

KUUMBA KORNER OF BLACK HISTORY



by Dorothy Word

Virginia, remember when the scoffers and the naysayers tried to crush your world? Your father wrote to a newspaper editor who assured you: "Yes, Virginia! There is a Santa Claus".

Well, they're back!! This time they are attacking a much revered, wisdom-laden African Proverb. But, we won't back down either. "Yes, Virginia! It takes a Village."

The village is all about FAMILY. The Village is family values best exemplified by the fabric of the Black Church whose threads twined African-American families from time immemorial. The Village embraces the family, shores up and gives it that extra boost ALL families need at one time or another. The Village is that multifarious extended family of supportive community.

The Village is extensive and inclusive, encircling domestics and doctors; beauticians bankers; teachers and t. v. hosts; singers and scientists; preachers and politicians; authors and actors, and all African-Americans striving toward the 21st century.

African-Americans were birthed, nurtured,

role-modeled, encouraged, admonished, supported and applauded in the Village and necessarily sent forth into the non-village world where those in the nuclei-family bubble and those who thrive in isolationism and disconnectedness brazenly proclaim that the Village never accomplished the positive actions mentioned above.

They also erroneously clamor that the Village is welfare and big government. These scoffers and naysayers are on the wrong Bridge, are on the wrong Track and are just plain WRONG !!

Taking this honorable African Proverb and misconstruing it and degrading it into a political pawn is UNCONSCIONABLE.

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