IWasn't Born A Democrat

If there is one thing i wasn't born, it's a Democrat. Don't get me wrong. I wasn't born Republican, independent, Libertarian or anything else for that matter. But it seems for African Americans, there's an unwritten rule that you are the sole property (no offense) of one particular party. Let's just be blunt. It's as if it were explicitly written somewhere in the 1st Chapter in the Great Book of Black Ideology that if you're Black, you're a Democrat. And don't dare go thinking outside the Democratic box or you will feel the wrath of the Demagogue. You will then be forever banished from the Black circle of influence and live amongst other leprous Uncle Toms and the utterly brainwashed. Really, now?

The Short Story. I grew up in an all Black area in Shreveport, Louisiana, called the Cooper Road. It had a reputation of being one of the worst areas in the city. I lived in the projects and considered a 2,000 square-foot house a mansion. During my twelve years of education, there was only one White girl to ever attend class with me. (I can still remember Nancy.) I was never exposed first hand to anything outside of school, church and music. My favorite TV shows were Good Times, The Jeffersons, Bewitched and Wonder Woman. My favorite sport was golf, but I only watched it on TV because no one I knew played it.

When it came to politics, I knew only two things: Democrats were for the Blacks and Republicans were for the rich, which sent a signal to me that there was no such thing as a rich Black. "The Man" wouldn't allow that. As a teenager I even enjoyed the privilege of being kicked out, and as an adult, I've fallen on such hard times that I've lived in my car. But I can honestly say that I have truly enjoyed life and the valuable lessons it's taught me. And I thank God I had a role model in my grandmother. So, my question is, "Who brainwashed me?"

Anyone who would seriously consider me brainwashed is admittedly denying my right to a point of view. No one brainwashed me. After years of being exposed to one point of view and calling anyone who didn't agree with that point of view a "sell-out" or a "wanna-be", I started paying objective attention. I simply watched and listened to other views and began to draw my own conclusions. Then one day I had an epiphany. So, like a popular bumper sticker reads, "I think. Therefore, I am a Republican."

I think man was created. I think the family unit is one of society's most important institutions. I think marriage is between a man and woman and that homosexuality is a perversion. I think people should be held accountable for their actions and the press should lay off Bill Cosby for saying so. I think it's better to teach a man how to fish than to just give him a fish. I think people have the right to bear arms and children should be afforded the best education. I think our Christian heritage should be protected from revisionist historians. I think abortion is systematic genocide of the Black race and the welfare system is a system of mental-enslavement perpetuated by forktongued liberals who play on our grievances while making every effort to keep us comfortable in those grievances. I think you shouldn't complain about what you allow. Having worked in the media, I know it's a well-oiled liberal machine. I think most Blacks are Democrats and couldn't give you three good reasons why outside of the rhetoric that Black pseudo-leaders have used to keep us feeling victimized instead of victorious. I think most Blacks don't know their history because if they did, they'd stop this nonsensical talk of Republicans trying to take us back to slavery, since the Republican Party was founded on an anti-slavery and civil rights platform and was the original party of Black Americans until the government starting giving hand-outs. I think it's important to respect your fellowman. I think freedom is worth fighting and dying for as many of my ancestors did for me. I think liberalism will be the death of America. I think B.E.T. should stand for Black Extermination Technique, (or, to borrow from my mentor, Reginald Jones, Black Exploitation TV). You know what? I think that I am perfectly capable of thinking for myself.

Most of all, I think political affiliation should be based on one's personal convictions, and NOT the color of one's skin. How shallow. Think about it.

Angel Roberson is a former news reporter/anchor and now editor and publisher of the quarterly newsletter The Other Side: The Voice of Conservative Minorities, which circulates throughout Arkansas. She is also founder of the Angel Project Outreach, Inc., which was set up to tackle issues plaguing our nation's youth through spiritual growth and the performing arts.

Angel Roberson writes on a gamut of issues giving a voice to the often muted or criticized voices of African-American conservative Republicans, Libertarians and independents who are fed up with the ridiculous, yet pervasive, notion of Black Group Think.

Tips For Easy, Enjoyable Holiday Entertaining

(MS) – The holidays can be a busy time of year with little energy left over for creating festive holiday parties or family get-togethers. Durafiame Inc., offers the following tips to help put the focus on the enjoyment of entertaining, instead of the stress:

• Burn a firelog in your fireplace to create a warm, soothing atmosphere. These firelogs provide all of the ambiance of a wood fire, last up to four hours and require no tending so you can focus on your guests rather than the fire.

• Light a few scented candles in areas were guests gather.

• Purchase holiday CDs or tapes over the Internet that can serve as background music.

 Add your own personal flair to decorations by mixing traditional elements with non-traditional colors – instead of red and green, use silver and light blue.

• Let children help decorate. The charm of a child's handwriting or decoration can bring a simple joy to the party.

• Plan holiday meals in advance and prepare dishes that can be frozen and thawed on the day of event.

• Don't worry if your place settings don't match. Alternating patterns can add some interest to your table.

• For parties, focus on planning potlucks or dessert events so food preparation is kept to a minimum.

· Buy store-made cookies instead of spending hours baking.

• String white lights around plants or windows to add to the feeling of a decorated Christmas tree.

• Create table center-pieces by wrapping shoeboxes and other small boxes in holiday gift paper.

• Instead of requiring that every party guest buy a gift, consider a "white elephant" gift exchange.

• Buy a case of durafiame firelogs to have on hand to give as favors to guests attending your parties.

 Remember that the reason for having a holiday party is to share the spirit of the season with friends and loved ones.

