
THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE



Greetings!

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement.
This War on Oppression will only be won as one
mass movement.

Sections

- **Spotlight - by DonnaMarie Woodson**
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Our Mission Statement

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible starting at the local level and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

Spotlight

Happy Mother's Day!

“Mothers and the Movement for Change”



Coretta Scott King

(April 27, 1927 – January 30, 2006)

By DonnaMarie Woodson

When we think of Mother's Day, our thoughts often turn to the classic tv mom like June Cleaver, ([Barbara Billingsley](#)) from "[Leave it to Beaver](#)", wife of Ward and mom to Wally and Beaver Cleaver. Or, flowers, breakfast in bed and that special Mother's Day card.



However, there is more than one image and story of the American mom. Learning the roots of this perennial holiday add more dimension to this tradition; including the moments the holiday has been

used as a catalyst for human rights and women's issues.

Mrs. Coretta Scott King has always been the embodiment of the modern-day mother and the Civil Rights Movement. Her activism and support for human rights is a proud legacy we shall always remember.



Mrs. Coretta Scott King

History of Mother's Day

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s from the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis (the origin of Mother's Day is attributed to Anna Reeves Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914.)

Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.



Anna Jarvis (May 1, 1864 – November 24, 1948)

Mother's Day and Politics

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who ironically remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.



By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

GOD COULD NOT
BE EVERYWHERE,
AND THEREFORE
HE MADE MOTHERS.
-Rudyard Kipling

Commercialization of Mother's Day

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day

involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

By 1920, Jarvis had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized denouncing the transformation, urging people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

Modern Day Mother's Day and Politics

"I firmly believe our last and best hope for a future of brotherhood and peace, lies in the effective use of woman power."

CORETTA SCOTT KING - Mother's Day March, May 12, 1968





On May 12, 1968, two weeks after the coalition of 100 leaders met with federal agencies, the Poor People's Campaign officially launched with

its first public demonstration, a Mother's Day March and rally. Coretta Scott King led the event, and the National Welfare Rights Organization was the principal organizer.

Born in Marion, Alabama, Coretta was the third of four children of Obadiah Scott (1899–1998) and Bernice McMurry Scott (1904–1996). She was born in her parents' home with her paternal great-grandmother Delia Scott, a former slave, presiding as midwife.



Coretta at Antioch College

The Scott children attended a one-room elementary school 5 miles from their home and were later bussed to [Lincoln Normal School](#), which despite being 9 mi from their home, was the closest black high school in Marion, Alabama, due to racial segregation in schools.

By the time Coretta had entered the school, Lincoln had suspended tuition and charged only four dollars and fifty cents per year.

In her last two years there, she became the leading soprano for the school's senior chorus, graduating valedictorian from Lincoln Normal School in 1945 and enrolling at [Antioch College](#) in Yellow Springs, Ohio during her senior year.

Coretta said of her first college:

“Antioch had envisioned itself as a laboratory in democracy but had no black students. (Edythe) became the first African American to attend Antioch on a completely integrated basis, and was joined by two other black female students in the fall of 1943.”



Edythe Scott

“Pioneering is never easy, and all of us who followed my sister at Antioch owe her a great debt of gratitude.” Coretta Scott

Coretta became active in the early civil rights movement and joined the Antioch chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the college's Race Relations and Civil Liberties Committees.

Meeting Martin

Coretta transferred out of Antioch when she won a scholarship to the [New England Conservatory of Music](#) in Boston. It was while studying singing at that school with classical soprano, [Marie Sundelius](#) that she met Martin Luther King, Jr. after mutual friend Mary Powell gave King her phone number after inquiring about the girls on the campus.

Coretta initially showed little interest in meeting him however, a couple of weeks later she confided to her sister, Edythe, that King possessed many of the qualities she liked in a man, "becoming more involved with every passing moment."

When asked by her sister what made King so "appealing" to her she responded, "I suppose it's because Martin reminds me so much of our father." At that moment, Scott's sister knew King was "the one."



Coretta Scott and Martin Luther King, Jr. were married on June 18, 1953, on the lawn of her mother's house; the ceremony was performed by Martin Jr.'s father, [Martin Luther King, Sr.](#) Coretta had the vow to obey her husband removed from the ceremony, which was unusual for the time.

