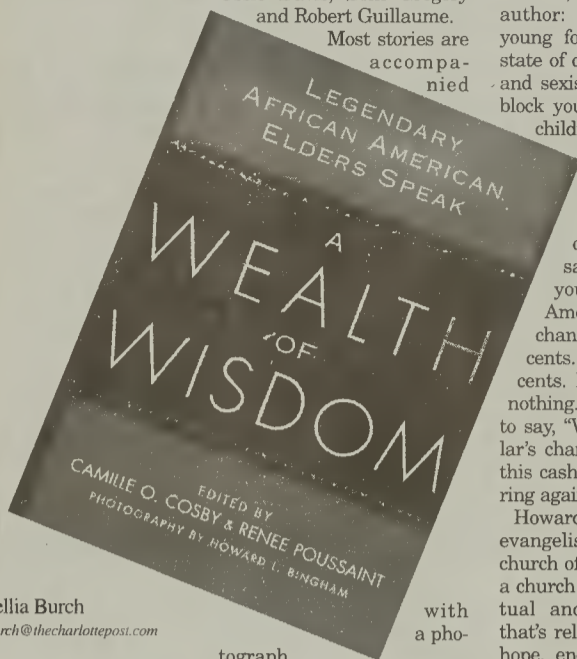


# Old-school wisdom for today's younger generations

Ossie Davis, Dick Gregory and Robert Guillaume. Most stories are accompanied



activist, comedian and author: "I would say to young folks: don't be in a state of denial about racism and sexism. But don't let it block you. Don't teach your children that you have to be twice as good as a white. That's an awful thing to teach a child. That's like saying, because you're black, white America has a right to change your dollar for 94 cents. We used to get 50 cents. Before that we got nothing. Young folks have to say, 'We want a full dollar's change for a dollar, or this cash register will never ring again.'"

Howard Owen Jones, radio evangelist, educator: "The church of tomorrow must be a church that is really spiritual and has a message that's relevant—a message of hope, encouragement. That church must tell frightened teenagers that you don't have to be afraid, there is a Christ who can be with you. It must also have a message about the home-responsibility of marriage and family. The church needs to point out the heritage and hope in the black family in America."

Dolores Kendrick, poet and educator: "Never start some-

too short to learn all lessons on their own.

Yasmin Shiraz's new book "The Blueprint For My Girls" is a self-help book for adolescent women. The goal of this book is to show an individual how to build a life full of courage, determination and self-love.

Shiraz uses a simple format to help teach readers life coping skills. The book is filled with 99 expressions where the author gives a simple strategy for esteem building. Then she gives her testimony, a blueprint—which is more like a spiritual concept of why one should follow her suggestion and she gives the reader room to write their own thoughts about the concept.

I don't think this book says anything new and the author fails to give a practical outline of how to build

self-esteem. She mainly gives theories and leaves the bulk of the work of analyzing to the reader.

I would only recommend this book to young avid readers who always have a book in their hands.

By Artellia Burch  
artellia.burch@thecharlottepost.com

Two new books attempts to add a wealth of wisdom and a blueprint for girls to help build self-esteem.

"A Wealth of Wisdom" is a collection of stories of 50 African Americans aged 70 and older.

Each story gives a personal account of the obstacles and triumphs of the individuals. The passionate and successful individuals tell heart-warming stories of their past. While inspiring you with the wisdom that was passed to them or enlightening nuggets they have gathered over the years and now want to pass on to you.

"A Wealth of Wisdom" includes stories of national and regional leaders all edited by Camille O. Cosby and Renee Poussaint. Men and women equally grace the pages from a wide range of professional and personal lifestyles. They are clergy, educators, artists, healers, and military leaders. You can also find some of the most famous black elders like Maya Angelou, Ray Charles,


with a photograph. Each piece without a photo made me a little sad because it only adds to the magic of the book when you can connect a face with insightful words.

Here are a couple of passages that stick out to me Dick Gregory,



thing you don't finish. Never make excuses. Stand up for what you believe and be as honest as you can possibly be in your way of life. I would recommend this book to people who love wisdom and think life is

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The Post readers are loyal and trustworthy, but they will wait to make sure you are going to last before knocking the door down. But once they know you provide a good service, and are going to be there, they are there too. Not only did the ads work, but the stories pull in clients as well. After being featured as the Lifestyles feature of the week, we could hardly handle the business. **Thank you to the staff of The Charlotte Post!**

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## Kids advocate for other children and themselves

Every child wants a home," says 12-year-old Cronetta. "So help the children in the world because everybody needs a parent."

Cronetta and her brother Robert, age 10 are spokespeople for children in foster care who are waiting for adoptive families in Mecklenburg neighborhoods. They know what it feels like to be waiting — they are waiting for parents to adopt them.

"Cronetta is insightful, engaging, and outgoing — she has a strong sense



Cronetta and Robert are two of many children waiting to be adopted in Mecklenburg County.

of responsibility, appreciates guidance, and has a positive outlook on life," says long-time friend Evelyn Dillard.

smile, pleasant personality and has a special interest in music." Both Cronetta and Robert sing

in the church choir together.

"I love my brother, he's always been part of my life," states Cronetta. "I want to be adopted into the same family with Robert."

If you are interested in finding out more about Cronetta and Robert or other children awaiting adoption, call Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services at 704-336-KIDS (5437).



Communities for Families & Kids  
**MECKLENBURG COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION

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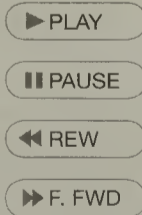


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