black" Obama was, Young, in an apparent tasteless dig, said, "Bill is every bit as Black as Barack. He's probably gone with more Black women than Barack."

Immediately realizing how off-color his remark was, Young quipped, "I'm clowning."

During that same interview, Young said, "I want Barack Obama to be president... in 2016. It's not a matter of being inexperienced. It's a matter of being young."

Even though no one from the traditional Democratic or civil rights leadership publicly came to Andrew Young's defense, even after he later apologized, it was common knowledge that there was a resentment on the part of some of the old guard like Rev. Jesse Jackson, Young and others towards Obama because he didn't come to them to ask for either their blessing or guidance.

That resentment was especially apparent with Rev. Jackson, who, even though he publicly supported Obama, openly criticized the Democratic candidate if he didn't speak out on an issue of Black concern, like the Jena 6 controversy.

Jackson's angst, and some say jealousy over the fact that Obama had clearly gone much further in his presidential aspirations than Jackson's two unsuccessful tries in the late 1980's, apparently boiled over when he was secretly taped in a Fox News studio last July telling a fellow guest that he would like to cut Obama's privates off because he was "talking down to Black people" about parenting.

"You are hurting Black America and Senator

the position opposes policies of the Obama administration... It is despicable to attack the president based on his race, and the fact that Obama has succeeded where others, like Keyes, have failed. This is especially true when the attacks come from someone with the hue of an African-American. Keyes and other "haters of color" diminish our entire race and cheapens the historic struggles and political progress which African-Americans have made."

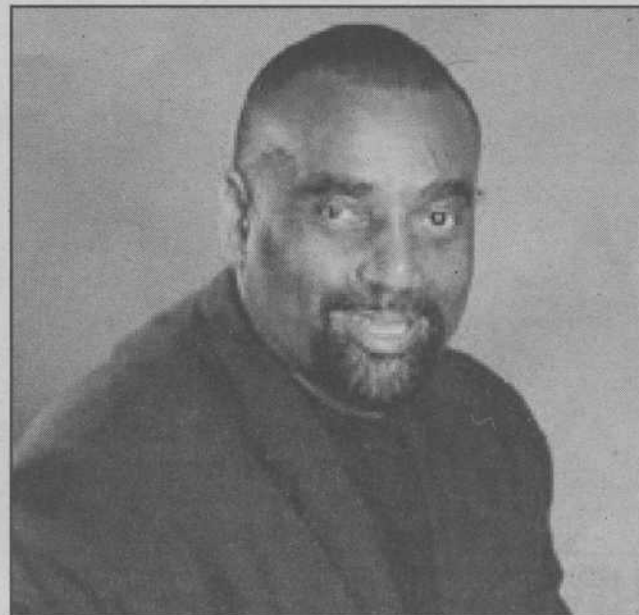
Joyner continued, "Keyes' attacks are unprincipled in every respect and he, and others like him, should be condemned by every African-American in this country. It is to be remembered that success needs no explanation or justification, and failures, like Alan Keyes, have none."

Joyner concluded, "We all should pray for Alan Keyes... because he is truly one of the very few lost sheep."

Other defenders of President Obama agree that where there is truly constructive criticism of the president and his policies from political adversaries, that should be both respected, and debated.

"I believe we have to take seriously the actions of [GOP Chair] Michael Steele and other sincere Republicans who have different but legitimate views of President Obama's agenda," Adams, said. "We must agree to disagree with their arguments and look for common ground where we can work together for the benefit of the African-American community. I am eager in my position [with the N.C. Democratic Party] to explain to our community why President Obama has provided a clear path to the future for our community and our country."

Cash Michaels writes for the *Wilmington Journal*.



Jesse Lee Peterson, a conservative pastor, has created a list of reasons that America should fear an "Obama Nation."

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