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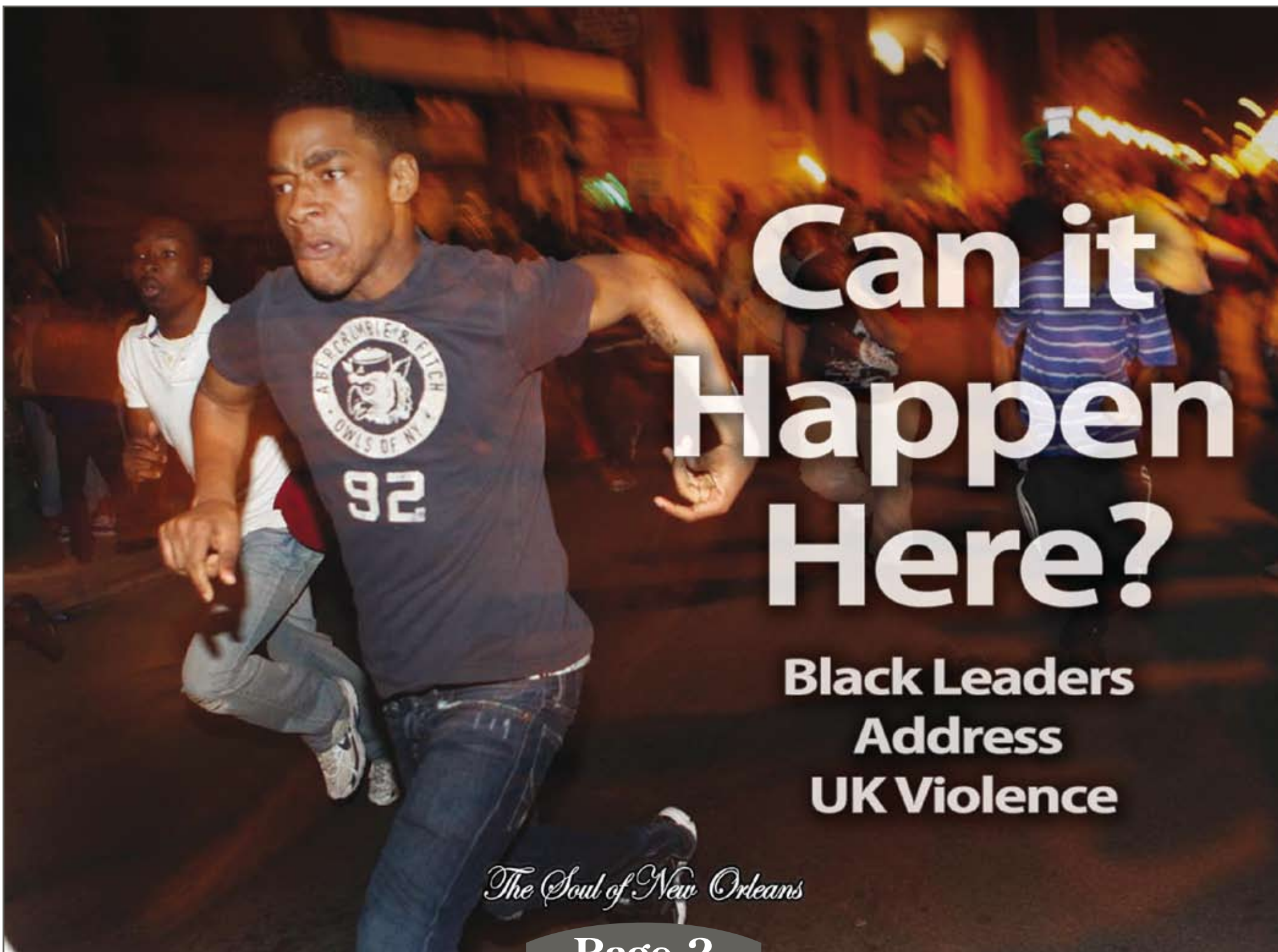
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Black Leaders Address UK Violence

Can it Happen Here?



Leaders of the largest and oldest Black civil rights groups NAACP President Benjamin Jealous and National Urban League President Marc Morial address the issue of possible civil unrest in America.

By Jesse Washington
Associate Press

A Black man killed by police. Mobs of looters. Cities charred and shaken. The riots in London mirror some of the worst uprisings in modern U.S. history.

And there are more parallels: Stubborn poverty and high unemployment, services slashed due to recessionary budget cuts, a breakdown of social values, social media that bring people together for good or bad at the speed of the Internet. And finally, there are a handful of actual attacks, isolated and hard to explain, by bands of youths in U.S. cities.

As Americans look across the Atlantic, a natural question arises: Could the flames and violence that erupted in Britain scar this country, too?

Police, elected officials, activists and regular citizens offer varied answers, reflecting the unsettled mix of race, class, lawlessness, and the chasm between haves and have-nots that may lie behind the unrest.

"History shows that the social tinder for such eruptions of massive violence and looting is usually widespread poverty without hope, and the spark is typically an

Cover Story, Continued
on next page.

