

Survey Shows Families With Kids At Home

A majority of the nation's 65.1 million families have no children under age 18 living at home, according to a report released last week by the Commerce Department's Census Bureau.

The bureau's March 1988 Current Population Survey showed more families without children at home—33.2 million—than families with children at home—31.9 million. The reverse was true in 1980, when 31.0 million families had a child living at home and 28.5 million did not.

Both the number and percentage of two-parent families have declined. The bureau said there are more two-parent families with just one or two children under age 18 in 1988 than in 1970, "but the increase in the number of these relatively small families has been more than offset by a significant decline in the number of larger two-parent families with three or more children." The 1988 survey showed married-couple families with their own children at home accounted for 27 percent of the nation's estimated 91.1 million households, down from 40 percent in 1970.

The report also notes that the number of unmarried-couple households has been increasing more slowly than in the last decade. Their number grew by 63 percent from 1980 to 1988, to 2.6 million, compared with a 117 percent increase during the same period in the 1970s. Some 31 percent of unmarried-couple households in 1988 included one or more children under age 15, slightly higher than in 1980.

The report shows an average of 2.64 persons per household and 3.17 persons per family, the lowest ever. It notes that interacting factors have contributed to the general trend since the mid-1960s toward smaller households and families, including "fewer children per family, more one-parent families, postponement of marriage, and more people living alone."

Singer's Wife Withdrawing Guilty Plea

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)—The wife of singer James Brown withdrew a guilty plea to two drug charges Friday, the day she was scheduled to be sentenced, her attorney said.

John Fleming, who represents Adrienne Brown, said he has received new information about the drug possession cases.

Fleming said he will "need time to investigate and document that information before determining how to proceed with the case."

He did not say what the new information included.

District Attorney Sam Sibley said the case will be set for trial.



FLORAL CLUB—The Fourth Ward Floral Club held its monthly meeting at the home of Mrs. Annie Haywood, 1102 E. Lane St. Members attending included from left to right, Mrs. Anne Haywood, Mrs. Bessie Dudley, Mrs. Elsie Glenn, Mrs. Mary Lane, Mrs. Elizabeth Pugh and Mrs. Helen Rogers. Back row: Mrs. Irene Peppers, Mrs. Bessie Lee and Mrs. Clynia Upchurch. Absent members: Mrs. Betty Pollard, treasurer; Mrs. Laura McLain, vice president; Mrs. Josephine Cameron and Mrs. Bertie Hunter.

Black Business Leader Says Plan For Future

Joshua I. Smith's managerial and entrepreneurial skills have gained him and the company he founded in 1978 national acclaim.

Smith, the founder of the Maxima Corp., has thrust himself and his Rockville, Md. data processing business into the national limelight in just 10 short years.

Smith was in Raleigh recently as part of St. Augustine's College's annual Career Week. The businessman spoke to the college's 1,700-plus students, during an all-college assembly, and came close to missing his flight home as he continued relating his experiences to afternoon classes.

Smith told students that in order to achieve success, the most important thing to remember is not only to plan for your future, but concern yourself about the community from whence you came.

Smith practices what he preaches. He has recently joined forces with an Atlanta-based historically black college, combining his company's managerial abilities, marketing techniques and technical skills with the college's computer facilities and the capabilities of its faculty and student body to deliver data processing services to the Atlanta community.

Maxima has been featured in the Washington Post, Baltimore Sun, Atlanta Journal and Black Enterprise magazine for its swift rise to the top 20 of black-owned and operated private companies.

The privately held computer services and products firm was founded in 1978. Today, it is the ninth-largest black-owned firm, grossing \$41.53 million in eight years, while employing 1,300 people, according to Standard and Poors.

Smith has not neglected to share his wealth with the black community. A graduate of a historically black university himself, he spends a great deal of time talking to minority youngsters urging them to prepare for their future.

Black economic empowerment is the most important area of concern for black Americans, he says.

Growing up in Loveland, Ohio, just northeast of Cincinnati, where his family moved from Kentucky, he knows what it means to a young black male in a home where his father had to leave a job as principal and take a job as a laborer in an illuminating plant, and he learned the value of hard work. Despite that experience, education always remained a priority in the Smith household, he says, and it's obvious he works hard at passing on those values to the black youth with whom he talks.

Voters To Hold Political Forum With Candidates

The Organization of AME Voters in North Carolina will hold a political forum on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 2 p.m. at St. Paul AME Church, 402 W. Edenton St., Raleigh. State and national candidates and/or their representatives will be present to discuss relevant issues. This political action group represents the more than 50,000 members of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in the state.

According to the Rev. L.O. Saunders, organization chairperson, and chairman of the Democratic Party of Lenoir County, Bishop H.H. Brookins, presiding bishop of the Second Episcopal District which includes North Carolina, has asked that all of the AME voters in the state be mobilized into an effective political coalition.

