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by governor.state.ms.us; Fri, 16 Nov 2001 11:58:50 -0600
Received: from mx1.its.state.ms.us (mx1.its.state.ms.us [192.42.4.253])
by e3000b.state.ms.us (8.10.0/8.10.0) with SMTP id fAGHusi02981
for <governor@governor.state.ms.us>; Fri, 16 Nov 2001 11:56:55 -0600 (CST)
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by mx1.its.state.ms.us (8.10.0/8.10.0) with ESMTP id fAGHsx013620
for <governor@governor.state.ms.us>; Fri, 16 Nov 2001 11:54:59 -0600 (CST)
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From: "Psychedelic Literature" <1725topp@bellsouth.net>
To: "Psychedelic Literature" <1725topp@bellsouth.net>
Subject: Thank You Mr. Stringfellow
Date: Fri, 16 Nov 2001 11:59:43 -0600
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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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Thank You Mr. Stringfellow
by
C. Liegh McInnis

Many African American adults are often frustrated that our children are =
not adequately abreast of current events, especially politics. Well, if =
I were eighteen and my leadership was Journalist Eric Stringfellow, =
Congressman Bennie Thompson, Attorney Isaac Byrd, Councilman Leslie =
McLemore, and Dr. Mary Coleman, then I would prefer to become an ostrich =
and hide my head in the sand rather than deal with the truth that "Negro =
Leadership" essentially means a group of Negroes leading us to the =
damnation of integration.

After reading Stringfellow's Thursday, November 15, 2001, editorial in =
the Clarion Liar, it is perfectly clear why young African Americans feel =
apathy about their so-called leadership. Stringfellow is blind enough to =
dedicate an entire column to justifying the Clarion Liar's =
misrepresentation of facts and its bias portrayal of black people. No =
wonder whites think that he is a role model. He is a role model for how =
to sell your soul to racist rags and get paid doing so.

Accordingly, after being an active participant in the Ayers case and =
witnessing Thompson, Bryd, and Coleman in action, I have resigned myself =
to not being able to ever again vote for middle-class Negroes. But what =
should I expect? For years, the Negro democrats have allowed Mike Moore =
and Amy Tuck to act like Dixie-crats with no repercussions. No black =
democrat said anything when Moore attempted to help white plantation =
owners use public funds to develop all white public schools in Tunica =
County. No black democrat said anything as Moore fought to ensure that =
Zero Tolerance was applied in a discriminatory manner to black children =
as opposed to white children. Also, Tuck suffered no repercussions when =

her first act as Lt. Governor was to remove African Americans from key = committee positions. Do we really think that it was happenstance that = Tuck replaced Hillman Frazier as Chair of the Colleges and Universities = Committee just before the State began pushing for a settlement with = Ayers? And the truth is that nothing has been done and nothing will be = done because Mississippi Negro leadership is inept because the black = middle-class has rarely cared about the black mass. This is why Langston = Hughes rejected the black middle-class because of their desire "to be as = little Negro and as much American as possible." Of course, Kim Wade will = assert, "Then maybe you should vote Republican." As much as I respect C. = Darryl Neely, he is in the party of Ben Allen. (Ben Allen? Enough said.)

So what has McLemore to do with this? Well, he is the ultimate Negro = politician who loves to tell people about how he was in the struggle, = and the only struggle in which we have seen him has been how to vote = with Ben Allen while giving a MLK speech. My larger fear is that he is = grooming Marshand K. Crisler to be just like him. Every Negro official = in the state was elected by a mass of black people who want/need them to = create policy and laws that change Mississippi's racist system. I am = saddened to say that there is not one plan on the table that does so, = not even in Jackson, Mississippi, where African Americans have an = overwhelming majority. Even in Jackson, the Negro officials are thinking = more about appeasing white folks than working for their constituents, = and McLemore is the poster child for this pattern.

Thus, there is a reason why the Clarion Liar champions Negroes like = Stringfellow and dehumanizes Negroes like Ivory Phillips. In the Liar's = Thursday commentary, they called an appeal by those of us who want to = opt-out of the current Ayers litigation "Sour Grapes." When did fighting = for that in which you believe become "sour grapes?" The truth is that = Thompson, Byrd, and Coleman have allowed this case to be turned into an = issue of "take the money and run" or "take what little justice the State = is willing to give black people." The same is also true for black = legislators who cut deals with Nissan for the black middle-class, = ignoring the injustice done to the black mass. And that is the problem = with Negro leadership. Embracing integration and capitalism has caused = them to lose sight of the larger goal, first-class citizenship, which is = based on humanity and self-determination. As long as the black agenda is = concerned with appeasing white people, the black mass will never achieve = self-determination. Additionally, what the Liar is really doing is = continuing to set the black agenda, which has been its goal throughout = the Ayers discussions. Unfortunately, our so-called black leadership has = allowed the Liar and other white folks to set our agenda by allowing the = Liar to tell us what we need and what we should do. Is it "sour grapes" = when white folks still complain about the O.J. verdict? Was it "sour = grapes" when white people kept going back to court to over turn = Affirmative Action? So why is it "sour grapes" when black people refuse = to accept Judge Neal Bigger's racist and prejudicial rulings and agenda, = especially when 4000 African Americans disagreed in writing with = Thompson, Byrd, and Coleman? The reason that an Ayers appeal is "sour = grapes" is because in America the Negroes are suppose to take the word = and agenda of the Liar without any questions, and when the Liar tells = you that something is "over" or that it has been "resolved," you should = act accordingly. "Sit Negroes, sit. Good curs. Now roll over." "How much = is that Negro politician in the window, the one with a pocket full of = kickbacks?"

African American children see all of the above and are not fooled. How = can we ridicule black children for embracing the "bling--bling" culture = when their leadership has? It seems that black children have peeped the = game and are applying the serenity prayer to it. "God give me the = serenity to accept the things that I cannot change. The courage to = change the things that I can. And the wisdom to know the difference." It =

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McInnis is the author of seven books, a book reviewer for MultiCultural =
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