

# OPINION/EDITORIAL

## Maybe Cosby does know best

**Tiffany Ross**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After the discovery of nooses on display around the country and racist remarks made in the media, the stability of the black community has been examined in the last year.

Perhaps because of all the scrutiny, the black community has learned the importance of unity. Some may question whether this reorientation of unity can birth a better community and establish the foundations to improving the image of blacks.

It seems as though actor, comedian, television producer and activist, Dr. William Henry "Bill" Cosby, Jr., and Alvin Poussaint, professor of psychiatry at Harvard University, have solutions to the questions and issues regarding the development of the black community.

The two have released a book, "Come on people!: A Path from Victims to Victors." Cosby and Poussaint argue that their book's purpose is to empower African-Americans to make transitions "from being victims in America to becoming victors."

The book focuses on

issues such as avoiding the tricks of racism and parenting, and suggests solutions to the downfalls within the black community such as corrupt values and the negligence of character correction.

Cosby and his co-author decided to write the book after Cosby received harsh criticism for his speech at the 2004 NAACP event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the landmark court case, *Brown v. Board of Education*. He was criticized after claiming that lower-class blacks were not holding up their end of the deal. He pleaded with blacks, asking them to no longer blame their limited success on white people, and to correct broken values within the community.

Many blacks were not only displeased by Cosby's statements, but also by his method of delivery; claiming that he was attacking his own people. Meanwhile, others agreed with his statements, claiming that he was telling the truth and that those who disagreed were

only angry because he was being honest.

So far, Cosby's new book has received heavy criticism. He has also been criticized for the method he used to promote his book. For example, Cosby and Poussaint appeared on television shows such as "Meet

the Press," where the majority of viewers are not black. Some blacks felt that Cosby's method of promoting his book was

harming the black community by revealing critical problems within the community to white audiences.

I agree with Cosby's statements, as well as those that he made in the past, along with his purpose for writing the book.

Even though I was born well after the civil rights movement, I still understand and know the effects that movement had on the black community. Talking to older blacks, many of them talk about how there is a lack of values in the community.

They also spoke about how they had to fight to

have the things that we take for granted today.

It seems that at a time when our elders had nothing, they really had everything that they needed, which was each other. That is something we can't confidently claim today. In earlier days, the black community understood that they had to work together in order to survive. If we were to return to those values, we could make a change within our community and in our society.

No matter how others criticize our race, or even members of our own community criticize younger generations for the way we dress or the things we do, one thing that they cannot deny is that we have the power of influence.

Our music, art, opinions, styles of dress, and language (good or bad) have integrated societies around the world. Therefore, it is urgent that we take a stand to change the circumstances within our community.

Instead of bashing Dr. Cosby and Poussaint, those who disagree should not focus much on how he said what he said, but should examine themselves and their community to make sure that anything Cosby

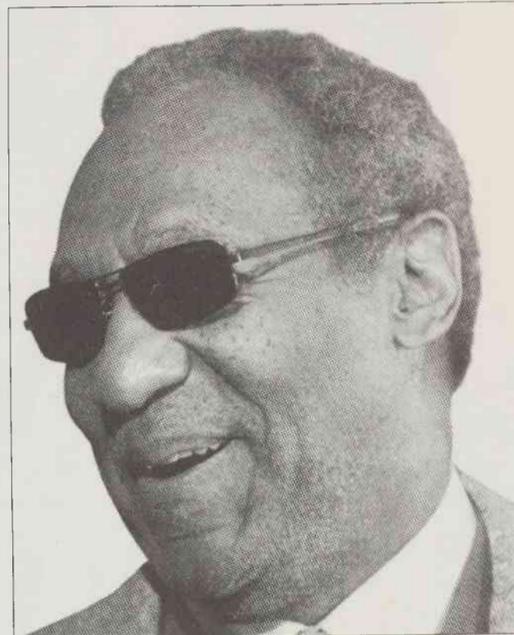


Photo by MCT Campus  
Cosby's new book "Come on People" is causing a stir.

mentions in his statements is not occurring around them.

It is time for a change. Cosby, being one of the most visible blacks in the U.S., must be upset to see his brothers and sisters constantly downplayed the way we are on television,

movies, and to each other. I know if I were in his shoes, I would not know how to define my success if I saw my community and my brothers and sisters presented the way they are to the world, and I would make it my obligation to awaken my people, as well.

## Warning: Campus parking situation could harm community relations

**By Steven J. Gaither**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's no secret that on-campus parking at Winston-Salem State isn't getting any better. Every year the school accepts more and more freshman and transfer students, yet does little to nothing to accommodate their parking needs. For years, the university has prided itself on being the fastest-growing school in the University of North Carolina System. However, other than the occasional story from *The News Argus*, little has been

said or done about alleviating the congestion.

As I was getting to my car, parked at an off-campus location, an elderly woman, who seemed slightly irritated at my appearance stopped me.

