

The Black Woman's Agenda

Inner Peace & the Power of Black Love,
Revolutionary-minded Black Women

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For each of my children

Do your best. Have a great day. Remember, I am always
proud of you. I love you much.

And don't forget... *I've got your back!*

I am thankful to Great Mother and the Ancestors for allowing me to share this time with you.

In this writing, I address some of the many crises of Black women and offer some solutions as what has fashioned into The Black Woman's Agenda. I have worked nationally and internationally for the re-education of Black women for the past 20 years. I have personally taught more than a thousand women and countless children through on-going training regiments, workshops and classes. I have worked with women from Alaska to Israel, but thus, and by far, aiding in the resurgence of The Black Woman's Agenda is my most important work yet.

By the end of our time together, you will have a comprehensive understanding of yourself, how you fit into the Black woman's agenda and how the Black woman's agenda benefits you.

The first order of business is to understand that the last thing Black women need is another feel-good “BS” session. And *this* is NOT that! There are numerous crises-- real crises-- among Black women that we need to give ourselves permission to address openly and honestly. In fact, many women are reading these words while going through personal crisis. As Black women, we tend to think our ability to deal with a crisis is wrapped up in our ability to mask the toll the crisis is having on us. We do this by making sure we keep a Black woman hairdo; the Black woman nail job; and a Black woman attitude. When that gets old and we just can't fake the funk anymore, we blame it on the alcohol.

Black women must possess the right to address crises that are specific to us without feeling as if we are in any way devaluing or dismissing the general crises of the Black community as a whole. Often it is perceived as though

problem solving the specific issues of Black women somehow excludes Black men. This is not possible; as the principle of femininity is divine and omnipotent.

The whole universe is feminine. When I say female, I am saying everything. The very component of femininity is all-inclusive. Consider this. Upon conception, all fetuses are female. It is not until several weeks into gestation that the transformation into male takes place. In essence men are genetically modified women. Do I need to double back? Upon conception- when the "egg" meets and accepts the "sperm," all fertilized "babies" are conceived as female. It is not until later that the metamorphosis of maleness occurs. The fact that the male contains both the "X" and "Y" chromosomes only proves that he came from us, instead of the other way around.

When it comes to the liberation of our people, the battle lines are not all clear for Black women because our front

line has two sides- one external; the other internal. Our external battle is racism. Our internal battle is sexism- a subject Black women often shy away from. When it comes to male privilege, Black women avoid that topic like the plague. We don't want to be perceived as male hating feminist or penis envying lesbians or worst-- stereotypical angry Black women.

Well, "Black women have a right to be angry." Anger is a more than appropriate response to the calculated death of our nation. It is both an understandable and acceptable response to the fact that our children do not receive quality education, limiting their opportunities. Anger is a perfectly correct response to the fact that more of our nation-building aged men are incarcerated than the men of any other group in the world. Anger is the only response to the fact that the most dangerous place on the planet for a Black woman is in her own home. You are damned right the Black woman is angry! Now; what are we going to do about is?

Black women need workable solutions with obtainable goals. Seemingly, Black women have lost our identity and our voice. We no longer appear capable of articulating who we are; what we think; how we feel; what we need and what we want collectively or individually. Without these very basic capabilities there is no hope for the recovery of us, our families or our nation. In order to regain these skills, we must do five sobering things.

1. The Black woman must re-familiarize herself with all evidence that accurately recognizes our place and value in the measurable existence of humanity. Black woman, we have got to get a clue as to who we really are.

Why does the Black woman have such a hard time knowing who she is? What symbols are available to show her what it means to be a Black woman on any level beyond superficial? Images of graceful, dignified and

authentic Black women are purposely kept far from public view. Our brilliance, our tenacity, our vast array of splendid beauty is not celebrated (on any level) by the broad spectrum of society.

