

Local Politics Matter

He Already Had His Second Chance

He Blew It



As we have seen through our history there are certain members of the African American community who will do anything for the opportunity to make a dollar. The most horrific example of this is the transatlantic slave trade. It pains me to say that some Africans sold their brothers and sisters into slavery, all for revenge and/or personal enrichment. Anyone who has studied an inkling of African American history understands the concept of the house Negro versus the field Negro. In this instance there were some Blacks who placed the health and safety of the slave master over family and other slaves. This was an early use of the divide and conquer strategy. We have a history of such infighting among African Americans that continues until this day. During last year's Presidential campaign we saw this divide again. Donald Trump came in to the campaign with a very spotty history on race relations. In fact, during his speech announcing his run for the White House he made sure that those with similar views would support him as he characterized Mexicans as drug dealers and rapists. This was just one of many examples of our current Presidents racist views. In the African American community we have far more troubling examples. Let's start with one that I hope most members of the community are familiar with, "[The Central Park Five](#)". I don't want to use this space to rehash all of the details associated with this ugly case so I will summarize it by saying that Donald J. Trump went out of his way to falsely accuse five young men of color of raping a young white female who was jogging in Central Park (NY). The young men (the oldest was 16) were convicted and spent many years in jail before DNA tests proved their innocence. This was after

Trump took out a full page advertisement in the New York Daily News shouting to the heavens regarding the guilt of these five young men. He even called for the death penalty. This was the first sign of Mr. Trump's tendency to write off teenage boys because of distrust of their neighborhoods or the color of their skin, while assuming that jail is the place for them. Was this the forerunner to "Mass Incarceration"?

The example cited above was an early indication of the racist views that Mr. Trump holds. These views reared their ugly head once again shortly after the election of Barack Obama, the first African American President of the United States of America. As people of color celebrated around the world Mr. Trump began to make plans for the campaign that would lead to his election as the 45th President of the United States of America. For those who are unfamiliar with Mr. Trump you probably assumed that he developed some brilliant strategy that led to his victory. Well he didn't. He relied on the simplest of strategies. A strategy based on our basest instincts. Mr. Trump built a campaign on racism. Once again it was

divide and conquer. He used his power and wealth to do everything that he could to delegitimize "Our" first African American President.

With a history of racist words and actions, along with the lack of any evidence showing support for African American communities, this billionaire Donald J. Trump has shown us exactly where he stands. Despite this horrendous track record we continue to hear from many of our brothers and sisters who say that we have to give him a chance. They say that everyone deserves a second chance. Doing their best imitations of those who were allowed to venture inside during those terrible days of slavery they make the rounds on the political talk shows defending Mr. Trump's honor. As sad and shameful as it is things have always been this way. You could always buy some Negro's loyalty for a mere dollar.

To these Negros I say, Mr. Trump had his second chance after the "Central Park Five" I think that all of us know exactly what he did with it.

P.S. Has anyone out there seen the good Pastor Mark Burns?

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Race Disconnected Us,
Religion Separated Us,
Politics Divided Us,
And Wealth Classified Us.**

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