"I wish you kids would give us a break and park on campus," she said. I nodded as she continued to vent and then walked into church.

As I drove home, I nearly kicked myself for not telling her just why her church's parking lot was packed with WSSU students at 6 p.m. Students park off-campus

because buying a decal is no guarantee that a spot will be available when needed. The choices are limited: Either purchase a decal and pray you can find a space or park outside of campus.

The university must do something to alleviate the parking problems or risk deteriorating relations with the greater community.

It is unfortunate that over 100 years of building relationships with the surrounding community could go down the drain for six years of growth.

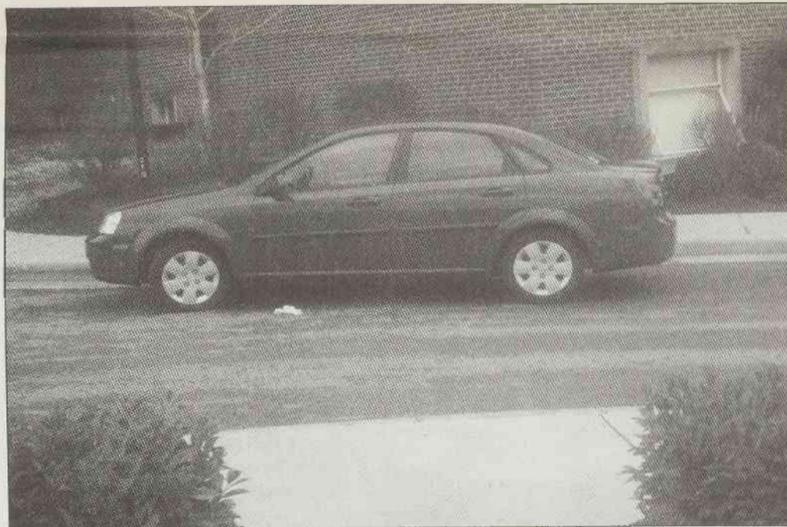
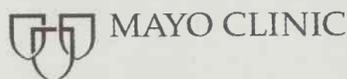


Photo by Grant Fulton  
Parking spots are hard to come by, so many students park illegal or off campus.



- Paid interview expenses**
- Generous relocation package**
- Benefits start first day**
- Tuition assistance**
- Competitive salaries**
- Continuing Education**



### Nursing Graduates

Mayo Clinic Nursing in Rochester, Minnesota invites new graduates to embark on an adventure and discover unparalleled opportunities for career mobility and growth. Our hospitals are world-renowned acute care teaching facilities where quality nursing is our tradition and mission.

For the new graduate we offer clinical and classroom-based orientation to foster professional and personal growth and development. A primary preceptor is assigned to ensure a successful transition from student to professional.

To apply or learn more about nursing opportunities for new graduates at Mayo Clinic, please visit [www.mayoclinic.org/jobs-nursing-rst](http://www.mayoclinic.org/jobs-nursing-rst).

Phone: 800-562-7984  
E-mail: [nursing.hr.staffing@mayo.edu](mailto:nursing.hr.staffing@mayo.edu)

Mayo Clinic is an affirmative action and equal opportunity educator and employer.



## The News Argus

The Student Newspaper of  
Winston-Salem State University

*Editor-in-Chief*  
**Steven J. Gaither**

*News Editor*  
**Stephanie Douthit**

*Photo Editor*  
**Grant Fulton**

*Managing Editor*  
**Sharrod Patterson**

*Advertising Manager*  
**Tecarra Sutton**

*Online Editor*  
**James Cherry**

#### Staff Writers

**Shadonna Boyd**  
**Terri Day**  
**Joseph Gardner**  
**Jerrold Johnson**

**Steven Lipscomb**  
**Tecarra Sutton**  
**Charlene Wheeler**  
**Larry Williams**

### Editorial Policy

The News Argus is a student publication of Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem, N.C.

The views and opinions expressed on the

Opinion page are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of *The News Argus* staff or of the faculty, staff, students, or administration of the university.

We welcome letters to the editor and opinion columns. Letters and columns should not exceed 400 words in

length. E-mail your columns and letters to [newzargus@yahoo.com](mailto:newzargus@yahoo.com). Or, deliver them in person on a CD or DVD at Carolina Hall, Room G005. E-mailed submissions should be sent in MSWord format.

With each article or letter, please include your name, major or department, classification,

e-mail address and phone number so we may contact you for verification and confirmation.

*The News Argus* editors reserve the right to edit letters and opinion columns for length, grammar, clarity, profanity and style, but not for ideas. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

\* *The News Argus* is a weekly newspaper for the students, faculty and staff of WSSU.

\* Opinions expressed in *The News Argus* are not necessarily those of the faculty, staff or administration at WSSU.

\* For advertising information e-mail [newzargus@yahoo.com](mailto:newzargus@yahoo.com) or call 336-750-2327  
[www.thenewsargus.com](http://www.thenewsargus.com)