After completing her degree in voice and piano at the New England Conservatory, she moved with her husband to Montgomery, Alabama, in September 1954.

Mrs. King recalled: "After we married, we moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where my husband had accepted an invitation to be the pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. Before long, we found ourselves in the middle of the Montgomery bus boycott, and Martin was elected leader of the protest movement."



(The Kings welcomed their first child Yolanda on November 17, 1955.)

As the boycott continued, I had a growing sense that I was involved in something so much greater than myself, something of profound historic importance.

I came to the realization that we had been thrust into the forefront of a movement to liberate oppressed people, not only in Montgomery but also throughout our country, and this movement had worldwide implications. I felt blessed to have been called to be a part of such a noble and historic cause."

Coretta Scott King was a long-time advocate for world peace. Author Michael Eric Dyson has called her "an earlier and more devoted pacifist than her husband."



Although Mrs. King would object to the term "pacifism"; she was an advocate of nonviolent direct action to achieve social change.

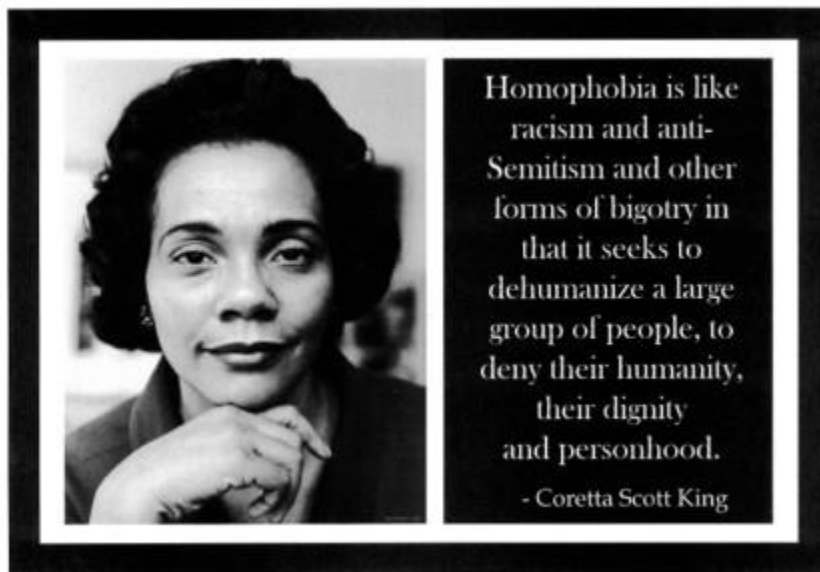
In 1957, Mrs. King was one of the founders of The Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (now called [Peace Action](#)), and she spoke in San Francisco while her husband spoke in New York at the major anti-Vietnam war march on April 15, 1967 organized by the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam.

Mrs. King was also vocal in her opposition to capital punishment and the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

LGBT equality

Coretta Scott King was an early supporter in the struggle for gay and lesbian civil rights. In August, 1983 in Washington, D.C., she urged the amendment of the Civil Rights Act to include gays and lesbians as a protected class.

On April 1, 1998, at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago, Mrs. King called on the civil rights community to join in the struggle against homophobia and anti-gay bias.



Mrs. King expressed *"This sets the stage for further repression and violence that spread all too easily to victimize the next minority group."*

Coretta Scott King died on the late evening of January 30, 2006, at the rehabilitation center in Rosarito Beach, Mexico, in the Oasis Hospital where she was undergoing holistic therapy for her stroke and advanced-stage ovarian cancer. The main cause of her death is believed to be respiratory failure due to complications from ovarian cancer.



King's eight-hour funeral at the New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia, Georgia was held on February 7, 2006. Daughter, Bernice King delivered her eulogy.

U.S. Presidents

George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter attended, as did their wives.

Senator and future President [Barack Obama](#), among other elected officials, attended the televised service.

On November 20, 2006, a new mausoleum containing the bodies of both Dr. and Mrs. King was unveiled in front of friends and family. The mausoleum is the third resting place of Martin Luther King and the second of Mrs. King.

[Recognition and tributes](#)

Coretta Scott King was the recipient of various honors and tributes both before and after her death including the [Gandhi Peace Prize](#) by the [Government of India](#), [National Gay and Lesbian Task Force](#), the [Human Rights Campaign](#), the [National Black Justice Coalition](#), and her alma mater [Antioch College](#).

