
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**
 - **Editorial - by Tarik Kiley**
 - **Announcements**
 - **Happenings Gallery!**

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

“The Price of the Ticket”



James Baldwin

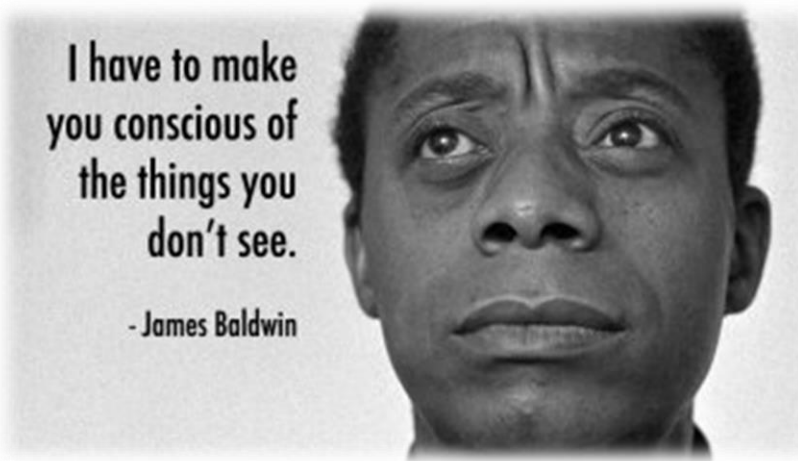
(August 2, 1924 – December 1, 1987)

By DonnaMarie Woodson

“It is certain, in any case, that ignorance, allied with power, is the most ferocious enemy justice can have.”

James A. Baldwin

This James Baldwin quote perfectly encapsulates and absolutely reflects the incredibly dangerous and pivotal moment we find ourselves in America today. Baldwin’s eloquence, insight, and raw truth made him one of the most visionary writers of the 20th century.



James Baldwin — the grandson of a slave — was born in Harlem in 1924. The oldest of nine children, he grew up in poverty, developing a troubled relationship

with his strict, religious stepfather. As a child, he cast about for a way to escape his circumstances. As he recalls, “I knew I was black, of course, but I also knew I was smart. I didn’t know how I would use my mind, or even if I could, but that was the only thing I had to use.” By the time he was fourteen, Baldwin was spending much of his time in libraries and had found his passion for writing.

The documentary [“James Baldwin: The Price of the Ticket”](#) uses striking archival footage to evoke the atmosphere of Baldwin's formative years - the Harlem of the 30s, his father's fundamentalist church and his life in postwar Paris.

Newsreel clips from the '60's record Baldwin's running commentary on the drama of the Civil Rights movement. The film also explores his quiet retreats in Paris, the South of France, Istanbul and Switzerland - places where Baldwin was able to write away from the racial tensions of America.



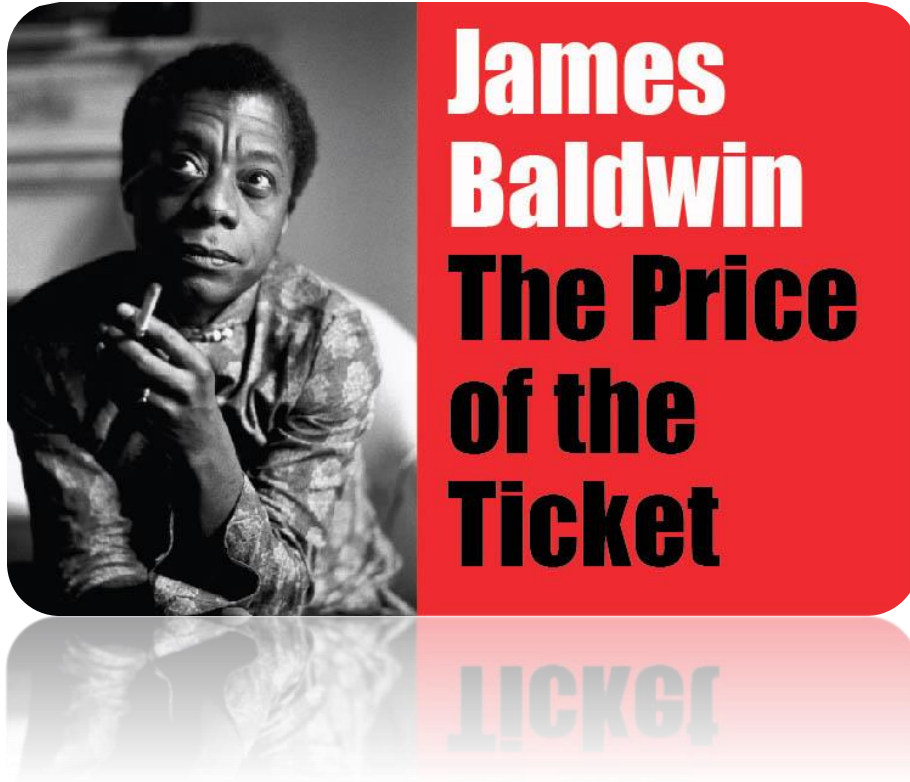
This is an excerpt from the PBS American Masters production.

