
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

Constance Baker Motley



First Black Woman to Argue Before Supreme Court

(September 14, 1921 – September 28, 2005)

By DonnaMarie Woodson



Constance Baker Motley was an American jurist and politician who was the first African American woman appointed to the federal judiciary, serving as a United States district judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

A key strategist of the civil rights movement, she was State Senator and Borough

President of Manhattan in New York City before becoming a United States federal judge.

Motley became the lead trial attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and began arguing the country's desegregation and fair housing cases. She defended ten landmark civil rights cases, winning nine. Ms. Motley was a law clerk to Thurgood Marshall, writing the legal brief for *Brown v. Board of Education*, which struck down racial segregation in American public schools. Soon she was arguing before the Supreme Court – the first Black woman to do so.

The person at the NAACP who hired her? Future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall.





Constance Baker was born on September 14, 1921, in New Haven, Connecticut, the ninth of twelve children. Her parents, Rachel Huggins and McCullough Alva Baker, were immigrants from the Caribbean Island Nevis. Before coming to the United States, Rachel worked as a seamstress and a teacher, while McCullough worked as a cobbler.

Ms. Motley describes her parents' education as equivalent "to the tenth grade in the States." Her mother,

Rachel Baker, served as a community activist. She founded the New Haven NAACP.

At 15, she read works by [James Weldon Johnson](#) and [W.E.B. DuBois](#), which inspired her interest in Black history. She met a minister who taught classes in Black history that focused her attention on civil rights and the underrepresentation of black lawyers.

While in high school, Motley became president of the New Haven Negro Youth Council and was secretary of the New Haven Adult Community Council. In 1939, she graduated with honors from [Hillhouse High School](#). Though she had already formed a desire to practice law, Motley lacked the means to attend college and instead went to work for the [National Youth Administration](#).

As a youth activist, Constance spoke at community events. One day catching the eye of a philanthropist who, upon hearing one of her speeches, was so impressed that he paid for her to attend NYU and Columbia Law School. And a brilliant legal career was born.



Over the years, Ms. Motley successfully represented Martin Luther King Jr., Freedom Riders, lunch-counter protesters, and the Birmingham Children

Marchers. Motley maintained her composure even as some judges turned their backs when she spoke.

“I rejected any notion that my race or sex would bar my success in life,” Motley wrote in her memoir, “Equal Justice Under Law.” Her trailblazing path led the way for Vice President Kamala Harris, a former prosecutor, who has cited her as an inspiration.



When I think about all the “Good Trouble” that Constance Baker Motley and Thurgood Marshall got into, my stomach turns at the state of today’s hyper-partisan “Supreme Court.”

([Jack Greenburg](#), Constance Baker Motley, Thurgood Marshall)

No longer the revered highest court in the land, thanks to Clarence Thomas and his ilk, we now live in a country that is taking rights AWAY from American citizens for the first time in history.



These conservative Supreme Court justices overturned *Roe v. Wade*. From a group photo of the judges at the Supreme Court. *Erin Schaff/AFP via Getty Images*

Where Do We Go From Here?

Works cited:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constance_Baker_Motley
<https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2021/02/us/little-known-black-history-figures/profile-constance-baker-motley.html>

Editorial

Sustainable Consumption: Can We Continue to be Gluttons?

By
Tarik Kiley
7/29/2022



The capitalist economy drives us as people to consume continually. In fact, in economic thought, human wants are infinite. Additionally, capitalism is driven by the profit motive, and in modern times, we live in a global economy. But our desire to consume is destroying our environment. For

example, the reliance on fossil fuels that drove the rise of the Industrial Revolution has polluted our planet.



