

MANDATORY BLACK STUDIES. THE PLACE IS HERE, THE TIME IS NOW!

By Shawn Torry

Americans, both white and black, are suffering from a detrimental ignorance of true unbiased historical knowledge. This lack of historical knowledge promotes racial ignorance, prejudice, fear, bigotry, and intolerance.

Segments of this nation's white educational establishment realize that the teaching of true unbiased history would create a more equal playing field for all Americans, from the standpoint of opportunity. Simply put, knowledge is power. An uninformed fool is likely to fall for anything.

In America, history is taught strictly from an Eurocentric perspective. Any other perspective is considered to be false or insignificant. This point is illustrated in many of this nation's public schools. How many of you remember learning about all those Kings and Queens of England, France, Spain, and other European nations? Now how many African kings and queens were you ever taught about? For that matter, how many African Kingdoms were you ever taught about. The answer is probably none because there is a fear that knowledge of this ancestral greatness would promote a feeling of pride among African Americans. Hell might even curve some of this black on black

violence, Lord forbid that!

No all that we are taught about ourselves is that we were slaves. Well how did we come to be slaves? What could Africa have been like had it not been for the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade? It is important to remember that over 24,000,000 people were taken to be slaves. Not just any 24,000,000, but 24,000,000 of the best, the youngest, the strongest, the fittest, the smartest. In short the present future vanished, most never to be seen or heard from again. Imagine taking 24,000,000 of the youngest, strongest, and brightest, from the southeastern United States. North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama together do not have 24,000,000 people in them.

The Slave trade plunged Africa into a deep intellectual and physical depression, from which it isare yet to fully recover. I, just like most of you, must have been absent from school the day the teacher taught about that. If I wasn't absent, the teacher just didn't bother to discuss it, which is probably more of what happened.

As stated earlier, the censorship of unbiased history is detrimental to both whites and blacks. White students are being given a false sense of intellectual superiority over there nonwhite

classmates. It is not just that the history is not being taught, but it is being intentionally distorted and tampered with.

For example, how in the world are Socrates, Aristotle, and Plato considered to be the first great thinkers? I don't know but that is what I was taught. The fact of the matter is that Socrates, who taught Plato, who taught Aristotle, was himself taught in Egypt. Yes, the legendary Socrates went to college and studied in Egypt. Greatness is inspired by greatness. Socrates was taught by black Egyptian scholars. Let me be politically correct and say that Socrates was taught by "NON-WHITES", rest assured these Egyptians did not have "BLONDE HAIR AND BLUE EYES". Socrates himself was put to death by the Greeks for teaching foreign philosophies that undermined and were detrimental to the Greek society and way of life. If Socrates, a Greek, had made up all of these philosophies that he is given credit for, how then could they have been foreign? They were foreign because he stole them from Egypt, which regardless of that false eurocentric label--the MIDDLE EAST--is a part of Africa.

Fayetteville State University, along with all other Historically Black Col-

leges and Universities must take the lead in teaching the truth. If we leave it up to the high schools or other colleges and universities, we learn nothing but propaganda and rhetoric. Eurocentric history books have a way sugar coating, omitting, or sometimes even sensationalizing and justifying the evil that Europeans have done. We must teach ourselves to search beyond the hype and beyond the fame the find the ultimate underlying truth.

A year ago at A&T, I was reading a European history book that said the reason that Europe advanced to become the world power it is today, was because Europeans "aggressively borrowed from other civilizations." "Aggressively borrowed" no, I don't think so. If I "aggressively borrowed" your car as the Europeans aggressively borrowed, you would probably aggressively call the police on me. Today we call that type of "aggressively borrowing" car jacking!

Last March after a long hard fought struggle, North Carolina A&T adopted a mandatory Black Studies curriculum, effective Fall 1995 for all new freshman. Broncos, it is up to each and every one of you to personally make this cause your cause. Change will come, it is inevitable, so get on the SGA to make it happen.

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THE FUTURE HOLDS NOTHING ELSE BUT CONFRONTATION!

"Something Wicked This Way Comes"

By Shawn Torry

Imagine getting up one morning and going to work, only to find that you've been fired. You go to your Boss or Supervisor to find out why. Your employer says, "Your performance is not the problem; the bottom line is that Congress has repealed Affirmative Action. Now there is nothing requiring me to keep you, any of you people (Blacks). It is not that I don't like you, I am just looking out for my own people. If you still want to work here, I might be able to find a position for you in the unloading department. I know that it is a long way from being a cost accounting analyst, but at least you'll be working. Isn't that right, boy?"

Does it sound too wild or unbelievable? I sincerely hope not. After this new Republican Congress gets done you might feel like it is 1955 rather than 1995. Civil Rights as you know it may go the way of the Dinosaur. Not just Affirmative Action, but any other program that seeks to promote equality or "give those who ain't got, a little more." Yes, the Republicans intend to pull a fast one on us. The sad part is, they are doing it with virtually silent opposition.

There are more than enough blacks and other minority voting age citizens to make these "redneck, first cousin marrying, pick up truck with a rifle rack in the window driving, confederate flag license plate having, good ole' days wishing for", racists think about being reelected. The problem is that only a small percentage of voting age minorities are even registered to vote and an even smaller percentage actually goes out to the polls to vote.

If we as a people do not collectively find our voice and start making ourselves heard, many of us could find ourselves facing a scenario like that above. To all of you "Clarence Thomas loving, I am where I am today because of my work ethic, Rush Limbaugh watching", conservative blacks, you all are in just as much danger as the rest of us. In the end, you are still black. If you think there are glass ceilings now, you haven't "seen nothing" yet! I'm talking about bright red brick walls!

Just wait until Jesse Helms, Strom Thurmond, Orin Hatch, Robert Dole, and the rest of those racist senators get finished. You might want to start learning the words to "We Shall Overcome", because trouble is most definitely coming. Maybe that will be what it will take to create some unity among blacks, but that is another story.

The issue of the day is affirmative action. Read the newspaper and watch the news. Trouble is on the horizon. Now is the time to be heard. We need to make some noise now. If we remain silent, the future holds nothing but confrontation. Something wicked this way comes.