

**CONSPIRACY**—from Page 1  
 “ethnic cleansing.” Race card aside, history literate African Americans surely realize that relocating entire populations is nothing new in the land of the free. (RE: Native American History.) Meanwhile, we asked several high profile Black leaders that nebulous question. But, alas, only Kofi Taharka, who led a march in 2006 New Orleans, responded. “The National Black United Front (NBUF) position is that we in Houston must continue to embrace our brothers and sisters from New Orleans from a Pan-African point of view,” Taharka espoused. “They are us and we are them. We must reject a media-fueled ignorant view of our brothers and sisters as a burden on this city.”

“Squash the street beefs. NBUF believes we must strike an appropriate balance between holding the local, state and national government responsible for its inaction of levy protection before Katrina and its non-action in rebuilding since Katrina with a healthy dose of self-determination actions. We must ask the question what we will do as a people to help our sisters and brothers while continuously challenging the government to do its part. History is excellent in understanding the many strategies and tactics of the White power structure to eliminate, displace and genocide our communities across the country. Lack of fund distribu-

tion, unaffordable insurance rates, insufficient repairs to the levy system, little to no clean up in Black/African communities are all tactics to keep Black/African people from coming back to the N.O. a city which we were a significant majority.”

Regrettably, there’s a preponderance of evidence (see graphic on the right) to support NBUF’s conspiracy theory. According to an AP article (**Study Says 80% of New Orleans Blacks May Not Return**) released on Jan. 27, 2006: “Of the 354,000 people, who lived in New Orleans neighborhoods where the subsequent damage was moderate to severe, 75 percent were black, 29 percent lived below the poverty line, more than 10 percent were unemployed, and more than half were renters, the study found.”

If the projections are realized, the New Orleans population will shrink to about 140,000 from its pre-hurricane level of 484,000, and the city, nearly 70 percent Black before the storm, will become majority White. The study, financed by a grant from the National Science Foundation, was released 10 days after the mayor of New Orleans, C. Ray Nagin, who is Black, told an audience that “this city will be a majority African-American city; it’s the way God wants it to be.” But, alas, ungodly racist conspire with evil in high places. **God Bless America.** ✨

## Ebonics handbook: trademark of a failed system of public ed.

**MIKE GREEN**  
 Guest Columnist

The story of the “ghetto” booklet (“Ghetto” booklet probed by HISD,” Houston Chronicle, Aug. 31, 2007) is the tip of the iceberg of the problems plaguing some schools and communities within the Houston Independent School District. I attended both Frost Elementary and Albert Thomas Junior High schools and graduated from Ross S. Sterling High School in 1980. Nearly 30 years removed from Sterling, today it appears to me that not much has changed.

I was blessed with the opportunity to attend two summer sessions at Kinkaid on the west side of town, which conducted a math and science program for gifted low-income minority students. During those two summers (between my freshman and sophomore years) I learned far more than I did during all four years at Sterling. The blatant

contrast of the studies provided to those on one side of Houston compared to the poor academic curriculum in my area was quite an epiphany for a teenage boy in the 70s.

I couldn’t understand the academic disparity then, and I can’t understand it now. Today, I have far less tolerance for it. Earlier this year, Education Secretary Margaret Spellings, along with First Lady Laura Bush brought to light the horrific track record of the public school system, noting that a 30 percent dropout rate was attributed primarily to urban education centers where students had a “50-50 chance” of graduating.

These “dropout factories” weren’t just discovered by the education and political elite this year. This atmosphere of academic failure isn’t accidental. It is by design. The fact that any HISD officials, working in any capacity, would feel comfortable enough to make the effort, spend taxpayer dollars and take the risk of public backlash to print booklets designed to encourage and promote the mythical language of “ebonics” speaks to a deeper issue. There is no cultural or natural predilection by Blacks toward a butchering of the English language. Hundreds of millions of African natives are true linguists with a capacity to learn most any language.

Africans must learn a variety of languages and dialects, including English, in order to communicate with others on the same continent, and often within the same country. Black Americans are not handicapped in mastering the English language. They are, instead, enslaved by the propagandists who claim Black youths must shun the language and adhere to the racist and debilitating notion that “we have our own language.”

