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Are Black Republicans Selfish?

By Angela Winters

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I recently read an article at Black America Web, one of my favorite news sources, and was taken back by the opinion of one of the writers. In a nutshell, she said that Black Republicans are just selfish.

We don't have the exact numbers from the 2004 election yet, but a lot of buzz has been going around the past few weeks about Bush's black numbers. The Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies conducted a research survey suggesting that Bush will probably double his black vote in 2004 from the paltry 9% in 2000.

In her commentary, the writer sees selfishness and lack of racial identity as the reason blacks would increase their support of a man who has been nothing less than 'negligent and hostile' to them.

Why is it so hard to understand that we are all not defined by our skin color? We are human beings, and just as white/Asian/Hispanic or any other kind of Americans tend to lean right when they get some cheese, so do black folks. So yes, there might be a part of that, but I wouldn't call it selfish. Fiscal conservatism is not exclusive to any race.

Her reference to the values appeal underestimates our intelligence. She seems to think that blacks support Bush's values out of hatred for gays and non-Christians. Bush's value statement isn't just about the gay marriage amendment or stuffing faith in our face, which is arguably the wrong choice. It's about traditional values; especially traditional family values which it seems as if liberals are deeming politically incorrect. Many blacks are seeing the demise of the black family and the damage it is doing to our children a result of our rejection of the values that got us through much harder times than we face now and no longer believe that its purely racism.

Overall, I disagree with the article but it's important to read because it shows a growing age and class disconnect within the black community that can only work to our overall disadvantage.

The article in question, can be found at
<http://www.blackamericaweb.com/site.aspx/bawnews/mathis1025>

Are Black Republicans Selfish?

Angela Winters is a freelance writer and author of over twelve novels. She writes articles on race, politics and diversity. Located in the Washington DC area, Angela has written for The Laurel Leader, Popandpolitics.com, Watchblog, Centerfield and Politopics among others.

Greed and Selfishness ... Knowing The Difference And Loving Yourself!

By Edward B. Toupin

I hear many people discuss how selfishness leads to greed, or that being greedy is part of being selfish. I simply have to say that "greed" and "selfishness" are not the same things. These are "value words" and are based on ideas and information drilled into our heads when we were younger as something known as "basic morals."

As you grow and change, you find that these value words don't seem to fit any longer and, instead of providing a basis from which we can learn, they begin to hinder progress. If you learned that being selfish meant not doing for others and that selfishness was bad, then all your life you will be taken advantage of and used by those that have come to realize that it is okay to be selfish with oneself.

However, this basic idea of selfishness preempts the definition of love. What this means is that, if we're selfish of ourselves, we can never love. This too is untrue! If we are selfish with ourselves, we seek that which is right and true for ourselves. In this search, we can find that person that is right for us and we love them because they provide the feelings that we seek for satisfaction.

Greed is a feeling for materialistic "things". Selfishness is a feeling for oneself.

In today's society, we have many incorrect ideas pounded into our heads by "parental voices" condemning and patronizing us into submission. When we begin to love ourselves and live for ourselves, we associate that feeling with the negative connotation of selfishness.

Redefine the meanings of your value words. Don't just accept a value word as an absolute because it came from someone else who you feel "has it all together". While they might have it all together in an area of their life that you see, they might be in turmoil in some other area of their life. Learn to redefine and trust your own values based on your own ability to reason.

Edward B. Toupin is an author, life–strategy coach, counselor, Reiki Master, technical writer, and PhD Candidate living in Las Vegas, NV. Among other things, he authors books, articles, and screenplays on topics ranging from career success through life organization and fulfillment. For more information, e–mail Edward at etoupin@toupin.com or visit his sites at

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