

Contact Us

Let's start the conversations that will heal our land and strengthen our communities.

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Call to Action: Drain the SWAMP



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CALL TO ACTION: We the People must **DRAIN THE SWAMP**

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility. Provide for the common defense. Promote the general welfare and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Prosperity do ordain, and establish this Constitution for the United States of America"

These powerful words used to give me chills and fill me with pride. They are supposed to represent the binding glue of the United States and yet, they have failed to do so for every citizen. The truth of the matter is that this country was "formed" by white people and for white people and, black and brown citizens were deemed collateral damage because they were never meant to reap the benefits of citizenship. History has a way of repeating itself and the truth is that there is an underbelly of power that feeds the beast of systemic racism, classism, and greed in this country. It was established for the 1 percenters. Because of that, it is time for a CALL TO ACTION.

18. Get out of la-la land: let's stop pretending that our lives are so good that these issues can't possibly be affecting us. We can no longer afford to be passive bystanders to our own demise. The sooner we realize the system is imploding upon us, the sooner we'll feel liberated in taking decisive action-together!

Donald Trump's half-hearted reading of his 'statement' yesterday was a clear message that he doesn't care about the violence nor the state of racial relationships in this country. David Duke's attack on Trump confirms that he is complicit in fanning the racist ideologies of the people who put him in the White House. Everything he says or does from this point forward is meaningless and has no bearing on the pressure that we, the black people, must put on every thread of government to ensure our rights are protected, our children are safe, and our livelihoods thrive as well as anyone else's in this country. You want to be 'woke'? Then it's time for us to roll up our collective sleeves and get to work.

*We the **black** people of the United States, in order to form a **cohesive** Existence, enforce True Justice, ensure **peace** within our communities. Collaborate our own defenses. Build **generational** Security to be a Blessing to one another, **fortify** Freedom to ourselves and our Prosperity, do ordain and **reestablish** our **rights** under the Constitution for United States of America.*

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9. Teach our children **NOW** about finances and the importance of saving, building businesses, and creating wealth
10. We must create more businesses for ourselves
11. We must support black-owned businesses
12. We must not take our black businesses/customers for granted. Accomplish this by
 - a. Not expecting/haggling lower prices from business owners. We don't do that at Nieman Marcus or Zales
 - b. Respecting our customers- open on time, say please/thank you, do quality work, don't overbook
13. We must become financially responsible- we're making liquor stores, dance clubs, fashion labels, and entertainers incredibly rich and that money is not coming back into the black community.
14. We must actively begin to move liquor stores **OUT** of our neighborhoods. There are 2-3 stores on every major block in our communities- it's heartbreaking. You will NOT find that in white or Asian neighborhoods. If you want alcohol in those areas, you will need to go to a Binny's or a grocery store. These liquor stores are NOT even owned by blacks. Why do we allow them to pepper our blocks with them?
15. Same with beauty supply stores or any business that doesn't respect us as a people
16. We must bring the Village back. This country is depending upon us to no longer be supportive of each other.
17. Build the bridge of cooperation with our white brothers and sisters. This is not only a race problem, it is a class problem as well. There **IS** enough prosperity for *every* citizen in this country. But make no mistake, black/browns are still behind the eight ball. We must all work together to drain the swamp

Black people have been sleep in this country for so long that, now that they are 'waking up', they are focusing on all the wrong things. We've had the "black and proud" movements already. We know that we come from kings and queens. We know we're not lazy and looking for handouts. We know that we once had a 'Black Wall Street'. Name it and I guarantee you, we've lauded it all over social media. But... we are still 'sleep' because we are NOT focusing on the real issues. We are still 'sleep' because we have been lulled into a sense of complacency. We have block upon block of vacant lots— businesses, apartments, and homes just... GONE. We have "food deserts" (no grocery stores within a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile-1 mile). Trains are parking their guns in our neighborhoods. Those are just the tip of the iceberg. We don't truly believe we can rise above our circumstances as a people because we still feel the weight of Jim Crow's boot upon our necks. It's time to wake up and send the loudest clap-back America has ever seen or heard. The **ONLY** way we can do that is **DRAIN THE POLITICAL SWAMP** *as much as humanly possible*. How?

1. Remove dead weight from office. This includes aldermen, judges, mayors, governors, state representative, senators, and anyone else who has power and influence over our welfare. We have major elections (including gubernatorial) coming up in 2018 and a mayoral race in 2019. It is **CRITICAL** that we are prepared to hit the polls..
2. **REGISTER AND VOTE.** Too many of us have thrown in the towel because we think the system is rigged. Of course, it is!! But guess what... it won't stand a chance of being fixed if we refuse to vote. You are part of the problem, believe it or not.

3. Educate ourselves by:
 - a. creating a coalition that is geared toward identifying EACH elected official
 - b. Finding out what their jobs are
 - c. Discovering what their track record in office is (legislation, voting records, etc.).
 - d. Distribute that information within the black/brown communities. This can be done via social media, flyers, mail, email, schools, workplace, etc.
4. Rinse and repeat 1 and 2 throughout the country
5. Create 'Petitions of Intent' to put our political officers on notice that future elections will no longer be 'status quo'. We will no longer toe the line to ANY party line. We will examine their track records and determine whether or not they are worthy to be re-elected. We will no longer except the cronyism that has plagued our governments (local, city, state, & federal). They will be put on notice that the black vote is no longer a 'sure thing' within the Democratic party and that does NOT guarantee the Republicans a vote either. When they began receiving these petitions, they will finally understand how serious we are. **If they are progressively doing a great job we let them know that too.** Either way, they will know that someone is watching them. We DO HAVE POWER. WE DO HAVE RIGHTS.
 Stop marginalizing ourselves to a specific party i.e., the Democratic Party. It has truly done nothing for us. Democratic nominees understand that blacks are heavily Democratic and therefore, they have very little work to do in convincing us to vote for them. No more. We must look at both parties equally and weigh what is being offered. We must be willing to vote Independent if we must. It is better to vote your conscious and lose than to continue to blindly to one party out of loyalty. If we are consistent, one of three things will happen:
- 6.
- a. Either GOP or Dems will step up and get things done- benefitting ALL
- b. The Independent Party will grow stronger with a new support base (black/browns)
- c. A new party will be created
7. STOP SPREADING FAKE NEWS. There is nothing worse than sharing information that you have NOT vetted. Because reliable media outlets already have a credibility issue, we make it worse by not verifying what we share. Not only that, you are actively supporting (and allowing to spread) fake news. This is damaging to the wrongs we are trying to correct, it's distracting because it incites conversations about things that AREN'T EVEN TRUE (a total WASTE of time), and it also makes us look ignorant, lazy, and uninformed. As soon as you state, "I don't know if this is true but I'm posting anyway", you have already created a credibility problem for *yourself*.
8. BOYCOTT and MEAN IT. We are WEAK MINDED when it comes to exercising the power of our dollars. Do you think it was 'COMFORTABLE' for Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, etc. to WALK MILES to and from work or to march on Washington? They car-pooled, picked up weary travelers, they made it work!!! But, tell someone today to BOYCOTT NFL FROM THE COMFORT OF THEIR HOMES and the responses are a myriad of shameful ignorance. It REALLY IS *that* serious what happened to Kaepernick. They chopped that young man off at the knees as he exercised his Freedom and we sat on our hands and allowed it to happen. It REALLY IS *that* serious how Missha Beauty supply (and many other Korean suppliers) treat us with total disrespect. Therefore:
 - a. Locate websites and links that are actively boycotting or petitioning against a company and centralize the distribution of this information
 - b. Locate black-owned businesses and websites and centralize the distribution of this information