

Dear Vike

Dear Vike,

I have plenty of friends, but recently someone that I revered as my closest friend told me something unforgettable. She claimed that some other close friends said that I was gay or bisexual. Then, I deliberately hung up the phone on her. I try to be a social and affable person. I am involved in many clubs and activities, and I try to support other organizations when I can. Sometimes, I think that I am too nice. I think that this rumor came about because I belong to a faith that believes in Chasity. My friend wants me to be promiscuous like her. She dates a man that humiliates her in public and she only continues to date him because he was a prominent member of a popular fraternity. She curses and throws temper tantrums, and somehow she thinks that's ladylike.

Her comments did not cause me to cry on the outside, but it did cause me to lose faith in our friendship. Since then I have shunned her. I think that I am a beautiful person inside and out. My beauty and bliss radiate from within. and I try to be as beautiful outside as I know I am on the inside. I think that my faith helps me to reenforce my belief that a man should be worthy of me! I already know that I am worthy of attention, but I try not to entertain unworthy men who think that I am just another Playboy bunny wannabe and a sex toy. I don't know why my friend tried to hurt me, but I am out of ideas. Should I just "forgive and forget" or continue to "forgive but ignore" her (and just keep praying that one day she will be a better person)? What should I do?

Dear Bewildered Buddy,

Try not to be offended by what your friend said. If she is your friend she would have approached you in a friendly manner. Explain to her that she has offended you and if she values the friendship she will give you an acceptable response. You should remain faithful to your chastity if that is what you have been taught and do not compromise yourself with anyone whether they consider themselves a friend or not. This confrontation with your friend may be a test of faith and endurance and if you do not compromise, then you have proven you self worthy of any blessing.



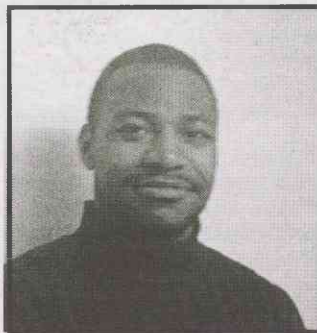
Viking Spotlight

by Laquisha Tisdal



The stunning beauty, Nicole Dillard, is a senior, from Eden, NC. Dillard's major is Business Management with a concentration in Administration. She describes her personality as sweet, understanding, happy and intelligent. She has participated in the University Gospel Choir, Entrepreneurs Club, and the Mass Media Club. She is also a member of Enigma Entertainment and has also represented a fraternity as Miss Omega Psi Phi. Dillard enjoys reading novels. *The Color Purple* is her favorite. Her dream is to own her own clothing shop, in which she would name, "Too Impress" with her line of clothing under the name "Co Le". Her talents include playing the piano and singing. Her voice has been described as "unique, soulful, and spiritual with a touch of Aretha Franklin". Her future goal is to work in the music entertainment industry and in business. Later she plans to move to Atlanta, Georgia to pursue a singing career. Dillard loves the artist, R. Kelly and says that one day she hopes to work with him. Her motto is, "I can accomplish all things with God on my side".

The tall and handsome, Rayshawn Askews, is a senior Biology Pre-Medicine major. From Cincinnati, Ohio, Askew was chosen by ECSU to play football on a full scholarship, in hopes of changing the record for the better. He is a member of the Biological Honor Society (Beta Beta Beta), Fellow Christian Athletes (FCA); the vice-president of the Student Athlete Advisor Committee; President of Butler Hall; and a member of New Generation Ministries. He has been honored with the Coca Cola All American Academics Award, the Christian Athlete of the Year Award, National Dean's List, Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor's Award, Outstanding Academics Award, Who's Who Among Students in Colleges and Universities, and an Outstanding Leadership of the NCAA Award. Askew enjoys learning new things, swimming, tumbling, communicating, traveling and collecting new quarters. His dream is to play professional football, and his goal is to excel as a professional athlete and maybe become an optometrist. He is talented in playing the keyboard and writing poetry. His favorite artists are Kurt Carr, a gospel singer, and Donnie McClurkin, who sings uplifting music that inspires him. He is a Pentecostal Apostolic Christian. He describes himself as understanding, caring, truthful, humorous, polite and an outgoing person. His motto is "pain is inevitable, suffering is optional."



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Destiny's Child Maze featuring Frankie Beverly Jill Scott

Brotha to Brotha



J.C. Polk III

JCP.ecsu_sga@lycos.com

In the month following the commemoration of African-American history we begin to honor the source of this Earth's sustenance. We celebrate, as we should everyday, our mothers, aunts, sisters, nieces, girlfriend(s), wives and lovers. We spotlight the personification of the life cycle the woman. By celebrating them and appreciating their being, we celebrate life. For women are the womb and breast of humanity, they bring forth and nurture life. Women can be attributed with providing man with many of the intangible necessities of life. The maternal guidance that facilitates our moral development would be non-existent without women. The feminine sweetness that man needs to feed our ability to love would be a mere fantasy. Without women, there would be no such thing known as sensuality. This angelic creation provides the feminine element within us, our emotional integrity also known as intuition. This right hemispheric input gives life spiritual balance and allows us to tap into higher realms of consciousness. In essence, 'no them' would mean 'no us.'

On a totally higher echelon, is the black woman. If we as black men are to regain our moralistic and social sanity and interdependency of black men and women which allow for a harmonious existence within our race to manifest, we must re-embrace the black woman.

Within our society challenges exists that deceive, impede and abuse the black man. Enduring these pitfalls over a matter of time potentially create a potion of solitude, doubt, frustration and stagnation. The black woman, when embraced, provides an antidote of support, confidence, love and perpetual evolution; consequently, empowering the black man to reach his full potential by realizing his full power.

So Brotha to Brotha, I challenge you to adopt a mindset of love, respect and cooperation while substituting (misogyny) with respect for all black women and women in general.

The Compass staff Celebrates National Women's History Month.

"Each time a girl opens a book and reads a womanless history, she learns she is worth less."
-Myra Pollack Sadker