

This may spark controversy, anger, and/or ill feeling, but it is an informative look into the way some Blacks think of themselves today.

Often Blacks have come to look at Whites as "Europeans." A very perspective observation I'm sure, but haven't we always known where these immigrants came from. We need to realize where we came from. Yet, some of us seem to be disturbed by the term Black. If that indeed is true, then we've only been observing Europeans. That is a very sad thought?

I am and always will be proud of myself for being black, a black man and of African descent. How sad that through all the years of sweat, blood, and many tears, we can begin to deny our identity.

Maybe some of us are just ashamed because we don't know enough about our history, culture or the struggle that has been going in this country for almost four hundred years now. But that cannot be the problem. Can it? Sure we know of such great blackmen and women as Crispus Attacker, Denmark Vessey, Ricard Allen, George Washington Carver, harriet Tubamn, Sojourner Truth, Fredrick Douglas, Benjamin Haneker, W.E.B. Dubois, Nat Turner, Sterling Brown or Richard Wright. I know; that's easy.

There is not way you can get by me without knowing some of them. We are too aware of our heritage not to know of their contributions to our culture and freedom. Then again, we shoul know about the stimated 20 million blacks that died, were killed trying to escape this unwanted bondage or thrown overboard the ships used to transport them from their homeland to the land of the free, by men of greed and cunning whose only purpose was to reap capitalistic gain thru the selling of human flesh!

We must all question our knowledge at some point and time. Can you really imagine working from sun-up to sun-down, in torrid heat, everyday of your life? But we all

# INK SPOT

knew about this. Our parents and grandparents told us of this. Our parents Or did they? Do we really know that black women would kill their female children at times to avoid them having to suffer the indignity of white rape during this period of transgression? That there was a route called "The Underground Railroad", used to help slaves escape to freedom, funneled by free blacks, former slaves and white abolitionists. The fact that there was a large cash reward for Fredrick Douglas's death because of his outspoken views on slavery in his paper "The North Star". That John Brown was killed at Harper's Ferry for inciting blacks to rebell against their masters, much like Nat Turner had some thirty years before him, to gain what was promised everyone in this country by the U.S. Constitution, freedom. A word that has tremendous potential, but was not readily available to the poor black folk, who were subjected to some of the most inhuman conditions brought out since the dawn of history.

These, our ancestors, balled, fough in wars, died in the fields, hung by angry whites, all for their right to freedom. Deculturized and swept under the rug at the hands of white people, excuse me, Europeans, for the privilege of being called a

mean man. Anything would have been more acceptable than "boy" as a greeting. But, get these other names since I'm on th subject, Coon, Spook, Darky, Spear-chucker, Jungle Bunny, Tar Babby, and the favorite, Nigger. All of this and our people

still haven't gained respect freedom nor equality in a country whose very existence was spurred by the word "freedom"

But the fight for freedom has done been neither won or lost. It is the very nature of our living, to do as much as we can, fr the little brothers and sisters growing up in a society that would just as soon, look the other way, than act in their behalf. I appeal to all of you, Black, Bilaian or Other, as I've noted some Brothers select, re-evaluate your thinking abd perspective and lift your heads up high and teach the children to be proud to say that "I'm Black and Proud". We all need the inner strength and faith to keep on moving forward to that "Dream." We all really deserve it, for the black folk who died before they heard it.

A Brother to the End,  
J.B. McAfee  
FCl inmate



## Ancestral voice



Sojourner Truth

dey talks 'bout dis ting in de head; what dis dey call it? ("Intellect," whispered someone near.) Dat's it, honey. What dat got to do wid woin's rights or nigger's rights? If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yourn holds a quart, wouldn't ye be mean not to let me have my little half-measure full?

Den dat little man in black dar, he say women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wan't a woman! Whar did your Christ come from? From God and a woman! Man had nothing to do wid Him?

If de fust woman God ever made was strong enough to turn de world upside down all alone, dese women togedder ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now dey is asking to do it, de men better let 'em."

Sojourner Truth (1797-1883), formally Isabella Truth, was born a slave in New York and freed in 1827. The *The York Globe* declares that Sojourner Truth "stands preeminently as the only colored woman who gained a national reputation on the lecture platform in the days before the war."

This quote, reproduced in the dialect in which it was recorded, is an excerpt from the speech she made at the Woman's Rights Convention in 1851 (in Akron, Ohio). Her remarks are directed against the previous speaker, a clergyman who had ridiculed the weakness and helplessness of women, who should, therefore, not be entrusted with the vote.

## BLACK INK

"The essence of freedom is understanding."

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## IM office complains

It is never more apparent than during the IM basketball season at Carolina, Black students come in prior to the season's beginning, asking for more black officials (referees) and asking why there are not more. Black players come in to protest or complain about unfair officiating by an "all white" fereree trio during a game. Some black students have even suggested that the publicity articles are sighted. Well, these complaints, though welcomed, are not valid.

Black students are not the only players to complain about officiating, nor are they the only students to complain about not being published. But Carolina's IM-Rec program is run by professionals that want to reach every segment of UNC's population.

The emergence of interested blacks during basketball season points to another, much more severe, problem with blacks and intramurals at Carolina. With such poor participation by blacks in everything but basketball, and almost no participation among black women, one must wonder if black students are only interested in that one sport, which is doubtful, or if the word is not getting out — if the black students are not being informed. In this respect, the *Black Ink* has failed.

Despite this year's extensively planned, publicized and implemented basketball officials clinic program, only three black students, all male, showed interest. That three out of some 100 officials does not make a very nice percentage. Three black women have joined the student office assistants staff, making the grand total, six.

The IM-Rec program offers over 40 different activities spanning the entire school term and summer sessions. There are more than just major team sports like basketball, volleyball, soccer, football and softball. Individual and all-campus sports, special events, such as the recent Valentine's Couples Competition, and the new "Lifetime Leisure Program," that offers students and faculty instructional clinics 16

different sports and interests (including four fitness classes), represent a vast area of interest.

The Carolina student is exposed to, and can take advantage of, a well-rounded and well-planned program of competitive and recreational activity to relieve the pressures of school, keep the body fit and socialize in a healthy, positive way.

In a move to increase the publicity efforts of the IM-Rec program, a graduate assistantship in publicity was created this year. As a result, the IM-Rec publicity coordinator mails a press release every week to 42 school and community organizations, including the *Black Ink*. Included in this weekly release are deadline and activity dates, plus information regarding every aspect of the program.

The *Black Ink* has used this information twice in the whole year: two date items in its calendar of events. Realizing that every publication has problems of space, it is still puzzling why so much space is given to varsity athletic features and score predictions where benefit goes to so few.

The *Black Ink* uses this calendar in each issue to inform black students of events "it" feels is of interest to the black community at UNC. *Black Ink* spokespersons have repeatedly told the IM-Rec office that "its" reason for not publishing or even printing IM material is that "it" feels black students can get this information from the *Daily Tar Heel*.

Why then have the *Black Ink*? Isn't one of "its" purposes to inform black students of available services.

The IM-Rec office wants nothing more than a well-balanced program for ALL. We encourage black students to join the officials association and all other aspects of our program.

We also urge the *Black Ink*, a publication we feel compliments, not replaces the *Daily Tar Heel* for black students, to help us help its readers readership.