
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

VOICES of Black Women Study



By
DonnaMarie Woodson

I'm very excited about this study on Black Women's Health by the American Cancer Society. It's a deep dive into data and how we can develop new cancer treatments to address Black women and breast cancer.



Want to help change health outcomes for Black Women?

The American Cancer Society, is calling on Black women from all walks of life to join the movement. This isn't just a

study; it's a collective commitment to understanding and improving the health of Black women across the nation.

Black women deserve more than what the statistics have to offer. Wanting better outcomes, The American Cancer Society is enlisting the help of 100,000 Black women willing to lend their voices and be heard on a massive scale.

For generations, Black women have not been equally included in important health research resulting in a lack of information specific to Black women's health. Including Black women in research is a crucial step toward improving cancer outcomes and eliminating disparities.

Through interviews, the American Cancer Society (ACS) can gain valuable insights into the diverse experiences and health challenges faced by Black women and learn how to deliver culturally competent and effective interventions, treatments, and preventive measures.

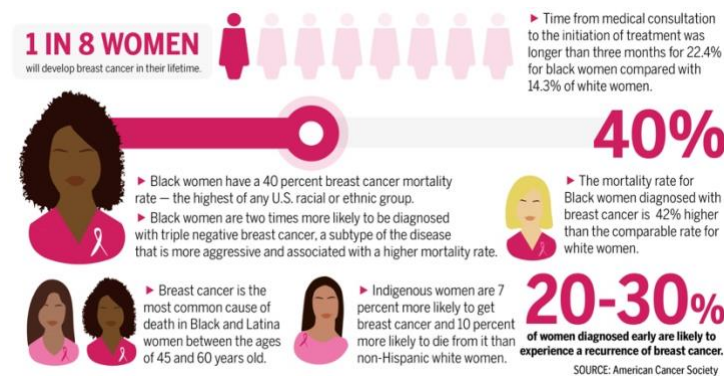
As Black women, we have made significant advancements in the areas of education, economics, business, and politics. I think it's about time we see similar advancements in health. Although **VOICES** is a long-term study, we don't have to wait decades to improve the health of Black women. This deep dive can help inform new strategies for reducing high-risk exposures tomorrow.



Historically, public health recommendations have been based on the majority. The Voices project will help to ensure that proposed strategies are both relevant and tailored to the Black community.

Additionally, VOICES can be an investment in the participants' own health awareness and education.

As a participant, *(this study is purely observational)* these women will be among the first to learn about new research findings and how these findings provide information and tools to improve the health of Black women. And, will also inform American Cancer Society programs and services to ensure they benefit the Black community. VOICES will benefit future generations of Black women, and it starts now.



This focused study is an opportunity to reach out to your Black Women friends and let them know their participation in this project will provide a vital piece of information for better health outcomes.

I'm proud to advocate for better statistics for breast cancer survival. The American Cancer Society's VOICES of Black Women® study will help in enhancing understanding of cancer risks and health outcomes.



The American Cancer Society is unique with its' established mechanisms to turn scientific discoveries into action informing via advocacy through the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), educating communities on cancer risk and prevention, developing cancer screening and early detection guidelines, and supporting patients during and after cancer treatment.

To learn more about the study and find out about eligibility requirements to participate in this pioneering research, encourage your friends and/or your family to enroll at: voices.cancer.org.

Let's celebrate Women's History Month by promoting this study for better outcomes for Black women's survival of Breast Cancer.

Works Cited:

<https://voices.cancer.org/>
<https://www.fightcancer.org/>
<https://www.cancer.org/>
<https://www.fightcancer.org/about>

Editorial

Media Influences Public Opinion

By

Tarik Kiley

2/26/2025



Some people think that President Donald Trump doesn't know what he is doing. I would suggest that he is saner than we think. He uses the media very well to pursue his agenda. In some way

or another, he has been dominating media coverage for years.

This probably stems from his experience as a celebrity. He knows he can influence people on a massive scale if he continues to receive constant attention from the media.

While people assume that elected leaders represent the interests of their constituencies, in actuality, elected officials can focus the attention of their constituencies on certain issues. Teddy Roosevelt referred to this as the "bully pulpit."