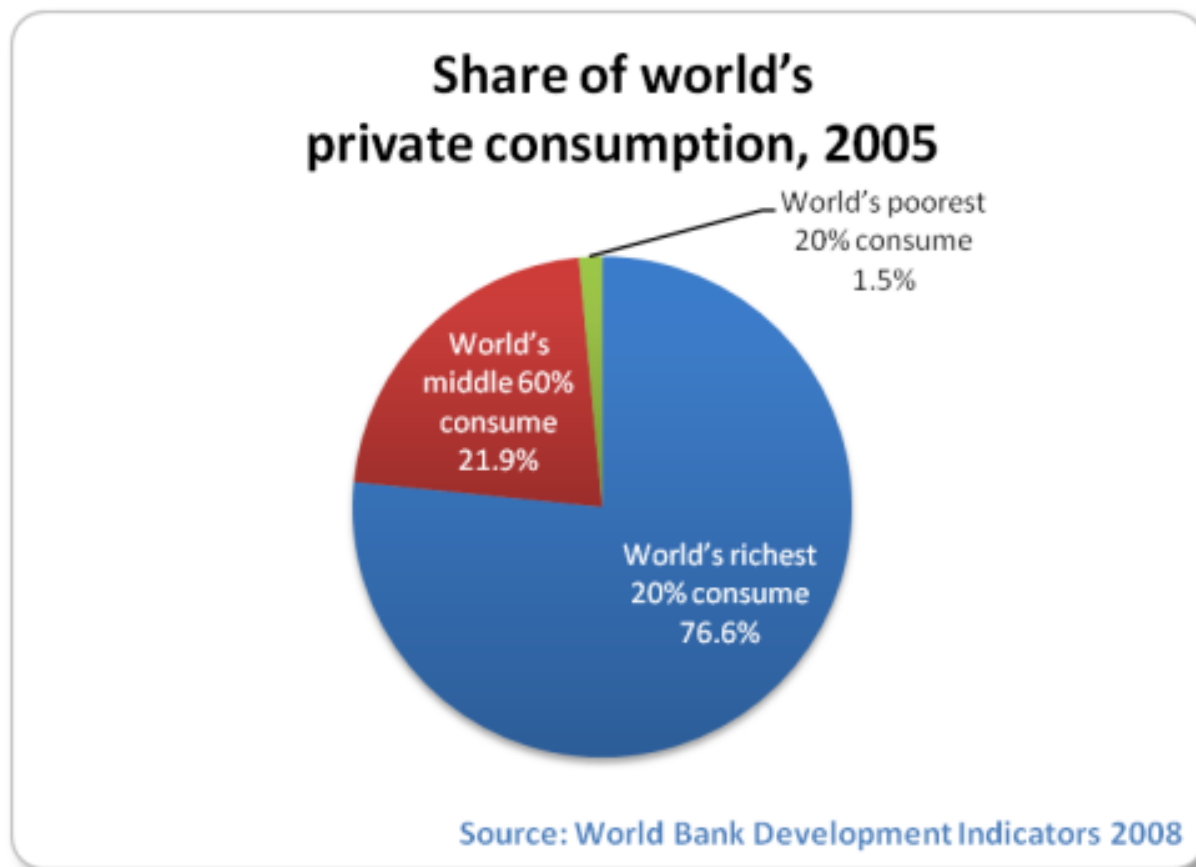
Whether you accept the science of climate change or not, you can see the effects of industrial pollution throughout the 20th century in the layers of smog that were so prevalent in Los Angeles, for example. Also, while people drove less during the COVID-19 pandemic, air quality in some major cities across the planet improved, as people were quarantined and driving less. So, there is some evidence regarding our destructive practice.

It should also be recognized that we are still dealing with a post-imperialist world where the lingering effects of natural and human resource exploitation still impoverish some countries and make other countries rich, historically speaking.

Still, people today may not quite understand that their high levels of material wealth and consumption in what has been termed “developing countries” is, in fact, based on the imperialist past. Natural resources were extracted from dependent countries and sent to “developed countries” to be used in manufacturing and serving the appetites of those who lived in developed countries.

WHY IS THIS UNSUSTAINABLE?

The high levels of consumption found in developed countries make no sense when considering that this consumption is historically dependent on the exploitation of others and the degradation of the planetary environment. According to css.umich.edu, “One study estimates it would take 5 Earths to support the human population if everyone’s consumption patterns were similar to the average American.” According to iisd.org, “



Should the global population reach 9.6 billion by 2050, the equivalent of almost three planets would be required to provide the natural resources needed to sustain current lifestyles.” So, people on this planet are consuming at a high level, but here is the rule. People are consuming on a high level inequitable. Let’s face it. Poor people within and between countries do not get their fair share of global resources.



The law of scarcity is an integral part of economic thinking. This law supports the argument of consuming less and sharing more. It should also be understood that though people have infinite wants, there are no limitless supplies. Many resources are just limited in their inventory and abundance.

I believe that the profit motive should not be the only way to organize society. While pure communism doesn't work, neither does pure capitalism. While some people decry socialism, almost every time a policy is put into place that helps other people, compassion for others needs to be included in capitalist economic thought—or at least it should be thought about when discussing political philosophy.

Lastly, it should be noted that Goal 12 of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals is "responsible production and consumption." It talks about environmental degradation, unnecessary waste, and overconsumption of natural resources. So, can we continue to be gluttons?

NO. WE CAN NOT!

Works Cited

<https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/SDG-12/sustainable-consumption-and-production>

<https://css.umich.edu/publications/factsheets/sustainability-indicators/us-environmental-footprint-factsheet>

<https://www.iisd.org/articles/doing-more-less-ensuring-sustainable-consumption-and-production>

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-consumption-production/>

Announcements



N. Meck Progressives

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, August 9th at 6:00 PM

RSVP n.meck.progressives@gmail.com

Democratic Women of North Mecklenburg County

Paint the Town Blue Fundraiser Gala

Honoring Judge Rickye McKoy-Mitchell

Wednesday, August 11th @ 6:30 PM

Heist Brewery and Barrel Arts

1030 Woodward Avenue, Charlotte

Link to Donate & RSVP:

www.paintthetownbluedwmc.com

Democrats of North Mecklenburg:

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, August 11th at 6:30 PM

Zoom

Announcements



International Minority Coalition

Picnic in the Park

Sunday, August 14th at 2:00 PM

Hornets Nest Park

6301 Beatties Ford Rd, 28216

President Willie Fleming

ailfleming3@gmail.com

Charlotte Pride Parade & Festival

Saturday, August 20th from 12:00–8:00 PM

Sunday, August 21st from 12:00–6:00 PM

Uptown Charlotte



**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

Rev Glencie Rhedrick

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

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