
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

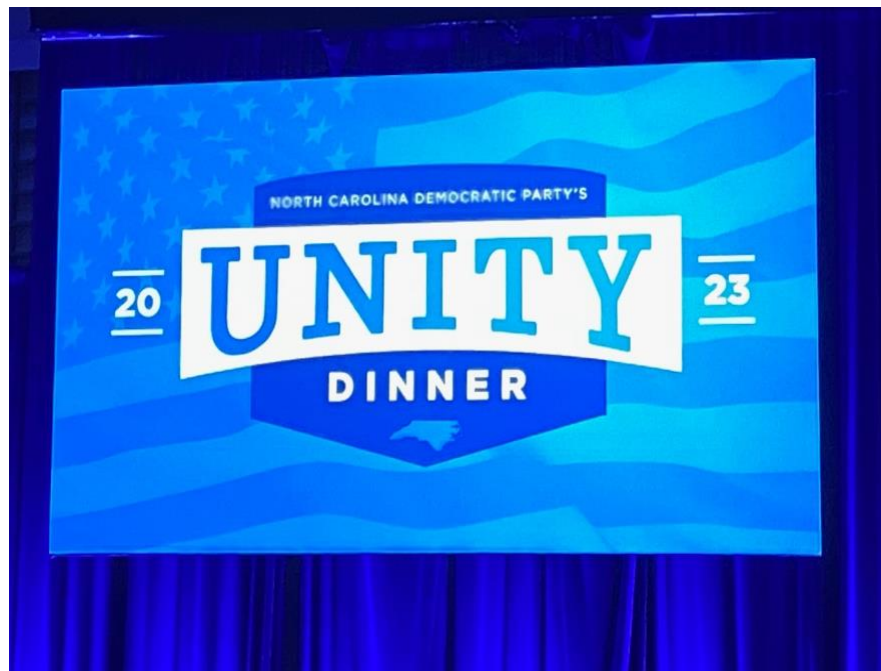
- **Spotlight - by DonnaMarie Woodson**
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Our Mission Statement

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

Blue Unity Dinner



“If it is to be, it’s up to me.”

By
DonnaMarie Woodson



NCDP Chairwoman Anderson
Clayton

On Saturday, June 24th in Raleigh we celebrated our solidarity as Democrats at the “**Blue Unity Dinner.**” The night’s conversation centered around how we take back Democratic control in North Carolina from the evil and extremely dangerous GOP.

As a Party, we really have to step up our game if we are to succeed. First thing, **STOP** being silent or so nice that the message never gets across. And apparently, the audience was feeling the same way because the room was immediately energized when our keynote speaker, Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes so eloquently gave us our marching orders:



Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes

“If it is to be, It’s up to me.”

I have adopted this mantra as my own clarion call because our struggle is very real!

I absolutely agree with Secretary Fontes strategy of standing up and calling people out for who and what they are. If it walks like a Fascist and talks like a Fascist – well, simple conclusion, you are a Fascist!

According to the Britannica Dictionary:

Fascism: a way of organizing a society in which a government ruled by a dictator controls the lives of the people and in which people are not allowed to disagree with the government. **Martial virtues are celebrated, while liberal and democratic values are disparaged.**

The quote: “*This is the election of our lifetimes*” applies to **Every Single Election – State, County, and Municipal! Our dismal turnout in the last election opened the door to us now re-litigating the 1960’s and the repealing of the 20th Century.**

The Supreme Court’s rulings go against what the majority of the American people want!

- **Abortion Rights**
- **Affirmative Action**
- **LGBTQt Protections**

Court has 'gone out of its way' to unravel basic rights,
President Biden

I believe Voter Education is a big key to getting out the Vote not only for this cycle, but for all future elections in North Carolina. The average person is too busy working 3 jobs to put food on the table and are turned off by all the media noise.

**Let’s fire people up and show them how they have skin in the game!
We can save our Democracy by embracing the mantra:**

“If it is to be, It’s up to me!”