In fact, any expression of being a *Black* woman is openly rejected. The only acceptable Black woman you will see on television and in magazines is one who thinks she is a white woman. Everywhere, everyone in society (regardless of gender or nationality) is exposed to a constant “hatred for Black women” campaign. So open is the disdain for Black women that white women are often scripted to advise Black women of what we are doing wrong and why our men don't like us. When it's a so-called “Black” film, the Black woman is something Black men are praying to be delivered from (Eva).

The “big screen” is littered with Black men going out on their way and changing their whole life to save a white female (adult or child). Yet the black woman is either left in the end, didn't deserve her man to begin with or simply wasn't worth going back for. The script jumps right off the screen when you find Black women experiencing rejection and denial of value in her own home.

So who bothers to tell the Black woman who we really are? Why isn't it the topic of every Black woman's conversation that we are the literal Mothers of Civilization? Why isn't the black woman reminded that the very blood that flows through our clogged arteries, to and from our broken hearts carries the very DNA of the first humans on the planet. Why aren't we told that the vaginal opening we allow to be mishandled and abused by every Tom, Dick and Harry is the gateway to the world? All of humanity has come by way of a Black woman.

Great Mother Nature is waiting on you. The ancestors are counting on you, Black woman, to take your rightful place. Go back and read one of the old *Spear & Shield Publications* (1986), *The Origin and Nature of Women's Oppression*-- where I was introduced to the work of Nancy Tanner (an anthropologist and author of "On Becoming Human"). Tanner's work brings to light that the first human family units were composed of mothers, their children and perhaps grandmothers; that pair bonding (what we've come to know as male/female relationships) came much later- after a long period in which females "tamed aggressive and socially disruptive males." Our mothers did this by, "preferring to mate ONLY with those males who were socially cooperative, willing to share and be protective. Since bearers of cooperative genes were given preference in reproduction, later generations of males were eventually domesticated and allowed into the social group as permanent members."

Sadly we have veered so from the paradigm of our mothers that the earliest human families- the first co-op of Black women- had more standards than many of us (their direct daughters) have today. If the Black woman is to recover our true identity, we have got to establish some baseline standards. Setting standards is not as complex as it sounds. A good standard is pretty much like a good fence. It's a good barrier, it offers privacy and it's high enough to keep your dog in and your neighbors' dogs out.

What our first mothers were trying to say is...

Dear Daughters,

Only give the coochie coupons to the Brothers who are cooperative, share their resources and protect your family.

Sincerely,

Your Mothers

Great Mother Nature put her sign in the Black woman's reproductive system. Her letter goes a little like this,

Dear Daughter,

Focus most of your attention on self development, because the quality of our future will depend on the type of woman you choose to become. You will encounter many men as you journey through life. Few will genuinely love you. Most will find you irresistible. Require their best effort. Make every step a test of worth. Select only the one(s) most compatible with your overall agenda.

Stick closely to this process and your legacy, my paradigm will continue.

Love everlasting,

Your Mother- Nature.

2. Black women; we must re-establish, command and protect sisterhood with all like-minded Black women.

Sisterhood is fundamental. This is another critical area that without address will become a fatal wound to the Black community. The personal insecurities of Black women often prevent us from recognizing one another as sisters. When the script has been flipped and your life is being

punctuated with disappointment, it is extremely difficult to receive the kindnesses of another woman.

When a woman holds herself accountable for allowing mistakes to occur in her life, she will begin to doubt her own actions. When a woman no longer trusts her own judgments of character, she becomes suspicious of every other woman's character. The number one enemy of sisterhood is *distrust*- the feeling that somebody or something is dishonest or unreliable. Black women are distrustful of everything from healthcare to compliments.

Distrust comes as a direct result of disappointment. When a person is disappointed, they naturally set out to do two things: 1) understand why; 2) find someone to blame. This usually happens for the first time in childhood. Think back to a childhood disappointment. Try to recall the earliest childhood memory in which you were disappointed that

something didn't happen and you were either told or believed it was because of something you did wrong or did not do. Looking back on that situation as an adult, is it possible that there were other circumstances of which you, as a child, may have been unaware? Children are often told that they or their actions are the cause of a negative outcome. Unfortunately, parents don't typically realize the weight and feelings of guilt they are placing on a child when they tell a child they are responsible for circumstantial outcomes.