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coretta_Scott_King

<http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/mothers-day>

Editorial

Dīvide et Imperā

“Divide and Rule”

By Tarik Kiley

4/26/2018

Think about your political identity. Are you Black or White, Liberal or Conservative? Do you hold your nationality or ethnicity as supreme? Are you rich, poor, middle class? Are you Christian or Muslim? Think about your political identity. Did you choose it, or did it choose you?

**THEY DON'T WANT TO
SEE US UNITE:
ALL THEY WANT US TO DO IS KEEP ON
FUSSING AND FIGHTING.
THEY DON'T WANT TO
SEE US LIVE TOGETHER:
ALL THEY WANT US TO DO IS KEEP ON
KILLING ONE ANOTHER.
BOB MARLEY**

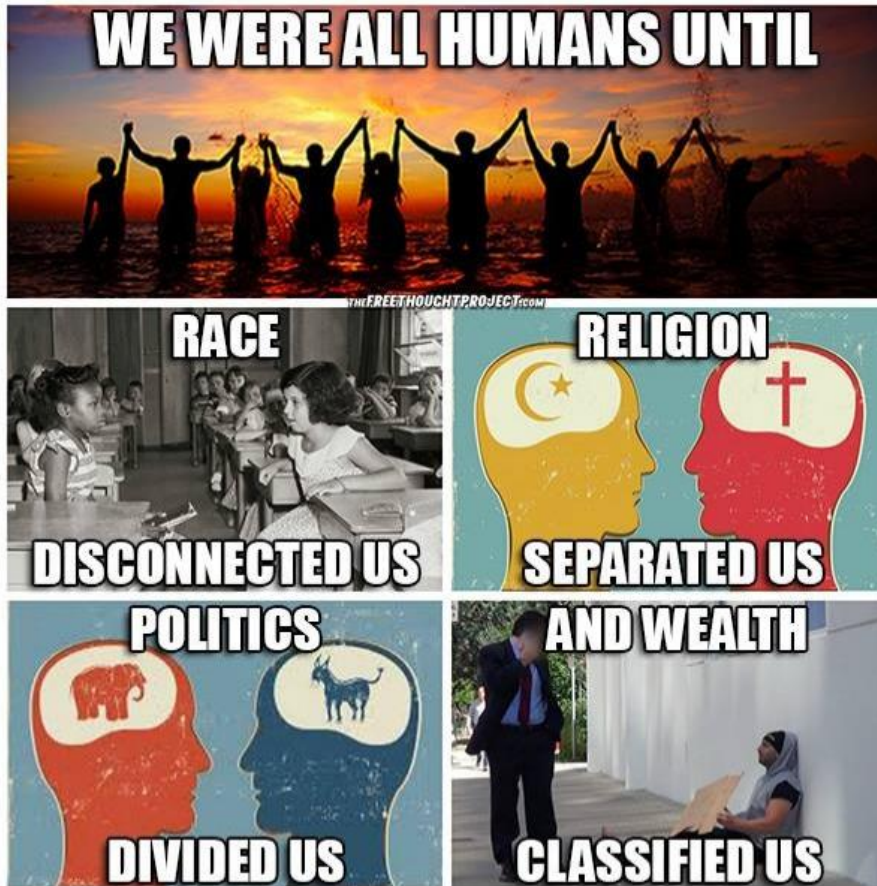
Most people perhaps have not chosen their political identity but were instead *indoctrinated* into said identity. Think about race. Is race real? Speaking as a scientist, I know that race is not empirical fact. Instead, race is a social construct, because biologically, human beings are one species.

Think about the right wing and left wing in American politics. Aren't the left wing and right wing, two wings of the same bird?

Often, when people are indoctrinated into a set of ideas, they fail to comprehend or even question whether their ideas profit themselves. People are just Black, or middle class or conservative. But, what if people rejected labels and asked, who is profiting from my identity?

For example, racism has fueled many conflicts in this world. But, when looking at the United States of America, are the poor Whites doing any better than anyone else, economically? Sure, they may speak on their racial “heritage”, but has their identity contributed to a higher standard of living or better quality of life?