On the Cover: In this March 20, 2010 file photo, young people run down South Street in Philadelphia during a flash mob incident that involved thousands and closed the street to traffic from Front Street to Broad. Thanks to websites like Twitter and Facebook, more and more so-called flash mobs are materializing across the globe, leaving police scrambling to keep tabs on the spontaneous assemblies. The riots in London raise questions about whether conditions in the United States are ripe for a similar outburst. (AP Photo/The Philadelphia Inquirer Laurence Kesterson)

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Cover Story, Continued from previous page.

incident of police brutality in the absence of a culture of police accountability," said Benjamin Todd Jealous, CEO of the NAACP. "Such conditions exist in almost every major American city."

Others, like British Prime

violence, many see it as one of a combination of factors, which together make the grip of American law and order feel less secure.

"What we're seeing on the streets in Britain right now is something we may be starting to

ultimately a Black president," Coard said.

"And it's a buffer that might be open to solving the problem," he continued. "I don't have to burn this building down, I can go and talk to the mayor ... When

1992," has seen change in the police, too.

Leading up to the riots, there was so much racial tension "you could see it coming. It was a powder keg." Today, "I don't think we're going to have another riot, because I see much more understanding, more interaction with other cultures."

The tension Tervalon senses today comes from people who can't find work or support their families.

"I feel that rage," he said. "We just endured this huge recession, but the oligarchs came out looking pretty. And then we have to cut Medicare and Social Security and leave us with no safety net?"

Marc Morial, CEO of the National Urban League, says budget cuts that lead to less jobs for young people could create problems: "I'm not prepared to say riots could happen here, but we need to pay close attention. To counteract negativity in young people, you have to create positive things."

In Oakland, Calif., the community activist and journalist known as Davey D sees the potential for unrest from people of all ethnicities who are fed up with "institutions — police, economic, even

media institutions."

Last summer, Davey D witnessed the explosion of anger in Oakland after a White police officer who shot an unarmed, prone Black man in the back at close range was acquitted of murder. Thirty downtown businesses were damaged, bank windows were smashed, a few stores looted and 78 people arrested.

He said there were more Asians and Latinos than Black people on the streets that day, and that protesters specifically targeted the Bank of America and Wells Fargo to make a point about economic conditions. "It was a class thing in Oakland," he said.

He added that there were many White rioters in Britain.

"Look at Spain, Greece, France, the Arab Spring," Davey D said, naming scenes of recent civil unrest. "All it took was a spark. This time the spark came from the Black community, but it touches into so much more."

Jesse Washington covers race and ethnicity for The Associated Press. He is reachable at www.twitter.com/jessewashington or jwashington@ap.org.

Associated Press writers Alicia A. Caldwell, Russell Contreras, Mary-claire Dale, Colin Fly, Shaya Tayefe Mohajer and Patrick Walters contributed to this report.



In this Aug. 5, 2011 photo, a State Fair employee checks IDs at the gate of the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee, Wis., after a curfew was set for youth following violent attacks. On the opening night of the fair, 31 people were arrested and at least 11 people were hurt. The riots in London raise questions about whether conditions in the United States are ripe for a similar outburst. (AP Photo/Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Jeff Sainlar)

Minister David Cameron, blame "criminality, pure and simple." That echoes descriptions of some recent episodes of mob behavior in places like Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Chicago and Ohio. Stores have been pillaged, passers-by robbed, and random victims brutally attacked by dozens or occasionally hundreds of youths summoned through tools like Facebook and Twitter.

Philadelphia has responded by tightening youth curfews, and the Cleveland City Council passed a bill (later vetoed by the mayor) making it illegal to use social media to organize a violent mob.

Racial friction is an uncertain element. In Britain, TV images have shown mixed-race crowds creating mayhem. In recent mob violence in Philadelphia and Milwaukee, attackers were Black and victims White.

The recent violence raises frightening memories of past racial unrest — the police club fracturing Black civil rights marcher John Lewis' skull in 1965 Alabama, or the cinderblock smashing White truck driver Reginald Denny's head in 1992 Los Angeles.

Even though it's unclear how much race motivates today's mob

see here," columnist Peggy Noonan wrote in Friday's Wall Street Journal.

"The cause was not injustice ... (it was) greed, selfishness, a respect and even lust for violence, and a lack of moral grounding," she wrote.

In Milwaukee, where there have been two cases since July of large group attacks, Bob Donovan, an alderman, said a "terrible disrespect for the police" has convinced him that what happened in London could definitely take place in America.

"If one person goes out on a rampage and is apprehended, they're going to be held accountable," he said. But when you have 100 or 200 or 400, the likelihood of holding everyone accountable just isn't there."

But Michael Coard, a Black Lawyer and self-proclaimed "agitator" in Philadelphia, sees no possibility of rioting there, despite the crimes that prompted the new curfew.

"In the United States, and certainly in Philadelphia, there is a buffer. We have a lot of Black police officers, a Black police commissioner, Black city council members, a Black mayor, and

our parents and grandparents fought for Black political representation, this is essentially what they were fighting for."

Philadelphia also has a Black District Attorney, Seth Williams. He said that unlike the youths in London, many who engage in mob violence in the City of Brotherly Love simply think it's fun to hurt people. He is prosecuting those who have been caught.

In the 20 years since Los Angeles tore itself apart after four White police officers were acquitted in the videotaped beating of Black motorist Rodney King, the city has elected mayors who are Latino and Black, and the police force has been overhauled.

Los Angeles Police Capt. Jon Peters said he's not overly concerned about riots, "knowing how well this organization is prepared to deal with any sort of crowd situation." He noted that crime has not increased since the recession.