[\(Click to view\)](#)

The life works, and beliefs of the late writer and civil rights activist are recounted:

what it is to be born black, impoverished, gifted, and gay in a world that has yet to understand that “all men are brothers.” James Baldwin tells his own story in this emotional portrait. Using rarely-seen archival footage from nine different countries, the film melds intimate interviews and eloquent public speeches with cinéma vérité glimpses of Baldwin and original scenes from his extraordinary funeral service in December 1987.

His close friends and colleagues — even critics — illuminate the narrative, among them writers [Maya Angelou](#), [Amiri Baraka](#) and [William Styron](#), plus entertainer [Bobby Short](#).

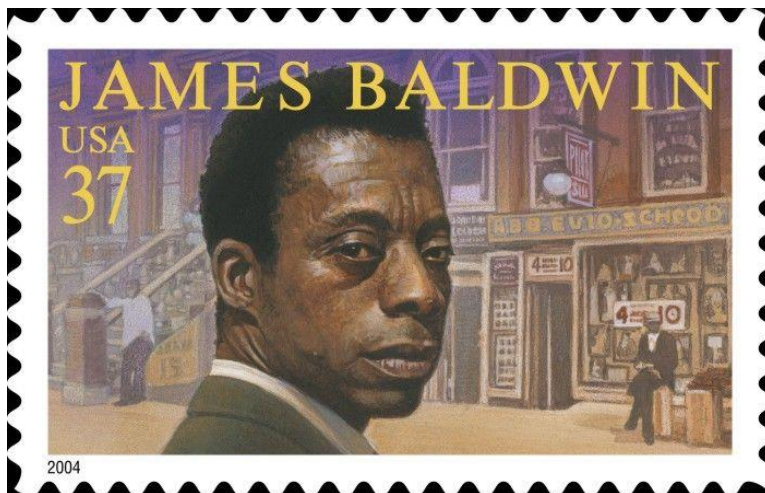


If you'd like an in-depth portrait of this brilliant writer and renaissance man, I highly recommend viewing James Baldwin: The Price of the Ticket. It was originally broadcast August 14, 1989 on AMERICAN MASTERS. (If you have Amazon Prime, it's available on their Doc Club Channel. Use the 7-day trial to access the documentary.)



I found this amazing clip of Cornel West describing how James Baldwin's life of integrity, bearing witness and being "the hope" made him a radical and extremely powerful force beyond his time. **(Click to view)**

Although he spent a great deal of his life abroad, James was quintessentially an American writer. Whether he was working in Paris or Istanbul, he never ceased to reflect on his experience as a black man in white America. In numerous essays, novels, plays and public



speeches, the eloquent voice of James Baldwin spoke of the pain and struggle of black Americans and the saving power of brotherhood.

Works Cited:

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/james-baldwin-about-the-author/59/>

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

Editorial

The Impact of Immigration on the Economy

By Tarik Kiley

June 25, 2018



The Trump administration makes serious claims about the impact of “illegal immigration” on American life. Trump paints Muslim immigrants as potential terrorists, Mexicans as gang members and otherwise takes a white nationalist stand against those ethnic groups which he considers not to be his own. But, has our deal maker in chief considered the impact of immigration on the American economy.

