Wildmon: Minorities Can Gain

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Because Wildmon, chairman of the Coalition for Better Television, sees television as the "most powerful educator we have in our society today," he has initiated a war on TV programming and on pornography.

One recent effort by the coalition, a group of approximately 2,200 which monitors TV shows, was an attack on the movie "Sister, Sister," written by noted author and Winston-Salem resident Maya Angelou, because of its depiction of a black minister who cheated on his wife and embezzled church funds.

Although some local black ministers agreed that the film was a fair portrayal of a realistic problem, Wildmon says it is not "representative" or "indicative" of the black church.

Wildmon says his main reason for opposing the movie was because the program, like many others, portraved the minister in an unfavorable role. "And there's no counterbalance of anything positive on a minister in that situation," he says.

"No one denies those things happen. (But) if that's all you get, then the message is that that's all we are."

He adds that the movie is an affront to blacks because it shows black ministers in a bad light.

"In one essence, it was the worst stereotype of a black man," Wildmon says. "You know what this would do with a lot of other people. It would only reinforce what (negative things) they say."

But Wildmon, who admits he is unsure of his black following, says his campaign isn't against a problem that is purely racial. "It's not a racist problem," he says. "It's not an economic problem. It crosses the whole thing, because where people are concerned, we (coalition members) don't ask if they're black, white or Methodist."

While Wildmon points out that minorities should be concerned with the coalition's campaign, he sees no need for the coalition to address the stereotyping of minorities in the media, and says the Negro Actors Guild of America is making progress in that area.

"They've been putting the heat on Hollywood pretty strongly, and they've been making some gains," he says "They've got their own group out there that's doing more than we can do. They've got more clout."

Wildmon compares himself to the Moral Majority's Rev. Jerry Falwell, a not-so-popular figure in the black community. Their concerns, he says, are basically the same.

As to how he is viewed by minorities, Wildmon adds, "I can't help (how people feel about him). I know what I am. I have to go to bed at night and sleep with myself. I am a child of God and I don't care if you're black, white, purple or polka dot."

He says his concern is to "turn the country around." When asked how long his organization will continue its efforts, Wildmon says, "Until "

"We're playing for keeps," he says. "I mean, this is serious business. The kind of society our children are going to live in is at stake."

Wildmon says that Hollywood executives may be doing "the best they can," but "there's just no substance to it (their efforts)."

"I don't think the people (in Hollywood) really have the mentality," he says. "They're so out of touch with Middle-America that they don't know. They don't know of anything that exists west or east of Hollywood."

One solution Wildmon sees lies in cable television. Even with the adult programming that cable offers, Wildmon feels it provides needed alternatives, and a "new market."

"What we really need is an alternate source," he says. "There's a vast difference between the networks and cable.

"And as bad as cable is going to be, it's an opportunity to break the monopoly of that 'one' mentality. Instead of three networks sitting up there telling all America what their views are, cable offers the potential for a wide variety."

Chronicle Camera From Page 1

about some of the things that happened in different places. I decided to have a party as a precautionary measure."

Veronica Green, mother of three:"I'm not letting my children go out. I work the second shift at work, so they'll stay home. It's too bad out here to let them go out alone. People might give them anything."

Minnie McCrae, mother of a seven-year-old boy:"The

thing is the wrong concept. I'm not even going to let my children get hung up in it."

Yvonne Weaver, mother of two boys:"Sure, they're going out, but I'm going to take them myself. We are going to houses where I know the people who live there. I'm not accepting any apples or fruit and I'm checking all candy for broken wrappers or otherwise."



Winston-Salem Chronicle



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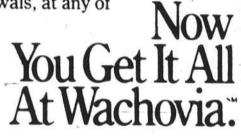
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things people are doing nowadays, I'm afraid to let him go out. I plan to have a party for him and some of his friends."

Etherine Patterson, mother of three: I'm definitely not going to let my children go out. It's just too dangerous. I let them go out a couple years ago, but lately it's become just another day for them."

in Halloween because of what it stands for. The whole here."

