

# HARAMBEE DADA

*"Sisters Pulling Together"*

By Tiffany Hall

"Girl, do you see what she has on?" "Uh, huh and you know who's room I saw her coming out of last night?" Doesn't this sound familiar? Yep, sounds like a typical day on the Yard.

Many campus organizations got together to put on a program to help the dis-sension of black females on UNC's campus. Sorry, fellas, but this night was just for the ladies.

On Nov. 3, 2001 Harambee Dada was held to try to bring black women together for a night of fun and unity. Harambee Dada is a Swahili phrase meaning "sisters coming together." The event was sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi

Beta Sorority, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., the Office of Minority Affairs and Celebration of Black Womanhood (a committee of the Black Student Movement.)

It was a night filled with activities, discussions, and a screening of John Singleton's film "Baby Boy." The night started off with an icebreaker to get everyone comfortable. In an application filled out prior to the program, participants were asked the question of what does it mean to be a black woman. There were a wide variety of responses, with words such as intelligent, independent, strong,



**Top: Participants compiled an image that represents their idea of beauty. Among the qualities considered 'beautiful' were strong, dynamic, mezzmerizing and unlimited. Bottom: Harambee Dada participants pose for a picture.**



determined, beautiful and simply stated—"extra work."

In groups we then discussed and made a sample of what our ideal image of beauty was. The object of the activity was to see if a different complexion would distort the image of beauty. For example, if lighter-skinned women would have a different conception of beauty compared to darker-skinned females. A full discussion and evaluation followed the activity.

There was also a dinner and a round table discussion on such topics as reputations, interracial dating and everyone's favorite, the male to female ratio on UNC's campus.

To sum up the evening, sophomore attendee Norledia Moody comments, "The program was an excellent way to bring sisters together to talk about things that effect us and what we think about but never open our mouths to say."

So basically, if you missed it...you just missed it! Don't worry, it is in the works for becoming an annual event, but not just limited to black women, but ALL women of color. So mark it down on your calendars for next year ladies.