

## Ms. Coretta, Please don't tell Martin

By Bitter B  
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Thank you Ms. Coretta for the grace, strength, and dignity that you displayed. Since your wonderful husband was assassinated by the bullets of fear and hate.

You know they killed him because of their ignorance. Thank you for not allowing bitterness and anger to engulf your very existence.

Now that you are reunited with Martin tell him that they are stripping our rights away, day by day, but his fight was not in vain. Tell him that although my generation glorifies drugs, debases black women in song, and calls us vulgar names - that his dream still remains.

Our men no longer celebrate our natural black beauty - we have to have long weaves, small waists, and big ole booties.

The videos are so degrading, they mirror soft porn. Us Blacks own television stations now, but that's all that's shown.

Tell Martin that my generation apologizes for its lack of respect for his legacy and the dormancy of our elders; we might as well call this the Civil Rights of Unmovement Era.

Tell him that although we as black people make more than we've ever seen, that we squander it on diamond clad teeth, 24 inch

rims, and designer clothes due to our sagging self-esteem.

Tell Martin that our babies are growing up without fathers, while the mothers are catching buses just like he remembers.

Our children take to the streets in droves, not to march or proclaim the injustice of this nation, but to pledge their gang affiliation. I can't rhyme to this next line.

On any night thugs hang out while bullets ring out - not freedom. And yes we continue to be judged by the color of our skin by America but I wonder most about the lack of the content of our character.

Advise him that the grand-daughters of the Civil Rights era are making their money as strippers. The Grand-sons of the marchers are ignoring their sons and daughters and hanging and slangin' on corners.

They're going to jail in mass numbers, not for protesting, marching, or defying racism, but because they commit illegal acts to gain materialism.

Our children are making babies, ignoring education, committing felonious capers. I wish they'd read his Birmingham Jail Papers.

Tell Martin that those in the ghetto are not the only ones forgetting his dream. There are those who've forgotten where they

came from because of a little cream.

Who refuse to give back to the community, because their motto is 'More for me'. They've forgotten how to lend a helping hand, to help their fellow man - all the while thinking, 'If I can make it, they can't.

Looking down without offering a leg up, getting on elevators with their noses up.

Some of us are even republicans now, but that's a very exclusive black crowd.

Striving to get to the top of the ladder, to make their pockets fatter - instead of doing something that truly matters.

Leaving the 'hood' in droves and only moving back when Whites buy up all of the homes.

Tell Martin that we still like to dance and sing, but not Negro spirituals cuz we've got Beyonce grinding and shaking her thing. Ms. Coretta, this may hurt

poor Martin the most - it just may seal the deal, we as a people don't attend church anymore. Cuz we've gotten a little education and found out that God wasn't

For those of us who still believe, it makes us want to holla, we've got a pimp named Bishop and a Bishop named Dollar.

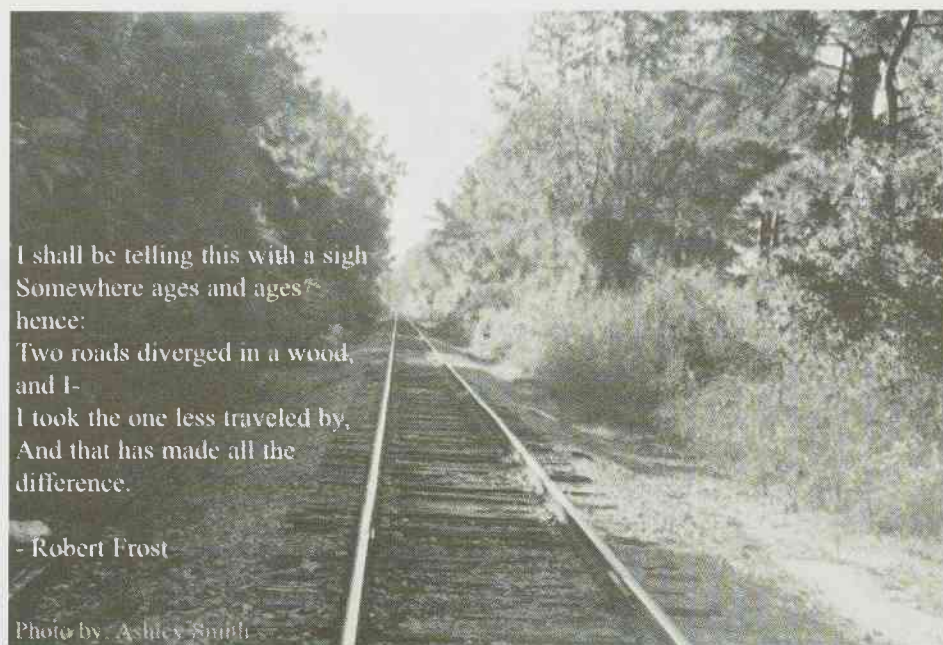
I don't know Ms. Corretta, maybe you'd better not tell Martin that for all that he's done to make us free, equal, and just - that we still migrate to the back of the bus.

I'll bet looking down - he doesn't recognize us. We've forgotten how to march, protest, and

vote - but be at the club, standing in line for hours - in the freezing cold. Sporting the latest gear; stilettos, hoochie clothes, teeth that's froze, and Tims - driving cars with less tire more rim.