Howard Henderson, father of four:"Times are rough and people are crazy out here. I'm not letting my kids go out. I may have a sort of social gathering for them instead."

Harvey Lewis, father of a four-year-old boy:"We'll take him out ourselves, but we'll be sure to bring whatever he gets back and examine it very carefully. You Alicia Wharton, mother of two boys:"I don't believe don't know what people might do. It's real serious out

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Hauser, Kennedy From Page 1



Dr. C.B. Hauser Annie B. Kennedy

Michael J. Lewis **Margaret Tennille**

Frank E. Rhodes

desire to find ways to decrease inflation, create new employment opportunities, strengthen the public school system and reduce crime.

She says her experience serving on various boards and committees in the county has helped her identify many concerns.

Margaret R. Tennille also plans to address issues affecting the economy, education, justice and public safety as well as health care ...

Tennille, an incumbent who has served five terms,, says her experience as chairman of the House Appropriations Base Budget Committee for Justice and Public Safety makes her aware of many statewide problems.

R. J. Childress, owner of AAMCO Transmission franchises in Winston-Salem and High Point, calls for an efficiently run government and says he is committed to education. Childress says the government "owes everybody the opportunity to have a sound education.'

He says he is disturbed by the increase in neighborhood crime and especially by the rise in the number of crimes against senior citizens.

Frank E. Rhodes, a retired real estate broker, favors senior citizens' needs, the removal of sales taxes on food and fuel oil, the elimination of a household property tax, smaller classrooms and a state minimum wage equal to the federal minimum. Rhodes says there should be an "across-the-board" pay raise for teachers and all other state employees. Michael J. Lewis, a partner in the Lewis & Bowden law firm, also calls for improving the quality of education by ensuring schools have good teachers "who receive sufficient financial rewards to keep them in education." Lewis says he favors keeping in-

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flation down while providing reasonable services to the poor.

Republican candidate Fred S. Hutchins III is clearly the youngest of the candidates at 21 and is a senior political science major at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Hutchins advocates dealing harshly with criminals through stiff sentences and the construction of more prisons to relieve overcrowding.

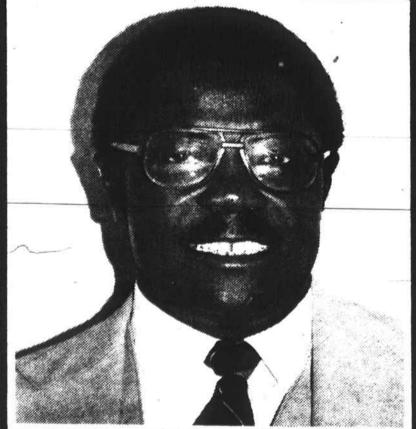
Hutchins favors a reduction in plea bargaining and a increase in the conviction rate to curb the incidence of drunken driving.



Coalition member Clifton Graves stresses that the group decisions were based on "hard, concrete evidence, discussions with candidates, rigorous debates and an analysis of the issues."

Members of the organization met with state House and Senate candidates Oct. 14 and with Board of County Commissioners and Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education candidates Oct. 21 to discuss black community concerns and determine how candidates would address those concerns. For other races, group representatives met with candidates or questioned them at candidates forums. After reviewing the candidates' stances on these issues, coalition members decided on the endorsements. One action the group strongly opposes is blacks voting See Page 20





Budweiser salutes Victor Johnson Jr., assistant principal at North Forsyth Senior High School, as this month's outstanding black community member.

As youth advisor for the 5th District Black Leadership Caucus, Johnson recently involved local youth in registering approximately 2,000 people. He is chairman of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Political/Social Action Committee, a member of the **Black Leadership Roundtable Coalition** and the local NAACP and a special registrar for Forsyth County.

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Dr. Constance Johnson says that she is "proud" her husband received the award, and she plans to have a "quiet celebration for him with their children, Gerald and LaTanja Kim."

Budweiser salutes outstanding members of the Black Community. Each monthly winner receives a \$50 cash prize provided by **R.H. Barringer Distributing Company, your** local distributor of Anheuser-Busch products. Winners are selected by the editors of this newspaper.