Works cited:

<https://www.britannica.com/summary/fascism#:~:text=fascism%20%2C%20Philosophy%20of%20government%20that,and%20democratic%20values%20are%20disparaged.>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/supreme-court/live-blog/supreme-court-decisions-live-updates-rcna91671>

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

Editorial

The Politics of Privilege

By

Tarik Kiley

6/30/2023



First, America does need to stop using race in its politics. Second, if America does base its politics on race, as Americans, we still need anti-racist policy, to remedy the long-standing ill effects of existing racist policy.

Affirmative Action is a form of anti-racist policy. Believing that all Asian-Americans perform better in school than Black and Brown people, is a racist stereotype, albeit a positive stereotype. Asian Americans face poverty and hardship just like any other ethnic group, and there are outstanding Black and Brown people who have also contributed to this country in an outstanding academic manner.

Thurgood Marshall was such a good attorney that he ended up as a Supreme Court Justice, as an African American man, for example. So, while not all African Americans underperform in school, the number of obstacles that are put in the path of Black people as we are socialized into American society has been ridiculous, historically.

African Americans, who have lived in urban settings, more predominantly, since the Great Migration, have had our neighborhoods historically disinvested in, for example. There was deindustrialization, redlining, school segregation, restrictive covenants, Urban Renewal, and the demolition of our neighborhoods under the false pretense of curing economic blight, job discrimination, and outright violence such as the assigation of our leaders, lynching, and hate crimes. Of course, it should also be noted that southern Blacks primarily suffered under Jim Crow laws, as well.

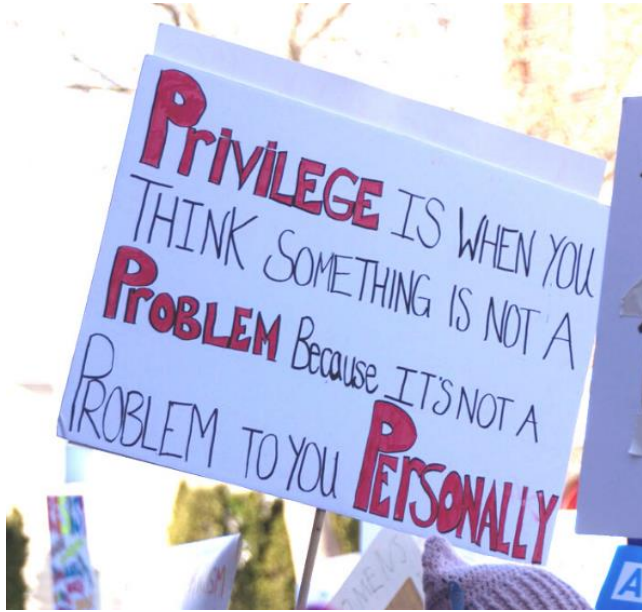


After all this hardship, Blacks have only sought equality, and have not asked for privilege. We just ask for equality. Affirmative Action was a step towards moving us towards this equality, particularly in higher education.

What is Affirmative Action?

According to law.cornell.edu, “Affirmative action is defined as a set of procedures designed to;

eliminate unlawful discrimination among applicants, remedy the results of such prior discrimination, and prevent such discrimination in the future. Applicants may be seeking admission to an educational program or looking for professional employment. In modern American jurisprudence, it typically imposes remedies against discrimination on the basis of (at the very least) race, creed, color, and national origin.” Nowhere does Affirmative Action advocate for the establishment of Black privilege in higher education. It only seeks to end White privilege in higher education.