Jervy Tervalon, a writer who grew up in Los Angeles and edited the anthology "Geography of Rage: Remembering the Los Angeles Riots of



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Mayor Releases Second "ResultsNOLA" Quarterly Report

Majority of Benchmarks Met in Second Quarter of 2011; Vows to Continue to Improve

Earlier this week, Mayor Mitch Landrieu released the City's ResultsNOLA report on departmental performance benchmarks for the second quarter of 2011. This

is the second ResultsNOLA report. First quarter numbers were released in June.

"When I was elected to be your Mayor, I vowed to make

says he has committed to dramatically improving the accountability, transparency, and performance of New Orleans city government. Since taking office, the Mayor

(strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis, and a set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) used to assess the success of departments in achieving their

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Mayor Mitch Landrieu

government work better for our residents," said Mayor Landrieu. "For us, it's about getting it done. When a light goes out, we want it fixed. When a catch basin is clogged, we want it cleaned. This initiative will help us continue to analyze data to make sure City Hall is performance-driven and accountable. We must and will continue to improve. I am not going to be satisfied until we're hitting all of our marks."

As a part of ResultsNOLA, the City will issue quarterly reports that outline goals for the year and progress towards meeting those goals. The report for the second quarter of 2011, which is easy to read for the public, shows that a majority of City departments' benchmarks are being met:

- 58% of the measures are green, meaning the City is meeting or exceeding its goals;
- 13% are yellow, meaning the City is close to meeting its goals;
- 26% are red, meaning the City has not hit its marks in the second quarter.

Overall, Mayor Landrieu

has implemented a robust performance management system in the city, where the analysis of data is used to promote better results and to demonstrate the public's return on investment for their tax dollars. Mayor Landrieu's investments in performance management include:

A Budgeting For Outcomes process whereby all budget allocations are competitively linked to the efficient delivery of high value services, and evaluated using performance metrics so that the public can better understand how their tax dollars are being spent;

PerformanceStat programs for key cross-departmental initiatives, like blight reduction.

In PerformanceStat meetings, senior leadership meets with key department heads and program managers on at least a monthly basis to review data to understand what works, what doesn't, and what steps need to be taken to improve;

The development of Business Plans for all departments under Mayoral control - These business plans contain each department's mission statement, vision of success, goals, initiatives, organizational charts, a SWOT

goals. These will be revised and improved each year;

An Office of Performance and Accountability to serve as the principal office for performance measurement, analysis, and management, a Service and Innovation Team housed in the Department of Information Technology and Innovation to drive process improvement projects and value-capturing opportunities, and enhanced capacity in the Budget Department to implement the Budgeting For Outcomes system. Both the Office of Performance and Accountability and Service and Innovation team are responsible for developing systems to methodically collect data where currently no such system exists.

The ResultsNOLA report released today represents the second comprehensive report of each city department's performance indicators and a continued fulfillment of Mayor Landrieu's commitment to better, more accountable government.

Landrieu closed, "We must continue to see improvement from city government. We encourage the public to stay informed and view our quarterly reports at www.nola.gov. In the end, this is about delivering a better service at a better value."

Tangele More than Just Hair... It's a Lifestyle



Tangele's Mike Acheampong, Beauty Industry Professional Janice Meredith, and Tangele's Antoine Clinton.

By Elise Schenck

They are classmates and best-friends with a combined and undying interest in fashion and healthcare. In 2006, they both graduated from Xavier University of Louisiana (2005), and returned to their native state of Georgia to attend graduate school at Emory University: Rollins School of Public Health (2007). While these are notable accomplishment for such young men they aspired to become entrepreneurs. Mike Acheampong and Antoine D. Clinton were determined to return to New Orleans with a project to enhance the life of all women.

Repatriating New Orleans in 2008 to attend Xavier University of Louisiana: College of Pharmacy and with the purpose of educating African-American women in the importance of maintaining healthy hair...Tangele

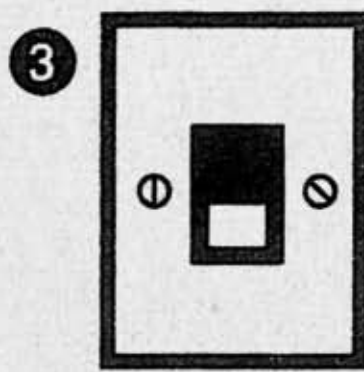
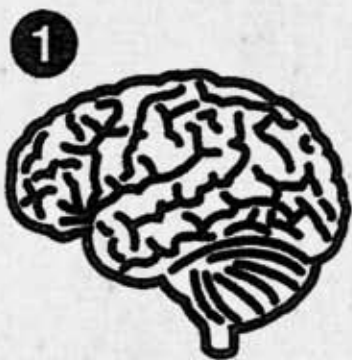
Hair was created by a team of certified stylist and health professionals understanding the need for a more genuine, adaptable, stunning, and affordable hair product.

"We believe that good business spreads by providing quality products, unsurpassable customer service, word of mouth, and adhering to our brand vision and promise; that's why you will never find Tangele Hair Products in a chaotic and inhospitable retail store," says Acheampong. Chiming in Clinton says, "Our mission is to provide the finest 100% Human Indian Remy hair, facilitated by stylist distribution and expertise; increasing consumer safety, education, affordability, and overall clientele satisfaction."

