

Remembering Willie Lynch: Perpetrating a System of Divide and Conquer

By Khalfani Malik Khaldun

We as a people had had many crimes of the worse nature imaginable committed against us....Yet we continue to push forward against all odds

Slavery, just like mass incarceration, is a crime against humanity. Today, in every state and city in Amerika, where Afrikan (Black) people live, we are killing one another off in large numbers as if it's a game of competition of who can kill the most. We are a product of a slave history, a European worldview, that by definition cannot be development or inspirational. This history, for the most part, has been written, disseminated and taught by the sons and daughters of the people who invaded Afrika.

During the period of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, and era of obvious resistance and rebellion to its system by the slaves, one criminal and slavery champion, Willie Lynch, devised a strategy to suppress "all rebellion" occurring on the plantations. He in his own words would create this breaking system solely for absolute psychological control, by scaring the female slave and dehumanizing the strong male slaves in front of her and the children. He advised his friends and slavemasters that if they used his techniques, no slave would trust one another, the young would be played against the old and vice versa, the lighter slave against the darker one, creating a deep rooted form of complete self-hate.

The female slaves were witness to horrific crimes being carried out on every male that attempted to challenge his conditions. This fear would compel these mothers to try and shield and protect the males, by making them passive or submissive to the slavemaster.

From the Plantation to the Prison

Today, prison has replaced the slave plantation. Our conditions of poverty and the genuine lack of a loved existence have caused Afrikan (Black) people and all people of color to lose our sense of identity. When a person has no knowledge of self-family, culture, they will not be capable of loving anyone or anything. This is why taking the lives of people that look like them is done without a care in the world. Every time they kill an Afrikan (Black) person symbolically by killing themselves in the process. This is what Willie Lynch intended when he created his handbook on *Breaking the Slave*. His speech on divide and conquering the slave population was delivered in Lynchburg, Virginia in the 1800s.

Love not Hate, Don't Abuse Our Women

Destroy the female and you destroy the growth of the entire nation. This criminal, Willie Lynch, said we can convince them not to value or appreciate a woman. The female of any culture or people are the vessels of creation. How can we populate without first someone being responsible for the procreation of innocent

life? This is why we must clearly understand how special the essence of the woman is to this life we live. She must be honored, loved, adored. God made her a God, a creator. Your disrespect to her is your absolute disrespect to God the creator of all of us. Her body is sacred, her love replenishes the soul, her womb, if protected and used properly, can be the passageway to yet another Messiah. She is God's greatest gift to all humanity.

Decriminalizing the Mind

Due to the multiple negative experiences that Afrikan (Black) people have endured out of fear and repressed emotional mood swings, Afrikan (Black) become prisoners of their own mind, way before they ever see the inside of a real prison. Today, inside and outside prison the U.S. justice system consistently criminalizes the victim, and the real criminal is seen as the victim. The deplorable conditions overshadowing the ghetto and urban communities has caused a lot of people to become suspended in time, unable to rise up and abide their situation because their minds are stuck. We have to learn how to help people release their hurt and pain through creative therapy. We have to reconstruct a state of mind conducive to genuine self-love, instead of self-hate. Not having love for one's self, causes one to be incapable of loving anyone around them. We blame our youth for the blood they shed throughout the Black community. Yet we fail them by not helping them when they need us the most. We all have skills which qualify us to be in a position to aid and assist them. Whatever happened to reaching out to one, teaching one? Are our youth elements still representative of our dangerous, uncertain future? If the out of control poverty and poor economic conditions didn't exist, and economic stability was available, a lot of the crime and Black on Black violence would be reduced severely—maybe entirely.

Rebuilding What Has Been Broken Through Love and Reconciliation

The family has always been the foundation of a community. However, since the Black family has been fragmented, broken, and drowning in self-hate, our children are being influenced by the street gangs, pimps, drug dealers, and a host of other elements, instead of following in the positive footsteps and examples of their mothers and fathers. There is a genuine need for rebuilding our values and emphasis on the Black family. Instead of us being overly critical of one another over the past and present mistakes and misdeeds we've made along the way, reconciliation is possible, and the redemption of the Afrikan (Black) nation could occur as a positive example of the rebuilding process. The historical, political, and cultural reality of the U.S. is that color has always been the overriding issue here and in much of the world. The key, of course, is that all political realities in part depend upon how a people, any people, defines itself and struggles to actualize a worldview it considers necessary for its own development and beauty. Those leaders who have chosen to talk up the responsibility for resurrecting the souls and spirits of a people scarred by the blood stains of slavery's past must be honored and supported.

Honor the Women, Protect the Child

The greatest gift given to the woman by God is her ability to give life to this world. A child, no matter what the circumstances, is never asked to be brought into this world. They have to be protected and shielded from child abuse or the perversion of the many sick child molesters in existence. Protecting our children is a must. There's a lot to be said about the strong children who refuse to be silent after being abused. That display of strength is what encourages other children who are frightened to come forward and expose their victimizer. The Willie Lynch system left an enduring mark on our people that have lasted from generation to generation. The many personality disorders that exist in our communities can be traced back to Willie Lynch's bag of tricks. Now it's up to every conscious man, woman and child to promote, compel and advocate all creative programs that counter and destroy what the Willie Lynch program did to us.

Abuse Causes Long-term Lack of Empathy

Abuse for the most part can cause people to externalize so much anger due to them being hurt. They begin to display a very cold-hearted, uncaring attitude towards life, people, and animals. We sometimes ask ourselves when we see a child kill their parents, shoot up a school, or murder an innocent new-born baby—what made him or her do that? Yeah, bullying has been a source of origin. But if we look deeper into these individuals' background, a family household, the cause is always there. We all have empathy, but throughout our lives the things we experience and the people we encounter affects how much empathy we express. Having hate in one's heart is a learned behavior. We are all born innocent with the full capacity to display love, cherish, and appreciate everything in this existence. That includes empathy. Willie Lynch, his evil mind, and his greed that promoted that program were a learned behavior. Now we must stop engaging in our own self-hate and join in to start the healing process of our broken, fragmented families, relationships, and nation. We are supposed to be our brothers' and sisters' keeper. So let's start acting like it. As a people, we suffer greatly from an assortment of psychological disorders. Yet we have showed the world at large that we are determined to win. We've come a long way, it's now over, and as always, the real struggle continues.

I am my brothers' and sisters' keeper! Power to the people who don't fear freedom! Anyone wanting to respond to this article may do so by writing me at the address below. We're in this together.

In Solidarity,

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