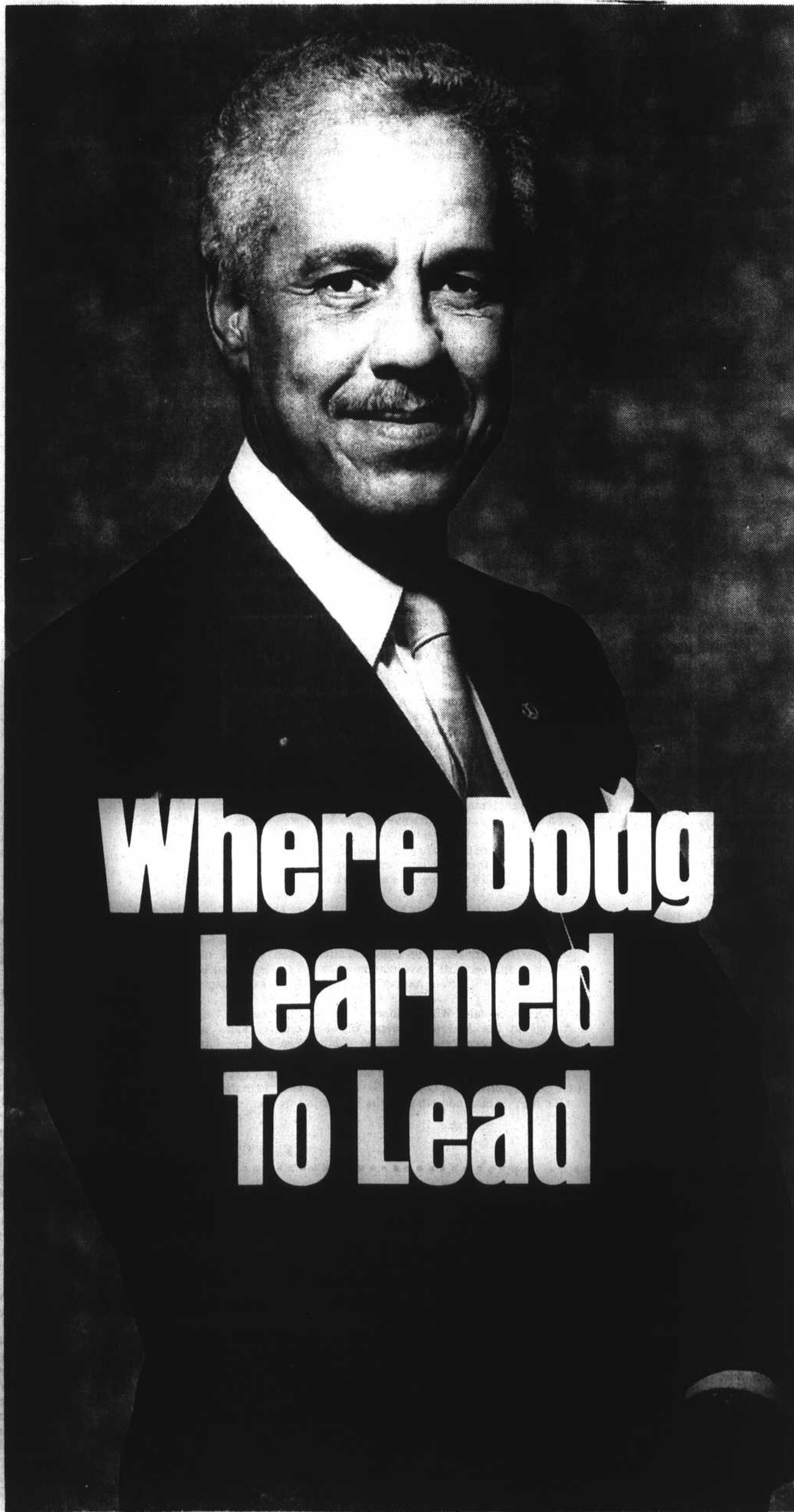
"There may be some endorsements from the group after the executive committee has closely screened each candidate," says Rev. Saunders. "We believe that we can be the difference and make the difference in the political community in North Carolina."

Any person or political candidate interested in the forum is invited to attend.

Dr. Prezell R. Robinson, president of St. Augustine's, says it is important for our young people to be able to relate to role models like Smith, and students showed their interest as they crowded around Smith after his address.

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Where Doug Learned To Lead

"There was a common bond," says Lt. Governor Lawrence Douglas Wilder of Virginia, speaking of his college experience. "We all knew who we were and where we needed to go, and what we needed to do to get there." Wilder, the nation's highest-ranking Black elected state official, attributes that world-beating attitude to the inspiring role models he found at Virginia Union University, one of America's Black colleges.

In an atmosphere of high intellectual quality, young Douglas Wilder discovered what he calls, "the high possibility of the individual." And following in a tradition that has produced outstanding scholars, professionals and public servants, he went on to a brilliant career as an attorney, state senator and civic activist. Is it any wonder that, though they enroll only 20% of Black college students, Black colleges produce 40% of Black college graduates?

When you're considering colleges, doesn't it make sense to consider the ones that educated achievers like Lawrence Douglas Wilder? Attending one could lead to a great future.

America's Black Colleges Are You Smart Enough To Go?



This food for thought is brought to you by JELL-O® Brand Gelatin and Puddings, a supporter of America's historically Black colleges.