

THE

BLACK



EYE

#5106

MBA MBULU, EDITOR

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Black Nationalism is the only practical answer for Black People in the United States of America.

Let's Get Busy!

A WORD OR TWO MONEY IS NOT POWER

Too many individuals are under the impression that money is power. Nothing is farther from the truth. Money is what individuals use to buy something, like a consumer product or a service, for examples. One of the services money can buy is access to those who wield power. However, We must remember that having access to those who wield power is not the same as having power. Power is oh so pervasive, oh so dominant, oh so everything. Power is the ability to dictate terms. When power talks, money keeps quiet.

Individuals and groups who think money is the key to getting things done are like sacrificial lambs when push comes to shove. That is why individuals who have money should use it to invest in many of the prerequisites to power. What are prerequisites to power? Prerequisites to power are materials and processes that, when correctly brought together, enable a group to defend itself and promote its interests.

In the 1790s, Toussaint L'Ouverture revealed one of the prerequisites to power when he told the Blacks in San Domingo (Haiti) that power comes out of the barrel of a gun. Since money can be used to buy guns (and other such goods), one could indeed say that money can be a key to obtaining power.

When money is used to **invest** in a system, having money counts. If your money is being used to invest in a system that will defend and promote your well-being and

interests, your money counts **for** you. If your money is being used to purchase consumer goods and "live the good life," your money is being wasted; it isn't worth a dime to you. But, if your money is being used to invest in a system that will probably leave you hanging when push comes to shove, your money counts **against** you. Too many Blacks are either wasting their money or making it count **against** Black People.

Black individuals who are serious about protecting themselves and their families need to become responsible enough to use their money to accomplish that objective. Black individuals who are serious about securing what they work so hard to gain need to become responsible enough to use their money to accomplish that objective. And, Black People who recognize the importance of being able to define terms need to become responsible enough to use their money to become definers of terms.

No, money is not power. But, if Black individuals **invest** their money properly and keep consumer spending to a minimum, money can help make Black People powerful.

A WORD OR TWO

As I stated in the above article, "individuals who have money should use it to invest in many of the prerequisites to power." I will explain what those prerequisites are in the next Black Eye News Item (Prerequisites To Power).

Damn near every one of the Black individuals in the United States who possess or seek money are outside of the white power circle. Therefore, their money

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is practically powerless unless they are using it to establish an independent Black political and economic reality. Starting a Black business is not the same as helping to establish an independent Black political and economic reality. Will starting a Black business provide jobs for Black employees? Maybe so, maybe not. If white power determines that it is illegal or reverse racist for Black businesses to hire disproportionate numbers of Black employees, then Black businesses could not demonstrate a preference for Black employees. And who would determine if a "preference" were demonstrated or not? White power, of course. Under such castrating circumstances, how much power would that Black business' money have?

Here's another one. Suppose a Black business wanted to give humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people by making a contribution to the Palestinian government (Hamas)! It wouldn't be able to do so because white power says that is against the law. How powerful would that Black business' money be? Suppose a Black business wanted to provide plane fare for Black students who wanted to go to Cuba for a free medical education! It wouldn't be able to do so because white power says that is against the law. How powerful would that Black business' money be? Suppose a Black business that wanted to expand was granted a loan by the Libyan government! White power would tell that business that it would be committing a criminal act if it received that loan. The message is clear: Black money can talk, but only when it is tied to an independent Black reality. Money, in and of itself, is NOT power.

As I just said, "If your money is being used to invest in a system that will defend and promote your well-being and interests, your money counts for you. If your money is being used to purchase consumer goods and "live the good life," your money is being wasted; it isn't worth a dime to you. But, if your money is being used to invest in a system that will probably leave you hanging when push comes to shove, your money counts against you."

Black People's money has been counting against Black People for centuries because We insist on operating according to white power's dictates. That is why Black businesses that try to help Black People by playing according to white power's rules will do Black People more harm than good.

The Black dollars that are good for Black People are the ones that help create an independent Black political and economic reality.

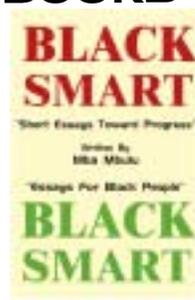
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