Much of the hair on the market that is affordable in many instances lacks the body, and feel of real hair.

"Tangele is unprocessed (virgin) 100% human Remy hair, designed to provide the free movement, and styling versatility of natural hair." Local stylist Janice Meredith has served as a consultant and helped to launch their product at her annual Stylebrity Hair Show to rave reviews. "I think Tangele is a great product and many stylist are inquiring about it, it is very good quality and packaged very well and I see a bright future ahead for their company," says Meredith. Another problem with some products is that it is susceptible to tangling Tangele incorporates unidirectional cuticles in order to prevent tangling and increase longevity, Tangele hairs provides opportunities for diverse looks that will radiate with elegance and lasting vibrancy! After all..."It's just not hair...But a lifestyle"

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Black Female Historians Slam 'The Help'

By: Lynette Holloway
Special contributor to Data News Weekly
from theroooot.com

The Association of Black Women Historians has joined the tide of negative voices rising up against "The Help". The group has released a statement urging fans to reconsider their support of the wildly popular film, saying it portrays African-American women in subjugated roles and relies on tired stereotypes of Black men.

An Open Statement to the Fans of "The Help":

On behalf of the Association of Black Women Historians (ABWH), this statement provides historical context to address widespread stereotyping presented in both the film and novel version of "The Help". The book has sold over three million copies,

The Help, Continued on page 9.



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Tulane Professor Melissa Harris Perry reacts to "The Help"

Tulane Professor and Author Melissa Harris-Perry appearing on MSN-



movie. "Look, the issues that faced African-American women were not 'Real Housewives of Jackson, Mississippi,' 'Mean Girls' behavior, it was rape, it was lynching."

"I know there are a lot of bad movies and troubling books, but this one got to me."

Professor Harris-Perry's newest book, "Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America", explores how African-American women understand themselves as citizens and what they expect from political organizing. Harris-Perry shows that the shared struggle to preserve an authentic self and secure recognition as a citizen links together Black women in America, from the anonymous sur-

BC's The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell, denounced the new feel-good move "The Help", which downplays the plight of Black women during segregation.

"The problem is that it is so ahistorical as to be inaccurate," Harris-Perry said Thursday after seeing the

Harris-Perry, Continued on page 9.



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Recession Negatively Impacting Louisiana's Children

Gains of the 1990s Lost in Recession

According to data released by the Annie E Casey Foundation in its 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, Louisiana ranks 49th among states in overall child well-being based on ten key indicators of child health and well-being.

The Data Book highlights key trends for Louisiana's children:

Improvements in the child death rate (9% decrease), the teen birth rate (13% decrease), the percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates (27% decrease), and child poverty (11% decrease)

Two indicators relating to infant health—low birthweight babies and infant mortality—were slightly worse than 2000 levels. However, both indicators have improved since the mid-2000s.

Both the teen death rate and the percentage of children living in single-parent families have worsened for Louisiana's children since 2000. While the teen death rate improved nationally between 2000 and 2007, Louisiana's teen death rate increased by 11% during that time period. In 2009, 42% of Louisiana children lived in single parent families—a larger

proportion than any other state except Mississippi.

Data for two other indicators related to teen and parental employment were not comparable between 2000 and 2009. Louisiana received its highest ranking (35th) on the proportion of children living in families in which no parent has full-time, year-round employment. In 2009, 11% of teens ages 16-19 were not in school and not working, ranking Louisiana 40th on that measure.

"It is encouraging to see the progress that Louisiana has made in the latest KIDS COUNT report, but Louisiana's 49th place ranking shows that we have a long way to go," said Edward Ashworth, Director of the Louisiana Budget Project. "Our children are the economic future of our state, and we must invest in their well-being if we are to have the economic prosperity we all want for Louisiana."

According to data in the 22nd Annual KIDS COUNT Data Book the economic and social gains for children that occurred across the 1990s stalled, even before the economic downturn began. This

year's Data Book reports an eighth-

cents lack secure, year-round em-

program, and the development of a Quality Rating System for child care centers. Louisiana has also achieved success in making sure that children have access to public support programs such as LaCHIP, Louisiana's Children's Health Insurance Program. The Casey Foundation highlighted LaCHIP for its innovative "express lane" eligibility program that used data from the SNAP (food stamp) program to enroll 10,000 uninsured children in LaCHIP virtually overnight.

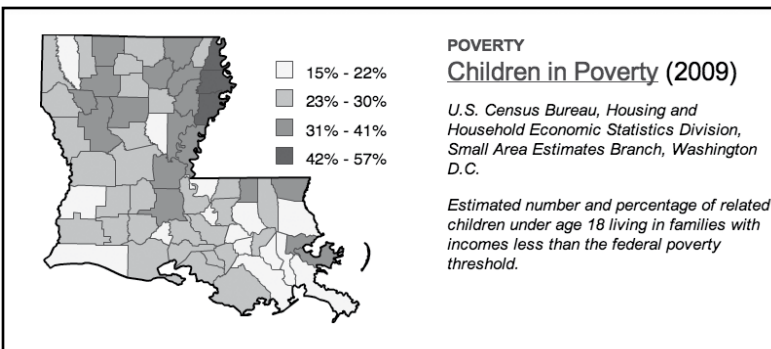
"Louisiana's investments in early childhood and ensuring access to benefits are strong steps in the right direction to improve outcomes for Louisiana's children," said Dr. Anthony Recasner, Chief Executive Officer of Agenda for Children. "However, Louisiana's persistently poor performance in the KIDS COUNT rankings shows that we still have a long way to go. In these tough economic times, it is critical that policy makers protect evidence-based programs and policies that are effective at promoting child and family well-being."