Fast-forward to your teenaged years. Think of the name of your partner from your first failed relationship that ended when you didn't want it to end. At that time in your life, why did you think the relationship ended? Looking back on that situation with the eyes of experience, what do you now realize are a few other possible reasons the relationship ended? And don't give one of those vague, superficial

answers like we were only 16; because at the time, your feelings were very real. You do not honestly believe that you did not feel the way you thought you felt. What else could it have been?

Finally, let us walk through some of your adult experiences. What has been the greatest disappointment you have ever experienced in a love relationship? And don't give me that crap about "being lied to." That is the plea-bargain reasoning that most women adopt when we can't find another explanation that is validated by society and their girlfriends. For most young women, the greatest disappointment ever experienced in a relationship comes the first time she was ever cheated on. Be honest with yourself. Did you ever ask why they cheated? Write down their "reason." Did you believe them? What did you think was the reason?

Do you see a pattern here? Your previous life experiences have set a pattern that has resulted in self-loathing. After a lifetime of being told by other people that you are the reason for the negative results in your life, you will eventually automatically associate your self-worth with negative experiences and outcomes.

Now, what does all of this have to do with sisterhood? Self-loathing, by nature, tends to ripple effect. Not only will you see yourself as the culprit, anyone or anything that looks like you will carry the association of negativity, disappointment and ***distrust***. Therefore, when you see another Black woman, your subconscious mind identifies her as a threat; something to be leery of or avoided. This division- the separation of one Black woman from another- is the key to our open enemies success.

The white man (and the Black man) knows that an unwavering alliance between Black women is the impenetrable protective hedge of the Black community and an instant “BS” repellent. Sisterhood is possibly the most valuable weapon in our artillery when it comes to the liberation and advancement of Black people and Afrikans worldwide. And for this very reason, sisterhood will **not** come easy. You must be prepared, Black woman, to fight like hell for the reconnection and allegiance with your sisters.

Sisterhood ensures the safety and feeding of the young. For example, in February of 2001, I gave birth to a set of twins. A sister with whom I had an alliance with had given birth to a baby girl a few months prior. When my twins were about a month old, my sister and her family fell on hard times. She had to find employment. Both of us had nursing babies. In a show of commitment to our sisterhood, I became the wet-

nurse for her daughter. A wet-nurse is a woman who breast feeds another woman's baby when the mother is unable.

Sisterhood ensures the safety and quality of provisions of all sisters in the alliance. It sanctifies sisters rights and responsibilities to set standards and natural value of life. The natural element of femininity reinforced by the collective responsibility of sisterhood ensures every member of the nation is accommodated. And it is this natural element of femininity that every other race and nationality have grown to rely on. Only in a Black woman's home will you find a rainbow coalition of "illegitimate" children dumped in her lap and left on her doorstep by everybody from sons who fail to launch to husbands who fail to yield to a system that fails to protect. It is time Black women begin to use this natural element of femininity; this alliance of sisterhood to benefit of ourselves, our families, our neighborhoods, our communities and our nation.

Our sisterhood will not come easy, but it will come if we send for it. Call it into existence. Speak to is by name. Every time you see a Black woman, call her out. "How're you doing today sister?" or "Sister, I like your hair." I'm letting you know up front, our sisterhood will not come easy, but it must be substantiated by commitment. What good is sisterhood if it doesn't materialize as improved quality of life? Sisters; we have to start by forgiving ourselves and releasing the lifelong feelings of self-hatred and guilt that we've carried in the proverbial "bags" Ms. Badu sings about. So this is what we're going to do. Sisters we are going to give ourselves permission to forgive ourselves.

