

# AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?

**Publishers Note:** This article is a reprint from our Sept. 2000 issue the more some thing change the more they remain the same. We need to destroy the Willie Lynch demon that still influences Black Americans.

By Paula McCoy

God asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know, Cain responded, "Am I My Brother's Keeper?" God knew that Cain had killed his brother out of jealousy because God had favored Abel's gift's and offerings. (Genesis 4:9).

I use this bible account to pose the very same question that was asked thousands of years ago, "Am I my brother's keeper? We might ponder whether we are perpetuating Cain's sin and continuing to kill each other off because of jealousy, envy, greed, hatred and the like. This destruction causes not just physical death (Black-on-Black crime) but economical, mental and social death.

Spokesmen, comedians and statisticians alike, suggest that African-Americans are gaining, economically, at a much slower rate than other ethnic groups. Some would have us believe (erroneously) that it is because some ethnic groups, let's say Hispanics and Asians, are being favored (by the majority) over another, let's say African-Americans. It does appear that "they" are now employed in jobs that "we" use to have, and that they seem to be opening more businesses than we are. As we make these assumptions, let us explore reasons why this may be occurring. I offer these merely as possible reasons why we are not achieving the economic success that we have the potential to achieve.

One reason, that immediately comes to mind, is the recurring theme that "almost every ethnic group, other than African-Americans, support each other by pooling their resources together. They (Hispanics and other ethnic groups) often times, live in the same household (sometimes 2-3 families at one time), share one car that they collectively buy, and send money back home to care for others or help others come to this land of plenty." Are they their brother's keeper! Their mighty act of benevolence may be the major factor that propels them up the economic ladder.

Take the Jewish community as another example; one dollar turns over thirteen times before it leaves their community. That means it touches thirteen Jewish hands before it goes elsewhere. In the African-American community, that same dollar



Slaves

takes a jet plane to the mall and sometimes never enters the community! We won't patronize our own businesses (for whatever reason) then we shake our heads when another black business fails!

Now, I don't want to come down too hard; you've heard all of this before. There is a reason for our condition (we rationalize). Why, even our lack of trust for one another goes back generations. Certainly, if it is not Cain's sin that we suffer from, it may well be as a result of **William Lynch's master plan for controlling slaves.** Consider his speech that follows as it relates to our pathetic condition. This speech was delivered on the bank of the James River in 1712:

"Gentlemen, I greet you here on the bank of the James River in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twelve. First, I shall thank you, the gentlemen of the Colony of Virginia, for bringing me here. I am here to help solve some of your problems with slaves.

Your invitation reached me on my modest plantation in the West Indies where I have experimented with some of the newest and still the oldest methods for control of slaves. Ancient Rome would envy us if my program is implemented. As our boat sailed south on the James River, named for our illustrious King, whose version of the Bible we cherish, I saw enough to know that your problem is not unique. While Rome used cords of wood as crosses for standing human bodies along its old highways in great numbers you are here using the tree and the rope on occasion.

I caught a whiff of a dead slave hanging from a tree a couple of miles back. You are not only losing valuable stock by hangings, you are having uprisings, slaves are running away, your crops are sometimes left in the fields too long for maximum profit, you suffer occasional fires, and your animals are killed. Gentlemen, you know what your problems are; I do not need to elaborate. I am here not to enumerate your problems, I am here to introduce you to a method of solving them.

In my bag here, I have a foolproof method for controlling your black slaves. I guarantee every one of you that if installed correctly it will control the slaves for at least 300 years. My method is simple. Any member of your family or your overseer can use it.

I have outlined a number of differences among the slaves; and I take these differences and make them bigger. I use fear, distrust, and envy for control purposes. These methods have worked on my modest plantation in the West Indies and it will work throughout the South. Take this simple list of differences, and think about them. On top of my list is "Age," the second is "Color" or shade, then there is intelligence, size, sex, size of plantations, status on plantation, attitude of owners, whether the slave live in the valley, on a hill, East, West, North, South, have fine hair or coarse hair, or is tall or short. Now that you have a list of differences, I shall give you an outline of action—but before that I shall assure you that distrust is stronger than adulation; respect or admiration.

The black slave after receiving this indoctrination shall carry on and will become self-renewing and self-generating for hundreds of years, maybe thousands.

Don't forget you must pitch the old black vs. the young black male, and the young black male against the old black male. You must use the dark skin slave vs. the light skin slaves and the light skin slaves vs. the dark skin slaves. You must use the female vs. the male, and the male vs. the female. You must also have your white servants and overseers distrust all blacks, but it is necessary that your slaves trust and depend on us. They must love, respect and trust only us.

Gentlemen, these Kits are your Keys to control. Use them. Have your wives and children use them, never miss opportunity. If used intensely for one year, the slaves themselves will remain perpetually distrustful. Thank you, gentlemen."

University of Missouri-St. Louis  
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If this account is not reason enough to shock us to our senses, what will? When will we genuinely start caring for each other, working together, trusting each other? Why are we not our brother's keeper? Who can ever understand the psychology behind it all. As a people, we have overcome a lot of struggles and we can and must overcome this too. Surely, it won't take 300 more years to deprogram the self-hatred that continues to destroy us and cause us to be the last in line. Let's wake-up so that we can achieve our economic potential now, for we are a chosen people.

There are those among us who have taken the shackles off their feet and are working hard to dispel stereotypical myths about black folk. They make every effort to "buy black" by spending their dollars with black businesses, contractors and vendors. And there are those black businesses, contractors and vendors who have integrity, go the extra mile and provide quality service because they know that it is necessary to earn trust, respect and our patronage. My hat is off to you. Keep the faith my brother, we shall overcome!

**PUBLISHER'S NOTE:** This article is a reprint annually to help Black Americans understand the history of why we can't get along, work together, and be the people God wants us to be! We need to send the Willie Lynch demon back to the pits of Hell.

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Sartia Beverly, Managing Editor

Ann F. Sumler, Financial Director

Kenneth Archie, Advertising Consultant Director  
Asim Razzak, Kenneth Fox, Jim Warren  
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