In addition to the 10 key measures tracked in the Data Book, the KIDS COUNT Data Center (<http://datacenter.kidscount.org>) provides easy, online access to the latest child well-being data on hundreds of indicators by state, county, city, and school district. It serves as a comprehensive source of information for policy-makers, advocates, members of the media, and others concerned with addressing the needs of children, families, and communities. By visiting the Data Center, users can download the complete Data Book, and create interactive maps and graphs. Visit the new mobile site being launched in conjunction with this year's Data Book from your smartphone, such as the Droid, BlackBerry, or iPhone.

The KIDS COUNT Data Book with state-by-state rankings and supplemental data launches at 12:01 a.m. EDT, August 17, 2011 at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>. For interactive Louisiana KIDS COUNT data, visit <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/la>.

Follow the Annie E. Casey Foundation and this issue on Twitter @aekidscount and on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/KIDSCOUNT>.

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Featured Indicators: Select an Indicator to Learn More		%, #, or \$
Child Population (2009)		1,123,386
Low Birthweight Babies (2008)		10.8%
Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) (2007)		25%
Publicly Insured Children (Medicaid and LaCHIP) (2009)		693,319
Youth Under the Supervision of the Office of Juvenile Justice (2009)		4,711
Children in Foster Care (FY 2007)		5,140
Pre-Kindergarten Enrollment in Public Schools (SY 2009)		34,474



teen percent increase in the U.S. child poverty rate between 2000 and 2009. This increase means that 2.5 million more American children are living below the federal poverty line (\$21,756 for a family of two adults and two children) and effectively wiping out the gains made on this important measure in the late 1990's. While Louisiana's 2009 child poverty rate (24%) was lower than the 2000 rate, Louisiana continues to rank among the bottom ten states in child poverty. Data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey also indicate that nearly half (46%) of Louisiana children lived in low-income families earning less than 200% of the federal poverty threshold in 2009.

In an ongoing effort to track the impact of the recession, there are two new indicators in this year's data set – the number of children impacted by foreclosure and households with at least one unemployed parent. In Louisiana, 39,000 or 2% of the state's children were impacted by foreclosure since 2007. In 2010, an estimated 77,000 or 7% of Louisiana children lived in households where there was at least one parent who was eligible for and or seeking employment, but was unemployed at the time the data were collected. Data on the official unemployment figures are supplemented in the report by information on the number of children whose par-

employment. With one out of every three Louisiana children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment, both parental unemployment and underemployment pose serious challenges to children's financial security and overall well-being.

"Research consistently shows that growing up in a low-income family puts a child at a higher risk for a variety of negative outcomes," said Teresa Falgoust, KIDS COUNT Coordinator at Agenda for Children. "However, we can ensure a brighter future for Louisiana tomorrow by investing in policies and programs that support Louisiana's children and families today."

The 2011 Data Book's message "America's Children, America's Challenge: Promoting Opportunity for the Next Generation," explores the impact of the recession on children and families and presents research findings on family economic success and the critical role of investing in early childhood programs that can allow the next generation to succeed.

Louisiana has made a number of investments and commitments in recent years that are in line with the report's recommendations. Over the past decade, Louisiana's investments in early education include major expansions in public prekindergarten programs, ongoing state support for the Nurse Family Partnership home visiting

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If He Will Not Fight, Then We Had Better



Bill Fletcher Jr.
NNPA Columnist

to defend the wealthy elite that dominates this country, despite their rhetoric about looking out for the common person.

There is something else that we have to face. President Obama accepted the basic Republican framework for looking at the economic crisis in which we find ourselves. Thus, instead of focusing on jobs, Obama began, some months ago, to talk more and more about national debt and budget deficits. At a point when the government should be putting more resources into the production of jobs as a way of priming the economic pump, President Obama called for shared sacrifice in the need to cut the debt. This was compounded by his willingness to concede most of the demands of the Republicans as the price for gaining the rise in the debt ceiling. The irony, of course, is that the Republican shenanigans, and the instability that this displayed, contributed to the S&P downgrade and the subsequent, renewed financial crisis. So, instead of the President standing firm in defense of our hard-won social benefits and

insisting that without a clear debt ceiling increase from Congress that he would use the Constitution's 14th Amendment to increase it unilaterally, he blinked, and sadly, the Republicans knew well in advance that he would.

Leaving aside your personal feelings about President Obama one thing becomes perfectly clear. There is no way that we can rely on him to defend the social safety net that was won in the 20th Century, nor is there any way that we can assume that he 'gets' the centrality of the need for jobs in order to get us out of the economic crisis. Whether this is due to his ties with Wall Street, his belief system, or his poor negotiating skills is actually irrelevant. What we have to recognize is that if we want any action out of the President, the everyday person will need to be the ones that brings this about.

