

CARTON 5:41

STRONG

LOCAL 2, AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN THE  
CULINARY INDUSTRY

1981, 1991

BROWN, TONY  
NAACP

2017 / 193



# TONY BROWN'S COMMENTS

## NAACP Should Tell Blacks To Grow Up

When the neo-racist terrorists look for their most logical target, they think of the NAACP. They do so because the NAACP symbolizes the greatest single obstacle to the spread of White racism.

In July of last year, these terrorists fired shots into the NAACP office in Baltimore. In August, a package sent by the terrorist exploded in the NAACP's Regional Office in Atlanta.

On December 18, 1989, Robert Robinson, a Savannah attorney known for handling NAACP cases, was killed—literally blown apart—when he opened a package in his home. On the following day, a similar bomb was sent to the president of the Jacksonville, Florida NAACP. She avoided certain death because of her suspicions.

On January 1 of this year, White supremacists appeared at the NAACP headquarters shouting approval of the acts of violence. These attacks are not aimed at Ben Hooks and his staff alone, they are aimed at killing the heart of our resistance.

Perhaps your chances of getting bombed are slim because you don't

work in a NAACP office or you are not a NAACP leader, but your chances of not having a job or being poor are good—if you're black.

That's why the NAACP has signed 49 "fair share" economic agreements with firms since 1982 and is currently negotiating with CBS Records as a breakthrough into the \$6.5 billion record industry.

The fair-share concept, as the NAACP's director of economic development Fred Rasheed explains, is simple: blacks consume very heavily and blacks should get a "fair share" in return for keeping corporate profits high. For example, black teenager alone buy over 40 percent of all records sold.

"Fair Share" pacts guarantee that the firms will buy from black suppliers, donate money to non-profit community projects and, of course, hire blacks in fair numbers. The NAACP has been helping blacks in similar ways since 1909.

So when the District of Columbia NAACP branch sent out 2,000 letters in April 1990 asking for \$10 membership, Timothy Pratt, the head of the membership committee, expected Blacks to show their appreciation for all the dying and "fair shares" over the years. What kind of return did the NAACP get from 2,000 letters?

"As of today, we have not received a single response!" Pratt wrote in an open letter.

But during this period, this same NAACP branch received more than 2,000 appeals for help from black people in D.C.—and not one person had a NAACP membership.

One of those asking for help had

just been fired from a \$90,000 a year job. During the good times, he didn't have the consciousness or courtesy to take out a \$10 membership. But once in trouble, he, like the racial terrorists, thought first of the NAACP.

It is obvious, if you think about it, that the white terrorists and blacks who do no support the NAACP have one thing in common. Neither wants to eliminate racism in America.

Pratt's response to the non-helping blacks was to remind them that the NAACP "would like to be in a better position to be of assistance."

Why? What does the NAACP owe people like the \$90,000-Negro who refuses to spend \$10 with the NAACP to protect his job?

If your car won't start or you have a flat tire, will the AAA come out to help you unless you have a membership? Do you know any club or organization that dispenses benefits without demanding some financial obligation? I don't.

By giving something for nothing, the NAACP is fostering the perpetuation of our historic dependency syndrome that white slave owners created. If you raise a child to expect something for nothing, you will get an ungrateful adult. Just ask the NAACP.

Nelson Mandela came to America last week to get political and economic help for his (our) struggle against racism in South Africa. Mandela did not promise to eliminate oppression without money. He told us he needed money. People can understand that.

As one Harlem mother told her 9-year-old daughter during

Mandela's dynamic visit: "He just wants some justice for his people."

Contrast that with the motives of a national Black leader who demanded \$10,000 from a small NAACP branch for a speech he never made. After legal bullying, he received \$5,000 for the five minutes he did spend telling the audience he could not stay and speak because his son was ill. Later on, he was seen on TV leading a march.

Unlike Mandela and the NAACP, who are using their energies to free us, this black leader hypocrite-demagogue, just like the \$90,000 negro, serve the same purpose as the racial terrorists who fire bullets into NAACP offices. They are enemies of our struggle.

But for some reason, perhaps due to misplaced loyalty, the NAACP refuses to tell those black people to grow up. So as a life member of the NAACP, I'll say it.

You owe the NAACP \$10! Many black youths spend \$179 for a pair of sneakers or \$200 for a scalp-engraved "how Black I Am" hairstyle, but refuse to go to college unless white people pay their tuition.



From The Library Of  
LEE BROWN

Industry

San Francisco, Calif

Nov, 13, 1981

Mr. Tony Brown  
1501 Broadway, Suite 2014  
New, York, N.Y. 10036

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Mr. Tony Brown  
1501 Broadway, Suite 2014  
New, York, N.Y. 10036

Mr. Brown,

My chief concern is for the workers at the grass root level, who's fighting for complete freedom. The following is a brief history about my self to let you know where I am coming from..

I live in San San Francisco, Calif. My name is Lee Brown. I am a member of the Executive Board of Local 2, Hotel & Restaurant, Employees. AFL-CIO. Second Vice President of Local 2 Retirees Association. Executive Member of Coalition of Black Trade Unionists. Member of the National Caucus on Black Aged. A member of the National Council of Senior Citizens Inc. And of other Grass Roots organization.

Mr. Brown I like to bring your attention back to your T.V. program that come on every other Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Bay Area. Your subject was to encourage Black People to come into the Culinary Industrial in the U.S.A. It is true there is a lot of job opportunity and number of job classification that Black People can upgrade them self on job. Because it is a future.

I worked in the industrial for number of years, until I became disable and was stop by the doctor with high blood pressure. I was so inspire with your program, because I am working hard here in the Bay area trying to encourage Black's in the Culinary Industrial.

Our Union has eithreen thousand membership and only 10% of our members are Black.

Basid upon the Civil Rights Act. That we should have 17% Black within our Local Union.

If you haven't written article ~~on~~ To encourage Black's into the Culinary Industrial, I like for you to rewrite your article again for the benfit of our Brother and, Sisters here in the Bay Area.

I have a hard struggle fighting racism in Local 2, that's one reason I ask for your article to be repeated. In fact all your programs are very inspiring, and educating. Keep up the good work. Full speed ahead.

From your trudy brother in Stuggle

Lee Brown

P.O. Box 1031

San Francisco, Calif

94101

Send me a copy of the show you did arond the Culinary Industrial—  
I would like to here from you very soon.