After all, it is about the economy, right?



Some white nationalist claims are quite absurd. For example, Mexicans are supposed to be on welfare and too lazy to work, while simultaneously stealing American jobs. There are other ridiculous claims about immigrants but let us explore

immigration where it makes the most impact—on the American dollar.

While immigrants can benefit from public services such as a public-school system which is open to everyone, the use of public services which benefit all Americans, does not necessarily mean that immigrants are not contributing to society.

First, immigrants are not stealing American jobs and they are not responsible for the level of wages which exist in America. If anything, the minimum wage has not been increased to match the cost of



living in quite some time. Also, many of the immigrants start off in America taking jobs which the average American is not competing for, i.e., how many American workers are lining up for agricultural jobs?

Also, immigrants pay taxes. When immigrants come to America, they contribute to the tax pool. There is *no* epidemic of immigrants not paying taxes.

Also, think about this...since immigrants spend money in the USA, they increase demand for products which in turn increases opportunity for businesses to cater to said immigrant market. Think about all the potential stores which are created to meet the shopping habits of immigrants. In Charlotte alone, Compare Foods has been a very successful grocery store chain catering to the Latino immigrants who live here.



There is also the question of educated immigrants. For example, the country of India has invested heavily in technological education for its citizens. Therefore, it is likely that India serves as a source of highly educated engineers for the American economy. These engineers and technological workers can only contribute to the American economy through improving American technology and innovation.

While some educated immigrants do work for less pay than Americans, they are also very efficient. Their efficiency forces

American technological workers to be more innovation and productive. Through competition, American workers are forced to improve the quality of their work. Now, this is true for the technological sector not necessarily applicable to low wage jobs.

So, white nationalism fails. It fails to recognize that immigrants from so-called “s-hole” countries do have a lot to offer to the American economy. While immigrants may benefit from American public services such as public education, it is also feasible that they contribute to the economy. In fact, acquiring higher education serves to make immigrants better contributors to the economy and only helps our productivity and innovation.



If anything, the American minimum wage needs to be raised, there needs to be additional investment in innovation and labor should be able to compete for wages according to their skill level regardless of country of origin.

Works Cited

<http://budgetmodel.wharton.upenn.edu/issues/2016/1/27/the-effects-of-immigration-on-the-united-states-economy>

<https://www.thebalance.com/how-immigration-impacts-the-economy-4125413>

<https://www.americanactionforum.org/insight/immigration-helps-u-s-workers-economy/>

Announcements



Democrats of N. Mecklenburg Monthly Meeting

Thursday, July 5, 2018 7:00 PM

MAGNOLIA WOODS

12125 STATESVILLE ROAD

HUNTERSVILLE, NC 28078

(SHARED DRIVEWAY WITH CAROLINA VETERINARY SPECIALISTS)

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

North Carolina Democratic Party

Charlotte Community Action Meeting

Saturday, July 7th 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Mecklenburg Democratic Party HQ

5700 Executive Center Drive

Suite 206

Charlotte, NC 28212

Announcements



Young Democrats of Mecklenburg County

YDMC Street Clean Up

Saturday, July 14 at 8:30 AM

Meet at CVS 2939 The Plaza

Charlotte, NC 28205

North Mecklenburg Progressives Monthly Dinner

Speaker Shannon Binns

(Founder/Executive Director) at Sustain Charlotte

Monday, July 9th, 2018 at 6:30 PM

Famous Toastery

12715 Conner Dr., Huntersville

Sip, Shop and Support Fundraiser for Christy Clark NC HD 98

Thursday, July 19, 2018, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

2424 N Davidson St #105a

Charlotte, NC

Announcements



Sistersong and National Organization for Women

Sistersong Reproductive Justice 101 Training
Saturday, July 28, 2018, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
1817 Central Ave. Room 210
Charlotte, North Carolina

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



(Victory for 100% Clean Energy, Joel Segal funks with his Bass, and Jade Jackson fighting for us with the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival)

The Executive Corner:

Executive Director - Jade X. Jackson

Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

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