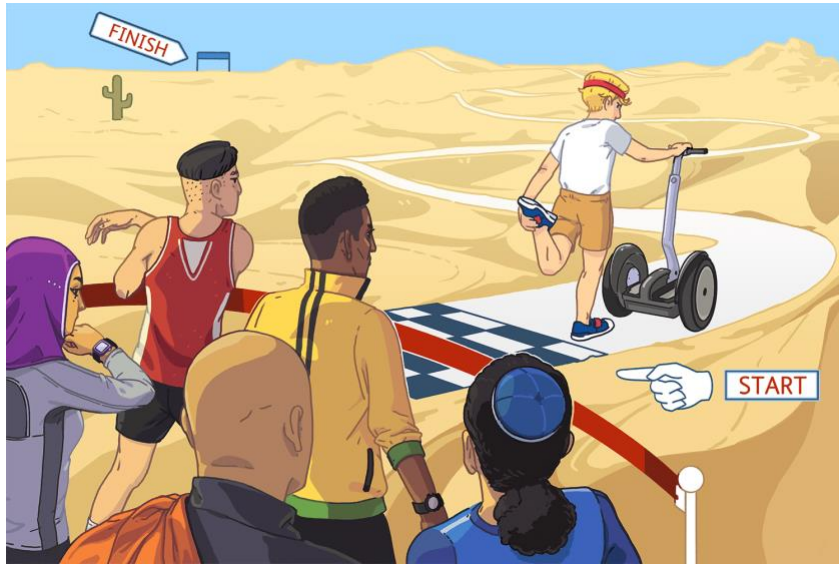
The fact that some would sue to stop Black and Brown people from having opportunities to academically excel is a clear sign of some not wanting Black and Brown people to have any type of opportunity to compete in a fair world. For example, legacy admissions are not fair, and the level of wealth, prestige, and access that your family has, impacts the likelihood of you

getting into college, and especially an Ivy League one.

Racism exists—if not in policy, then in practice. So, the Supreme Court in striking down Affirmative Action in higher education, is a failure, because it has not been replaced by a commitment to end the racism, which called for Affirmative Action's necessity in the first place. More specifically, according to npr.org, "Supreme Court justices ruled that the admissions policies at the University of North Carolina, one of the country's oldest public universities, and Harvard University, the country's oldest private university, violated the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment."

But, while calling anti-racism, racism, the fact remains that race is more likely to be used to exclude Black and Brown people from higher education, as opposed to be used to unfairly benefit us.

[Npr.org](http://npr.org) goes on to say the following:

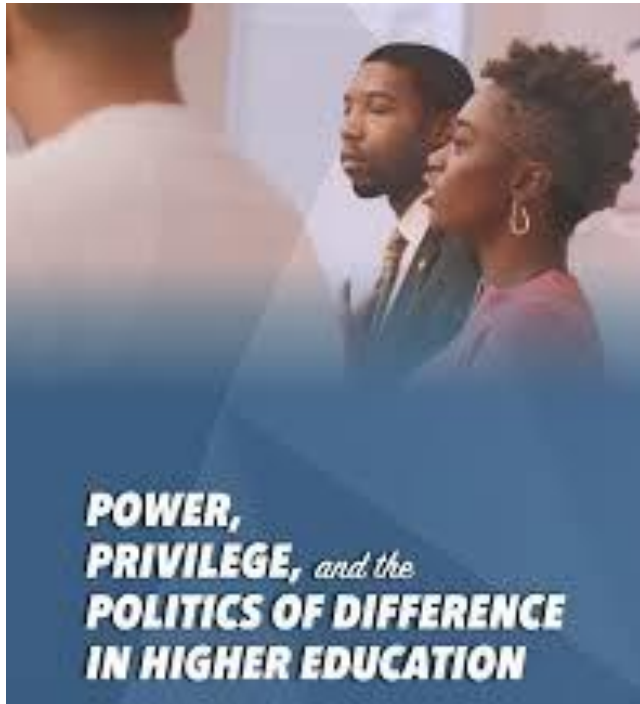


A quarter-century after California banned race-based admissions at public universities, school officials say they haven't been able to meet their diversity and equity goals — despite more than a half billion dollars

spent on outreach and alternative admissions standards.

In an amicus brief sent to the Supreme Court in support of Harvard and UNC's race-based admissions programs, University of California chancellors said that years of crafting alternative race-neutral policies have fallen short. "Those programs have enabled UC to make significant gains in its system-wide diversity," the brief said. "Yet despite its extensive efforts, UC struggles to enroll a student body that is sufficiently racially diverse to attain the educational benefits of diversity." The shortfall is especially apparent at the system's most selective schools, the university leaders said.

It is no secret that the USA's most prestigious schools fail the diversity test. So, this is not about diversity and fairness. This is about privilege. If you live in a system designed to keep you poor and oppressed, and you wind up being poor and oppressed, then that system is working towards its intentional outcome of enforcing racism, and the resulting poverty and oppression.