How? We will have to make more noise than the Tea Party element. We will need to have protests, not just in Washington, D.C., but throughout the USA. The unem-

ployed need to assemble in state capitals and insist that they will not be allowed to starve. Workers facing layoffs and demands for concessions must receive support from the rest of us so that they are not standing alone. And, yes, in 2012, we must run and support candidates that have a demonstrated record of being on the side of working people and the poor. We do not need those who will talk out of both sides of their mouths and offer us heart-warming speeches. We need politicians who are with us in the trenches, fighting the good fight. The decisions about our economy will be made both in Washington and in corporate board rooms. If working people do not make their voices heard and flex their muscles—in the streets and in the election booths—just guess who will come out on top?

Bill Fletcher, Jr. is a Senior Scholar with the Institute for Policy Studies, the immediate past president of TransAfrica Forum, and the co-author of "Solidarity Divided." He can be reached at papaq54@hotmail.com.

The Help, Continued from page 6.

and heavy promotion of the movie will ensure its success at the box office. Despite efforts to market the book and the film as a progressive story of triumph over racial injustice, "The Help" distorts, ignores, and trivializes the experiences of Black domestic workers. We are specifically concerned about the representations of Black life and the lack of attention given to sexual harassment and civil rights activism.

During the 1960s, the era covered in "The Help", legal segregation and economic inequalities limited Black women's employment opportunities. Up to 90 per cent of working Black women in the South labored as domestic servants in White homes. The Help's representation of these women is a disappointing resurrection of Mammy – a mythical stereotype of Black women who were compelled, either by slavery or segregation, to serve White families. Portrayed as asexual, loyal, and contented caretakers of Whites, the caricature of Mammy allowed mainstream America to ignore the systemic racism that bound Black women to back-breaking, low paying jobs where employers routinely exploited them. The popularity of this most recent iteration is troubling because it reveals a contemporary nostalgia for the days when a Black woman could only hope to clean the White House rather than reside in it.

Both versions of "The Help" also misrepresent African-American speech and culture. Set in the South, the appropriate

regional accent gives way to a child-like, over-exaggerated "Black" dialect. In the film, for example, the primary character, Aibileen, reassures a young White child that, "You is smat, you is kind, you is important." In the book, Black women refer to the Lord as the "Law," an irreverent depiction of Black vernacular. For centuries, Black women and men have drawn strength from their community institutions. The Black family, in particular provided support and the validation of personhood necessary to stand against adversity. We do not recognize the Black community described in "The Help" where most of the Black male characters are depicted as drunkards, abusive, or absent.

Such distorted images are misleading and do not represent the historical realities

of Black masculinity and manhood.

Furthermore, African-American domestic workers often suffered sexual harassment as well as physical and verbal abuse in the homes of White employers. For example, a recently discovered letter written by Civil Rights Activist Rosa Parks indicates that she, like many Black domestic workers, lived under the threat and sometimes reality of sexual assault. The film, on the other hand, makes light of Black women's fears and vulnerabilities turning them into moments of comic relief.

What do you think? Join our discussion on Facebook and let us know what you think? Is "The Help" a good movie depicting Black Domestic Help in the Jim Crow South, or is it another vehicle of Black exploitation?

Harris-Perry, Continued from page 6.

vivors of Hurricane Katrina to the current First Lady of the United States.

Melissa Harris-Perry is Professor of Political Science at Tulane University, where she is Founding Director of the Project on Gender, Race, and Politics in the South. She is also the Author of Barbershops, Bibles, and BET: Everyday Talk and Black Political Thought, winner of the 2005 Best Book Award, Racial and Ethnic Political Identities, Ideologies and Theories Category of the Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Section, American Political Science Association and co-winner of the 2005 W.E.B. Du Bois Book Award, National Conference of Black Political Scientist.

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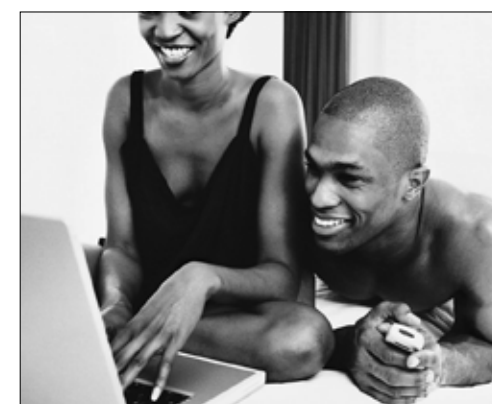
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Gameloft to Open Major Development Studio in New Orleans

One of largest mobile video game companies in world to employ nearly 150 individuals

Greater New Orleans, Inc., the economic development alliance for the 10-parish Greater New Orleans region, joined Governor Bobby Jindal and Gameloft S.A. executives Samir El Agili and Da-

vid Hague to announce that the company is establishing a new video game development studio in New Orleans. Headquartered in Paris, Gameloft is one of the world's largest publishers of digital and social games. The company will create 146 jobs during the next decade, with an average salary of \$69,000, plus benefits.

The new Gameloft studio in New Orleans is the result of

a yearlong coordinated effort among GNO, Inc., Louisiana Economic Development (LED), New Orleans Business Alliance, and numerous other local partners. The organizations assisted Gameloft in numerous areas, including talent recruitment, incentives, commercial real estate options, and integration into the regional community. Due in part to these efforts, Gameloft chose

New Orleans over several traditional technology hubs throughout the United States.