3. We must place the preservation of our species at the top of our list of priorities.

In order to truly implement this standard, sisters are going to have to relinquish the convenience of individualism. We will

have to do away with the thinking that allows us to assume responsibility ONLY for our *birth* children. The sisterhood alliance becomes the community of self for the children of each household. The image of blackness, beauty and intellect our children learn will come from and be projected by the sisterhood alliance. It has to become the shared responsibility of all sisters of the alliance to check on the wellbeing of multiple Black children when any sister visits the local public school; not just her own. It has to become the shared responsibility of all the sisters in the alliance to organize in such a way that allows us to assume responsibility for educating our own children.

Taking this very necessary step will instantly restore balance to the Afrikan life cycle by making the child priority in the mothers' attention. This is a subcategory of the first law of nature: self-preservation. As is true for every species, conservation of offspring is the only way to ensure the

survival of the species. Though an important aid in the protection of the entire family unit, our men will then take their natural place in the food chain; right behind the women and children.

4. Black women must wield economic power and use it as leverage for the betterment of our people.

In today's westernized economic environments, capitalism is the name of the game and Black people everywhere are losing miserably. Contrary to what most people believe or have been taught, capitalism is NOT a game of chance. It is not the luck of the draw, roll of the dice or a matter of the cards you've been dealt. Nor is it the intended design of capitalism for everyone to win. The game of capitalism is hinged on the reality that there must always be a vast and ever growing group of losers called economic slaves.

Chattel slavery was highly profitable, but it doesn't hold a candle to economic slavery. During the trans-Atlantic slave trade, an enslaved Afrikan would work right along side of a mule or horse. Both the mule or horse and the enslaved Afrikan require the owner to provide maintenance and upkeep (i.e. food, medical attention and shelter). But in a world of economic slavery the economically enslaved are responsible for providing these things for themselves. This ensures the cycle will continue by compensating the economically enslaved with just enough resources to keep them reporting to work each day. Hence the term: the working poor.

Unfortunately, Afrikans worldwide have bought into this economic system as a way of life. Thus, we have become the absolute bottom of the economic food chain. Every race and nationality feeds off our community. There is no race or nationality that arrives in this country whose

economic agenda does not include the Black community as its base. Black people are the only people in the world who allow anybody and everybody to feed them. While we are the very basis of everyone else's economic program, we are simultaneously at the economic mercy of those same communities. As a people, we have not taken the time to produce, provide or secure anything for ourselves.

There is a way that we can change quality and condition of our lives and the lives of our families. There is a way that relatively few sisters can create significant economic change. It's called tribal economics. Historically, our people have always used tribal economics as a means of ensuring the progress of all members of the family, group or tribe. Today, in many circles, Black women still practice tribal economics even though we don't always realize it. Sharing food resources so that everyone can eat is tribal economics. Sharing transportation is tribal economics.

Exchanging childcare hours is tribal economics. Being the queens of making something out of nothing is tribal economics. This is where those skills passed on to us by our mothers and grandmothers really come in handy. Expanded institutionalization of these casual practices would empower Black women to harness the economic powers that currently exist in our families. We can then use the surplus resources as leverage to “up our mighty nation.”

In order for this to work, you have to truly desire the liberation and self-sufficiency of our people. If you can see Afrika; if you can see our people free you will be most interested in a project called **H.E.R. Sustainable Tribal Living Campus** and the possibility of developing a **H.E.R. Tribal Co-op** in your city. For what you pay for a head of cabbage, four sisters could grow cabbage, greens, corn, tomatoes, onions, peppers and okra. If you spend a little time with like-minded sisters, pool our resources, work smarter instead of

harder our families will prosper using the same resources we currently control.

5. We must establish successful family relations.

In order to gain an effective comprehension of this dynamic, we must first admit that we (Afrikans worldwide) are at war. Understand sisters, I did not say that Afrikans have attacked anyone. In fact, historically, the only records of Afrikans initiating war was when Afrikans were waging war against people who looked just like us (other Afrikan nations). You don't ever have to throw a punch or return fire to be in a fight or a war. Think about it. If someone walked up to you, punched you in the face and you begin to cry; the fight has started rather you every return a blow or not.