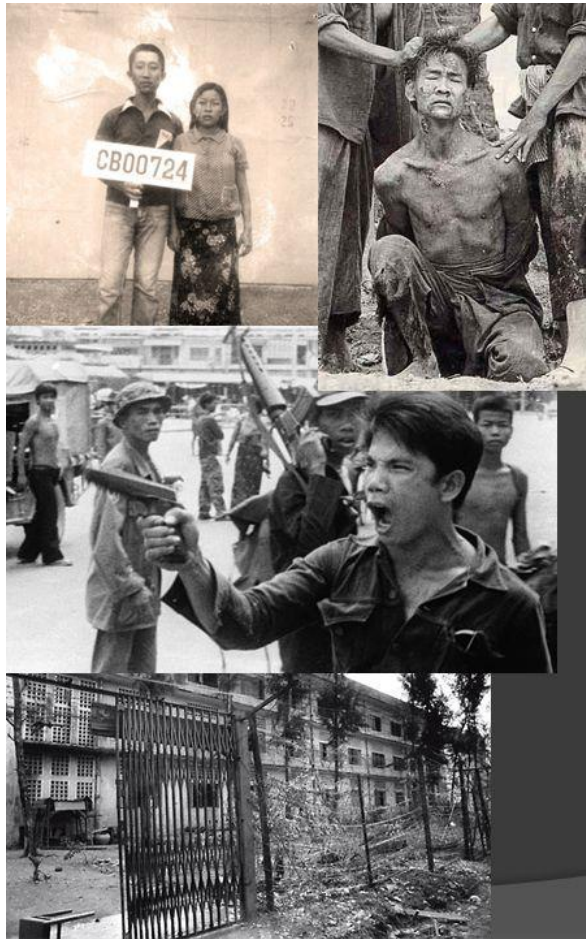
Also, in more recent years, more and more Black politicians have been



elected to power, particularly on the local level. But, when you look at predominately Black neighborhoods, are Black elected officials increasing the economic development and chances of upward mobility for poor Blacks?

Since, I have used two examples of poor people, perhaps you may think that I am speaking primarily of class, as the primary divider of people. But, no, this author is not speaking of class, solely. Even arguments which are used to benefit the poor, can be taken to an extreme level of indoctrination.

The [Khmer Rouge](#) killed many people in the name of Communism. Communism was supposed to liberate the working class, but in practice, did no such thing. Communism destroyed the economy in the USSR, the main preachers of the communist idea, and has proven not to work properly in practice.