Such was the underlying message of the booklets passed out by so-called education leaders in Houston. HISD leaders ought to be replaced with visionaries who plainly see the severe problems within the school district and desire make corrections before yet another generation of Black youths are relegated to life as functional illiterates. How is it possible that nearly three decades go by since I left HISD and my old high school and several others are in worse condition today than the day I graduated?



Source: U.S. Census Bureau survey of the New Orleans area, January-August 2005 and September-December 2005.

**DA**—from Page 1  
 dent in which an innocent man was gunned down. The Mayor, apparently responding to complaints by Myart, that the City of San Antonio had not so much as apologized for the incident, alluded to the point that citizens ought to be able to walk down the street and not have to be worried about being gunned down by inept police officers.

The San Antonio Police Officers Association (SAPOA) took a big one to the chin as the City caved in to the demands of Myart. Because Myart has been so critical of Bexar County District Attorney Susan Reed, for not prosecuting errant police officers, many are saying that the DA is playing political football with Myart and is acting unprofessionally out of revenge. Some observers are saying that because Myart has publically accused Reed

of being an “alcoholic” that some of the charges that Myart currently faces are revenge motivated. There has been a swirl of rumors that District Attorney Susan Reed is allegedly an “alcoholic,” which would be a serious charge against a sitting DA.

If true, then community members are wondering if it would be in the best interests of Bexar County that she get help, or resign. Although the rumor has been going on for some time, Myart made the charge that Susan Reed has an alcohol problem, at a meeting with the Express-News Editorial Board a few weeks back. Myart can hardly be considered the first to make the accusation however, since this rumor has been swirling around in the community ever since the District Attorney was involved in an accident. The rumors seem to have

begun within the DA’s office itself after that incident.

Myart has won a number of cases that have been controversial. It stands to reason that there are plenty of people out there trying to “get Myart.” Some observers have pointed out that when attacking the system one must be pretty clean or the legal authorities will use any mistake to get rid of you. Many have called this “legal lynching.”

The controversy may increase in the weeks ahead as members of the African American, Hispanic, and citizens at large are skeptical about the reasons for the charges against Myart. One can certainly disagree with the tactics that Myart has employed, but it isn’t much different from those used by the late Fred Semaan who was respected by the legal establishment. ✨

Who is responsible for that? Today, the U.S. military is offering \$20,000 bonuses to teenagers who sign up on a fast-track to combat training and deployment. Given the limited opportunities for Black youths who fail to realize the enormous value of mastering the English language, the military stands out like a beacon that assists in navigating the rocky channels of life that awaits them after high school.

The active duty Army boasts it is 23 percent Black, while the Army Reserve is 24 percent. The entire U.S. population is just under 13 percent Black. It is easy to see that the military is reaping the rewards of the failure of our inner city public education system.

An upfront bonus and money for college doesn’t do a recruit much good when he pays for it in blood

following orders given by a Commander-in-Chief whose children were not instructed to follow a similar path. I am incensed that there hasn’t been a concerted effort to ensure our children are brought up with the same focus and value on education as other children in the same city, and even within the same school district. As a 13-year veteran of the media industry, I am well aware of the many doors of opportunity that are immediately shut to those who can not communicate well.

Such doors are only partially cracked open to Blacks who demonstrate an ability to produce competent prose. There is much work to be done. And who will do the work if public school districts, like HISD, are sabotaging the potential of Black youths?

It is imperative that Black organizations, communities and parents initiate and promote a grassroots campaign that markets an understanding that mastery of the language breaks the chains of slavery to circumstances. We could not be defeated by slavery, Jim Crow, or poverty. But if we accept that we are incapable of speaking this language, we will find that the only circumstance we could not overcome is the enslavement of our minds. Get rid of the ebonics handbook and the HISD educators, under whose leadership failure has been the hallmark of decades of “progress.”

Mike Green is a military veteran, current Content Editor of the *Ashland Daily Tidings* and author of *The Whole Truth about the U.S. War on Terror: Answers to every question you never knew to ask.* ✨

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