Still, we must build a society where having darker colored skin is not stigmatized and used as a sign of some type of failed intellect. There are plenty of smart Black and Brown people in this world, and no one should be judged and stigmatized because they look a certain way.

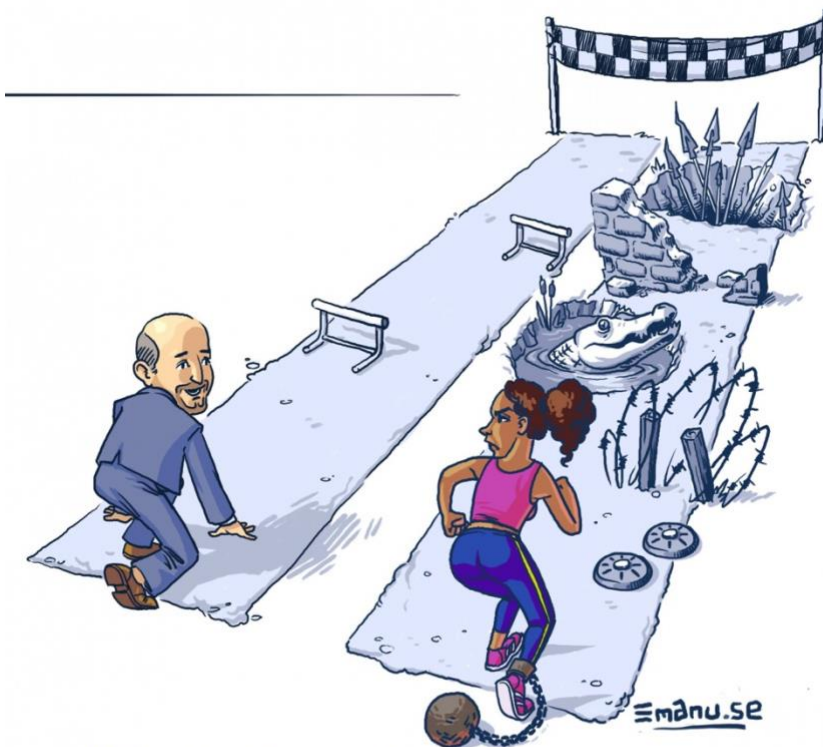
Imagine if you walked into a classroom and automatically you were expected to fail, just because of your ethnicity?

Conversely, imagine if you were expected to succeed just because of your ethnicity? It is not that Asian students are just smarter than everyone else. It is possible though, that this image was cultivated, and encouraged, because it is a positive stereotype—yet it is still a stereotype.



Instead of encouraging stereotypes, we should be encouraging excellence for all students who show it. The Black kids shouldn't always have to feel like we must sit together in the

cafeteria at lunch. And believe it or not, Black kids shouldn't be made to feel like our aspirations for wealth, prestige, and academic excellent are somehow unattainable.



“What’s the matter?
It’s the same distance!”

After all, it is completely unfair to put obstacles into one’s path, and to have another running the same foot race, without an equal level of obstacles put into their path. How can you say you legitimately won a foot race, if you only won it because you handicapped all your opponents? So, with this metaphor, we must recognize that anti-racist policy is still necessary.

Works Cited

https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/affirmative_action

<https://www.npr.org/2023/06/30/1185226895/heres-what-happened-when-affirmative-action-ended-at-california-public-colleges>

https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/22pdf/20-1199_hgdj.pdf

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/affirmative-action/>

Announcements



Democrats of North Mecklenburg:

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, July 6th at 6:30 PM

(Email democrats@demsofnorthmeck.org for the Zoom Link)

Democratic Women of North Mecklenburg County

July Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 12th

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

6:30 pm – Meet and Great

7:00pm Program

N. Meck Progressives

Monthly Meeting, Monday, July 10th

6:30 pm



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

Happenings Gallery



Blue Unity Dinner



The Executive Corner:

**Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson
Rev Glencie Rhedrick**

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson

Contributor: Tarik Kiley