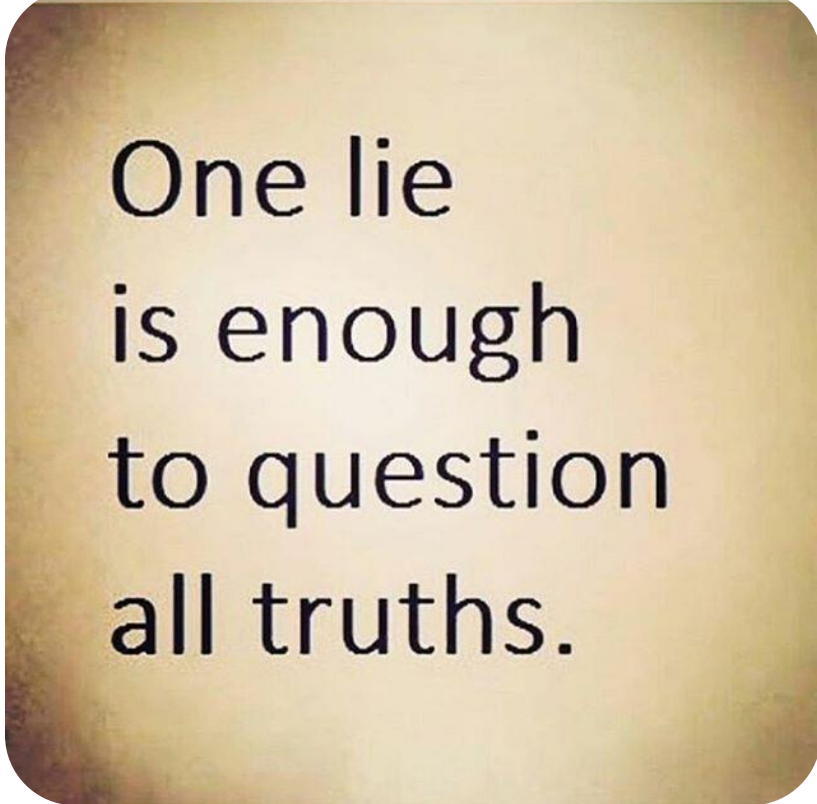
Khmer Devastation

- Estimates as to how many people were killed by the Khmer Rouge regime range from approximately **one to three million**
- This era gave rise to the term Killing Fields, and the prison Tuol Sleng became notorious for its history of mass killing.
- Hundreds of thousands fled across the border into neighboring Thailand.
- The regime disproportionately targeted ethnic minority groups. The Cham Muslims suffered serious purges with as much as half of their population exterminated.
- In the late 1960s, an estimated 425,000 ethnic Chinese lived in Cambodia, but by 1984, due to Khmer Rouge genocide and to emigration, only about 61,400 Chinese remained in the country.
- Forced repatriation in 1970 and deaths during the Khmer Rouge era reduced the Vietnamese population in Cambodia from between 250,000 and 300,000 in 1969 to a reported 56,000 in 1984. Professionals, such as doctors, lawyers and teachers, were also targeted. According to Robert D. Kaplan, "eyeglasses were as deadly as the yellow star" as they were seen as a sign of intellectualism.

Then what about God? Most religions preach peace, but then it seems religion simultaneously condones mass murder. Many warlords, historically, have conducted "holy wars." It seems, in this author's opinion, not to be about God, then but about the political power gained by promoting one god over another. Otherwise, how is it that a God who preaches peace and brotherhood, one who also preaches murder?

But, unfortunately, most “true believers” do not recognize such inconsistencies. So, holy wars—jihads—continue. The Crusades in Medieval Europe were political justified, just as today’s “holy warriors” feel politically justified.

This article contains many questions, because this author, believes that the road to the *truth* starts with questions. People must question the very basic assumptions which they hold.



**One lie
is enough
to question
all truths.**

People must question their ideas of in-groups and out-groups. People must question political expediency. Only when the human species question its social reality, can the human species imagine a better world.

When humans question social definitions, people learn, and it is learning (or unlearning) which can improve social life.

Announcements



Democrats of N. Mecklenburg

Monthly Meeting

THURSDAY, May 3, 2018 7:00 PM

MAGNOLIA WOODS

12125 STATESVILLE ROAD

HUNTERSVILLE, NC 28078

(SHARED DRIVEWAY WITH CAROLINA VETERINARY SPECIALISTS)

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

Last Day of Early Voting

Any Early Voting Location

Saturday, May 5th, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

For sample ballot and info about the candidates:

www.vote411.org

Primary, Tuesday May 8th

Voting in your assigned precinct polling place only!

6:30 AM – 7:00 PM

For more information: www.meckboe.org

Mingle at the Mint - Mother's Day Pop-up Shop

SouthPark Magazine and the Charlotte Observer

Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Mint Museum, 2017 Randolph Rd

Charlotte, NC 28207

Public Education Town Hall - Charlotte

Progress North Carolina

Monday, May 14, 2018, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Morrison Regional Library

7015 Morrison Blvd, Charlotte 28211

School to Prison Pipeline

Race Matters for Juvenile Justice

Thursday, May 17th at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

1411 Hawthorne Lane

Charlotte, NC 28205

North Mecklenburg Progressives Monthly Dinner

Speaker: Denise Finck-Rothman

“Medicare for All”

Tuesday, May 15th, starting at 6:30 PM

Famous Toastery

12715 Conner Dr., Huntersville

Announcements



Join the Poor People's Campaign

Countdown to 40 Days of Moral Action

Sunday, May 13, 2018

www.poorpeoplescampaign.org

Senator Jeff Jackson's Gameplan Phone Bank

Advent CoWorking

933 Louise Ave, Suite #101, Charlotte, 28204

Purpose: Targeting voters in flippable districts across the state and letting them know there's an election this November 2nd.

- **They've got a great challenger running in a competitive race who deserves their support as a voter and a volunteer.**
- **This challenger could be one of the keys to unlocking the governor's veto which would dramatically shift the political landscape.**

Sign up here <http://www.jeffjacksonnc.com/gameplan-phone-bank>



Please submit your group events to donnamarie93@gmail.com by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.

Happenings Gallery



The Executive Corner:

Executive Director - Jade X. Jackson

Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson

Contributor: Tarik Kiley