"Gameloft's decision to open a major studio in Greater New Orleans is an emphatic validation of the potential for software development in our region," said Michael Hecht, President and CEO of GNO, Inc. "Further, it demonstrates the unprecedented effectiveness of the partnership that exists between the State of Louisiana, GNO, Inc., and our local partners. Gameloft was a team effort, and we can expect many more victories together."

Recognized as the 2011 Developer of the Year for mobile games by PocketGamer, a U.K.-based publication that tracks the industry, Gameloft operates more than two dozen studios worldwide and employs approximately 4,000 people.

"Gameloft's decision to establish a major new development studio in New Orleans is one of the most exciting project wins in Louisiana's recent track record of growing digital media projects," said Gov. Bobby Jindal. "We're excited to bring one of the world's leading publishers of digital and social games to our state, and we're particularly excited that our young people in New Orleans no longer have to look beyond our state's borders to find some of the most exciting career opportunities in the world."

In recent years, the Greater New Orleans area has consistently ranked among the top locations for digital media companies. From major developers looking to expand or relocate to startups and entrepreneurs, the region is cementing its reputation as a hotbed of innovation.

"Bringing in a major international competitor like Gameloft is a win for New Orleans," said Mayor Mitch Landrieu. "The addition of these high-paying, cutting-edge jobs shows the growing confidence in our workforce and continues our recent economic momentum. New Orleans' digital

media industry, with our tax incentives and entrepreneurial spirit, is primed for continued growth."

To secure the Gameloft studio project, LED offered the company performance-based grants of \$1.5 million at the outset to cover the costs of establishing the studio; \$2 million, payable in 10 annual installments, to offset leasing or financing costs for the studio; and \$200,000 to defray relocation costs of setting up the New Orleans operation.

"As we seek to expand our presence in the U.S. we are looking for the most talented gaming professionals to help us maintain our position as an industry leader in digital and social games," said Samir El Agili, General Studio Manager for the U.S. and Latin America at Gameloft. "New Orleans presents the perfect opportunity to not only draw from a rich talent pool, but to incorporate the unique and world-class culture in which the studio resides into our own as well."

GNO, Inc. partnered with Louisiana FastStart—ranked as the number one workforce development solution in the U.S.—to create a job recruitment website for Gameloft. In the span of two months, the site, aided by an aggressive social media campaign, attracted approximately 700 qualified applicants, 60,000 page views, and nearly 2 million impressions.

"Working in partnership with LED and GNO, Inc., it is our intent to position New Orleans as a viable hub for companies at the bleeding edge of innovation in social media, mobile content, and new forms of entertainment," said Rodrick Miller, CEO of New Orleans Business Alliance. "Gameloft's decision to establish their studio here in Orleans Parish speaks to the dynamism and creativity of the 'new' New Orleans and the scale of opportunity for job creation in the digital entertainment arena."

For more information on Gameloft's decision to expand to New Orleans, visit www.gnoinc.org.

Four New Chairs Provide Leadership at Xavier University This Fall

Four academic departments and divisions are under new leadership this school year at Xavier University of Louisiana according to Dr. Anil Kukreja, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Taking over the chairmanship in their respective Arts & Sciences disciplines are Dr. Christopher Faircloth in Sociology, Dr. Ross Louis in Communications, Dr. Joe Ricks, Jr. in the Division of Business, and Dr. Paul Schafer in Philosophy.

Faircloth, holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Florida and has been at Xavier since 2006. He regularly teaches Medical Sociology, Sociological Theory, Popular Culture and Society, and Sociology of Deviance. He has just completed invited chapters for *The Interview Handbook*, 2nd Edition (Sage) and *The Handbook of the Body* (Routledge), and is currently researching how cancer treatment for patients with leukemia and lymphoma impacts individual's perceptions of body and self with a co-investigator at the LSU Health Science Center.

Louis, who has been at XU since 2003, holds a Ph.D. in communication studies from LSU. His subject areas include Public Speaking, Performance of Literature, Theatre, Health Communi-

cation, and Intercultural Communication, in addition to the Freshman Seminar course. He also serves as Associate Director of the Center for Undergraduate Research and the Editor of the XULaneXUS, the University's online undergraduate research journal. His current research interest is how citizenship is performed in post-Katrina New Orleans via cultural performances (such as Mardi Gras).

Ricks, the J.P. Morgan Chase Professor of Sales & Marketing, has taught at Xavier for 14 years, specializing in such areas as Multivariate Analysis and Sales Force Management and Marketing Research. He has also served as chair of the coordinating committee of the University Academic Assembly. His current research is examining emotions in the sales profession, and he and his colleagues at other universities have one manuscript "Sales Manager Support: Fostering Emotional Health in Salespeople" accepted for publication in the *European Journal of Marketing* and a second "Managing Emotions in Personal Selling ..." is under consideration. He holds a Ph.D. in business from LSU.

Schafer, who holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy from DePaul University, is in his 12th year at Xavier.

His teaching assignments include Great Books in Philosophy, Problems in Philosophy, Business Ethics, Health Ethics, Philosophy of Science, History of Ancient & Medieval Philosophy, History of Modern Philosophy, and 19th & 20th Century Philosophy.

He is also leader of Course Portfolio Working Group in CAT and co-advisor for Xavier's Forensics & Debate Team. He current research interests are the development of Karl Marx's early writings and effective practices for successful college level reading.