Sisters, we are at war. The objective of war is to ruin a nation. The ruin of any nation begins in the homes of its people. What is kept in the homes of any people? Family. Sisters, are the family structures of the Black community in ruins? YES! YES! YES! In every way possible, with every means available, the Black family has been ruined. The Black family unit has been ruined while keeping the slave intact. Wow. How do you ruin a family, but keep the individuals functioning the way you want them to? Have you ever gotten a virus on your computer? It corrupts the files, but does not necessarily keep the computer component from functioning. The screen will come on. The mouse may work; keyboard function, but they just can't seem to communicate with one another in any way that will make them useful as a unit. You then know your system has been corrupted. Doesn't that sound like today's Black family unit?

We have been told many things when it comes to the ruin of the Black family. If we rely on information we get from the distracters, religious peddlers and Co-Intel-Pro the Black family's current condition is a direct result of everything from Eve's fall of man fiasco to the secret life of gays. All of this is no less than a suicide-mission blame game, because NONE of those things are to blame. That's right, sister. The sister that slept with your man is not a home wrecker; your husband is. The gay couple next door is not the problem; your stalking them is.

I know you don't want to hear this, but the rehabilitation of the Black family is going to take everything from polygamy to homosexuality. When orchestrating a defense of any kind, the first thing you must do is assess your priorities. Ask yourself what is most valuable and vulnerable. The answer becomes the focus of your defense and to that end is your goal. Why am I so adamant that homosexuality is not part

of the Black community's problem? Because homosexuals are not the ones raping and killing our women and children. In a family unit, our children are our most valuable assets. Our children are the only way our species will be present in the future. Consequently, any family unit that fosters a healthy environment to cultivate viable Black children is an indisputable part of the Black community's contingency plan and therefore an essential part of the Black woman's agenda. Don't get it twisted, sisters. When Bro. Malcolm said, "By ANY means necessary," he clearly meant that the end justifies the means.

So how does a Black woman go about **establishing a successful family** unit? We have to focus on the process we use to become a family. Our oppression is systematic. Therefore, our liberation must be systematic. Often, Black women rely heavily on emotions when making the decision

to grow a family unit. This contributes greatly to the disaster rate of many Black marriages.

Readers of my work know that I stress the need for Black women to pay close attention to the business end of our love relationships. Before joining forces in a committed relationship, understand just what kind of union you need. This is dictated by where you are in life. A young woman with no children may be in the position to “partner-up” and grow a family together; while a middle-aged single mother of four might need to bring on a potential “upper management executive.”

Whatever your personal goals, assess your needs thoroughly before you get involved. Determine both your qualifiers and grounds for termination of a potential mate candidate. When conduct interviews, date without hormonal or emotional biases. Negotiate the boundaries of your

relationship while keeping your goals and assets in the forefront of your mind. Regularly inventory your relationship: conduct evaluations, give honest feedback and award bonuses when appropriate.

Successful family relations are of utmost importance (especially at this time) for the salvation of the Black community. In order to truly evaluate just how important the matter of family is, you must never forget that "We are at WAR!" When it comes to the resurrection of the Black family, revolutionary minded Black women must be prepared to do anything and everything necessary. Regardless to the theories and propoganda of others the ends justify the means.

The very nature of who we are as Afrikans has been under relentless attack for the past 2,000 years. The misogynist nature of American culture has made this an increasingly

deadly time for Black women, our children, our families and our nation. Restoring the female value system to Afrikan people worldwide is essential. The ability to articulate who we are; what we think; how we feel; what we need and what we want collectively and individually is a measurable and obtainable goal that we must begin implementing immediately.

When Black women, do these five things:

1. Determine who we are.
2. Protect our sisterhood.
3. Make Black children our priority.
4. Pool our resources.
5. Establish successful relations.

We will be well on our way to the recovery of the Black family; which is the basis of our community.

I hope that I have helped give you a more comprehensive understanding of who you are, how you fit into the Black woman's agenda and how the Black woman's agenda benefits you. I look forward to hearing about your progress in the near future, dear sister. Our team can be reached at...

www.theblackwomansagenda.com