Dying to get in so that we can 'shake it fast', drop it like it's hot' - forgetting the respect and dignity that we were taught. I neva' thought I'd think this thought, but please don't eva' give Martin your report.

Ms. Coretta, maybe you should just avoid mentioning my generation all together'.



I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages  
hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood,  
and I-  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the  
difference.

- Robert Frost

Photo by Ashley Smith

## REVERSE RACISM AN ISSUE AT FSU Many Students Don't Report Campus Incidents

By Ashley C. Smith  
Copy Editor, The Voice

Fayetteville State University, as well as other Historically Black Colleges and Universities, is faced with very unique circumstances which affect its student body.

At most universities across the U.S., caucasian students make up the majority, usually comprising about 70 to 80 percent of the student population, while African American students make up between 15 to 20 percent.

However, at FSU and most other HBCUs, these numbers are almost exactly opposite, with African Americans constituting the majority.

Because of this reversal in numbers, unique problems have begun to arise at Fayetteville State, which merit unique solutions.

One of the unique problems faced by the student body is the existence of racism on campus; Racism in the form of the majority population, comprised of African American students, towards the minority populations at FSU.

An interesting occurrence, that has been noticed due to recent allegations of racism by students, is that many students within the majority population do not believe that reverse racism exists at Fayetteville State. A denial, I fear, which has led to many of the problems.

Let's take a few examples of incidents which have occurred on campus this semester and review the implications of these incidents:

1. A hispanic student and a white student are told "You know we don't want you here," by an African American student in the Financial Aid Office.

2. A white student is shot mean looks, spit at, and called a "Honky Bitch!" outside of Hackley Honors Hall.

3. Students making off the cuff comments towards minority students in the Cafeteria, for no reason other than the person is of a different ethnicity.

The first example is more covert in nature, and is often defended by the fact that Fayetteville State University is an HBCU. I have heard the fact that many students would like the university to go back to being a school only for African American students.

The comments like "we don't want you here" are often followed by, "no offense, but this school was founded for Black people."

However, what the proponents of this idea fail to realize is that these arguments are racism attempting to be justified.

During the desegregation of public schools and universities in the 60s and 70s, many white schools used the fact that they were "historically white schools" to argue that they shouldn't have to let minorities in.

So, case in point, should other schools around the country be allowed to only accept white students? I should hope not.

The next two examples are more overt, in that they show blatant examples of racism.

A white student who is spit at and called a racial slur, or a minority student who has to listen to a group of other students make comments about them in the Cafeteria, have strong cases to report racism, but many do not.

Students have expressed a feeling that they do not believe the incidents would be taken seriously if they were reported, or that they do not believe that the incidents were serious enough to report.

Many incidents go unreported and are internalized by the student which may lead to withdrawal from the university or from campus life.

A major problem with racist incidents is that they do not have to be large to

have a large effect. A racist comment made towards a student at the Cafeteria may cause a large amount of disaffection with the university, but may not be seen as worth the effort of reporting.

These issues deeply impact student life, and the future of race relations at Fayetteville State.

If they are not appropriately dealt with by the university they will continue to

exist until they reach a breaking point, at which time it will be too late.

The university has to provide a general liberal atmosphere conducive to integration to counter the steady drip-drip of racism.

Only when the members of our institution, student body and administration alike, feel comfortable tackling these issues as they arise, will a solution be in sight.

### 21 Questions to consider By FSU Students

1. If you drink Pepsi while you're working at a Coca Cola factory, will they fire you?
2. Aren't you mad Gadzooks has a no return policy?
3. How important do you have to be before you are considered assassinated rather than murdered?
4. Are we going to see YOU on "Girls Gone Wild Spring Break" Edition?
5. Did you know Dr. Kofi Johnson actually had good evaluations?
6. Are you as broke as I am?
7. Why does the word "leader" scare students?
8. How is it that you know everyone who went to each individual Greek interest meeting, but no one knows who destroyed the plots?
9. Wasn't the CIAA so much better in Raleigh than in Charlotte?
10. Why is that the people of Charlotte were unaware of what the CIAA was, and thought we were there for the Universal Soul Circus?
11. Aren't you mad both teams lost out in the first round of the tournament?
12. I see a lot of line jackets... are all of the Greeks coming back on the yard?
13. Why were the Greeks offended by the last 21 questions?
14. Doesn't Ciara remind you a lot of Aaliyah?
15. Speaking of Aaliyah, don't you just miss her?
16. Aren't you proud of Black Millennium for placing in two modeling competitions?
17. Why are you sweatin' your homegirls boyfriend?
18. Aren't you tired of senior leaders no longer assuming responsibilities because they have four weeks to graduate?
19. When did the price of stamps go up?
20. Why were less than 100 people at the Stand and Deliver Leadership Conference that cost \$22,000?
21. Why do you claim SGA doesn't do anything, but fail to come to events and programs they provide?

Do you have any questions  
you'd like to see printed?  
Send them to [thevoice@uncfsu.edu](mailto:thevoice@uncfsu.edu)

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