Fourteen other faculty chairs have returned to guide their respective departments and divisions for yet another school year. They include:

Dr. Murty Akundi in Physics/Engineering, Dr. Gurdial Arora in Mathematics, Dr. Andrea Edwards in Computer Science, Dr. Jerry Farmer in Theology, Dr. Nicole Greene in English, Dr. Rosalind Hale in the Division of Education, Dr. Elliott Hammer in Psychology, Dr. Shubha Ireland in Biology, Bro. Herman Johnson in Languages, Nora Olgyay in art, Dr. Steven Salm in History, Dr. Cheryl Stevens in Chemistry, Dr. Timothy Turner in Music, and Dr. Pamela Waldron-Moore in Political Science.

Is Criticism of President Obama by Blacks a Betrayal?

By Yussuf J. Simmonds
Special to the NNPA from
the Los Angeles Sentinel

Professor Cornel West and talk show host Tavis Smiley do seem to think so; they have embarked on a nationwide tour to showcase what they see as Obama not doing enough for Black folks.

As they embark on a nationwide tour, Professor Cornel West and Tavis Smiley have said that they will highlight hardships in communities across the nation, especially the Black and poor communities. The bus tour, which is drawing large crowds and media attention, is focused on the President's policies that West and Smiley believes are not inclusive of Blacks. Furthermore, they believe that the President does not have a Black agenda, and the question is should he? After all, supporters say that President Obama is not the president of Black America; he is the president of all of America.

Some Black lawmakers are said to be beginning a campaign to address the staggering unemployment rate among African-Americans, an issue that has become a growing source of tension between members of the Congressional Black Caucus and the Obama Administration. Lack of jobs for Blacks has created tension between Black lawmakers and President Obama.

Smiley and West will be kicking off the bus tour right in the heart of Chicago's Black community, the President's 'front yard.' And although West states, "it is not an anti-Obama tour," it does appear to highlight what they say is lack of effort by both the President and Congress to address the needs of the Americans who have been hardest hit by the recession. West has received criticism for speaking out against Obama.

Not too long ago, a colleague of Smiley, Tom Joyner, called those who criticize the President "haters" and that they needed to be quiet because he (President Obama) doesn't need the Black vote to be split.

Also, Rev. Al Sharpton had



Professor Dr. Cornel West and talk show host Tavis Smiley have embarked on a nationwide tour to address poverty in America.

sharply criticized the motivations and integrity of those who questioned President Obama's willingness to meet with the CBC to discuss targeted jobs legislation.

Then former Princeton Professor Melissa Harris-Perry recently referred to Professor West's critique of the Obama Administration as, "a self-aggrandizing, victimology sermon deceptively wrapped in the discourse of prophetic witness..."

It appears that a very troubling pattern has developed within certain segments of the Black community. There's a concerted effort by some to silence those who are offering honest, sincere, and well thought through analysis and criticism of the Obama Administration particularly as it relates to the conditions of Black and poor masses. Especially, as they say that statistics show 97 percent of Black people voted for Obama.

The following is a BET.com interview with West prior to the tour.

BET.com: Why are you embarking on the poverty tour and whose idea was it?

West: Tavis Smiley and I had been talking for a year about

was a magnificent idea.

BET.com: What are some of the stops on the tour?

West: We're going to an Indian reservation in Wisconsin, we're going to hit the brown barrios, the Asian poor communities, White poor communities, the Black hoods and we're ending in Memphis to keep alive the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.'s fundamental commitment to sanitation workers there, and of course his assassination.

BET.com: How are you going to share your observations and some of the things you'll see while on the tour?

West: We've got an embedded reporter from The Washington Post, camera people who'll be keeping track and of course, you'll be able to follow most every second of it on the Internet on the tavisandwest.com and smileyandwest.com. And there will be documentary filmmakers so we can keep the story going after. I think we're going to see great dignity, great suffering and great resiliency.

What may be getting lost in the conversation is that honest criticism is not betrayal; it is part of the democratic process. It is democracy at its best ... or worst ... depending on who is criticizing whom.

Smiley Continues Criticism of Obama



Talk Show Host Tavis Smiley, who has been critical of President Barack Obama, continues his criticism of Obama, and insists that Obama is disrespecting him by not inviting Smiley to the White House.

"Prior to his being elected, he came on my radio programs and TV programs with regularity," Smiley said. "Once he got elected and my critique of him -- about holding him accountable to various things didn't sit so well with him or the people around him -- he has not, at this point, come on my TV or radio programs one time since he's been in this White House"

Smiley said Obama "is the first president in my professional career that hasn't invited me to the White House."

- Tavis Smiley

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ON THE RED HILLS OF GEORGIA,
SONS OF FORMER SLAVES AND
THE SONS OF FORMER SLAVE OWNERS
WILL BE ABLE TO SIT DOWN TOGETHER
AT THE TABLE OF BROTHERHOOD."

— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
AUGUST 28, 1963, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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"Say that I was a drum major for justice.
Say that I was a drum major for peace.
I was a drum major for right and justness.
And all the other shallow things will not matter."
Martin Luther King, Jr.

On the anniversary of the "I Have a Dream" speech, history will once again be made on the National Mall. The Washington, D.C. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial will be unveiled as the first and only tribute to a man of peace and to a person of color. This August 28th, why just read about history when you can be a part of it? Come to Washington, D.C. and celebrate what will forever stand as a testament to his timeless ideals and legacy of peace.

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