

Legacy of Violence in the African American Community

Saturday, October 7, 2017

Scope of Work/Event

Objective: The objective of this event is to: address the legacy of violence in the African American community; to understand where violence was learned; to understand why we choose violence to express emotion (anger); to get people to think differently about violence and the role we play in the administration of violence; to develop emotional literacy skills in hopes of eliminating the use of violence to express emotions and to bring about the healing of the black community. We want to address the various ways violence manifests in the African American community including intimate partner violence and parental violence, violence against the elderly, state sanctioned violence against the black community, the commodification of violence, and the psychological effects of violence. The idea is to get people to think about violence differently, to recognize what is violence and how it is used in our everyday lives. We want to address the lack of emotional literacy skills in both adults and children that lead to expressing emotions through violence.

Scope of work/event: Through a series of panel discussion (about two hours long, including question and answer sessions) happening throughout the day, various topics on violence in the black community will be discussed and solutions proposed. Each panel will include panelists who are well-versed in the topic being discussed. There will also be organizations that serve to educate, provide resources and aid in the elimination of violence process on site to offer resources to attendees and answer any questions that attendees might have related to violence.

- **Panel One-** The first panel discussion will open with parental violence and violence against children featuring Dr. Stacey Patton, professor and author of *“Spare the Rod: Why Beating Children Won’t Save the Black Community.”* Dr. Patton will open with a brief video that she has put together that shows violence being levied against black children by their parents. This violence is in the form of “whopping” or spanking. Dr. Patton and fellow panelists will then discuss why whopping/spanking should be considered violence and the psychological, emotional and mental effects of this type of violence on our children.
- **Panel two-** The second panel discussion will focus on domestic violence, typically defined and thought of as violence within romantic relationships, marriages and between intimate partners and/or spouses. However, domestic violence should be understood to include any violence that is happening within the home. This can include sibling

violence, violence against parents/grandparents, verbal violence used in the home and of course physical violence. Panelists for this panel are TBD.

- **Panel three-** The third panel discussion will focus on state sanctioned violence in the black community, the commodification of black violence (ie. all the ways black violence generates revenue for states) and the role of law enforcement. Panelists for this discussion will include legislators, law enforcement. If time permits, this panel will also include the role of religion in violence. **I really would like to include the role of religion in perpetuating violence. Where do you guys think we could include it?**

Partnerships- the organizing committee will work to partner with other organizations/ groups to assist with hosting this event. We will also partner with these organizations to host violence-centered events throughout the month of October to bring awareness to the problem of violence.

Sponsorships- The organizers of this event will offer sponsorship opportunities to assist with the costs of hosting this event.

Location/Date/Time: The October 7th event will be held at the West Las Vegas Library Theatre located at 951 W. Lake Mead Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89106. The event is projected to start at 11 am and end at 5 pm.

Drafted and provided by: *Leisa Moseley*