According to thepoliticsteacher.org, “The president can exploit the fact that whatever he does is newsworthy and will generate media coverage.” So, public

opinion can be molded by a presidential figure simply because the president’s words are always newsworthy.

Also, having a continual media presence can turn a president into a celebrity if he or she is not already one. Seeing a celebrity’s face repeatedly in the media can generate a feeling of familiarity and also lead to a “cult of personality” surrounding the celebrity figure’s persona. In other words, President Trump has a cult surrounding his persona.

According to britannica.com, “[A] cult of personality [is], a deliberately created system of art, symbolism, and ritual centered on the institutionalized quasi-religious glorification of a specific individual. Since the 20th century, [the] “cult of personality” has been most often used to refer to charismatic leader cults, a type of personality cult [that] is based on a political leader and designed to enforce their power, magnify their ideology, and legitimize the rule of the government associated with them.

Due to the association of these personality cults with autocratic systems such as fascist Germany and the communist Soviet Union, they have developed a strong negative connotation.” Combining celebrity with a cult of personality can lead to the glorification of a leader regardless of the ethics of that particular leader.

While mass media didn't exist as it does today in the following examples, leaders such as Stalin, Caesar, Napoleon, etc., were able to form loyal followings based on their celebrity and charisma.

The development of mass media has created the ability for some to become opinion leaders on certain topics. According to



britannica.com, "Opinion leaders play a major role in defining popular issues and...influencing individual opinions regarding them.

Political leaders in particular can turn a

relatively unknown problem into a national issue if they decide to call attention to it in the media." So, President Trump's insistence that there is an immigration crisis, has shaped the public's opinion on immigration. Truly having the attention of the public is a powerful thing.

Also, President Trump probably knows the power of media, and this is why he opposes media coverage that doesn't paint him in a positive light. Also, conservatives are utilizing the media in more unique and inventive ways, while others who have been outspoken on progressive issues are facing renewed backlash. For example, there is the firing of Joy Reid from MSNBC.



According to npr.org, “Reid's firing takes one of the most high-profile Black women off the network at a time when the Trump administration has

made attacks on diversity, equity, and inclusion policies.” Symbolism is important here. Anti-racists are being branded as “woke,” and buzzwords such as this are being used to discredit those anti-racists.

This is not the first time that media has been used to justify and perpetuate racism, and to increase discrimination against



African-Americans. The film, “The Birth of a Nation,” used blatantly racist imagery to justify racial policies against African-Americans, and led to the increased popularity of the Klu Klux Klan after this film was screened in 1915.

But, of course, The Birth of a Nation is only one of the films that have perpetuated racial stereotypes against African-Americans. During the blaxploitation era, many films portrayed African-Americans as “pimps” and “hustlers.” In the middle 1990s, films such as “Dangerous Minds” depicted black kids from the “ghetto” as ignorant, violent, unable to learn, and in need of saving from white “teachers.”

So, the moral of the story is that not only does representation in the media matter, but the use of the media is an essential tool in politics. Just as racists have launched campaigns of misinformation about certain ethnic groups throughout American history, so can those slighted ethnic groups use the media to paint a more balanced picture of their existence.



Spike Lee is one director who, through the years, has painted African Americans as multidimensional characters. Also, with the rise of social media in more recent years, average people can get their message out. And, because of the global nature of the Internet and the pervasiveness of smartphones, people can now expose the truth of their lives on an unprecedented scale.

So, I would suggest people take a page from Mr. Trump’s playbook—even though I oppose his political views—and use the media to their benefit. With enough persistence, you can make people aware of your truth.

Works Cited

<https://sites.google.com/site/the politicsteacherorg/the-bully-pulpit>
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/cult-of-personality>
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/public-opinion/Mass-media-and-social-media>
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/public-opinion/Public-opinion-and-government>
<https://www.npr.org/2025/02/25/g-s1-50551/joy-reid-msnbc-fired>
<https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20150206-the-most-racist-movie-ever-made>

Announcements



Democrats of North Mecklenburg

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, March 6th at 6:30 pm

**North Regional Rec Center, 18121 Old Statesville
Road, Cornelius (south of Bailey Road)**

Zoom Link: <https://demsofnorthmeck.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=765fdf3806a10a2c360de71c2&id=b15c7de466&e=e90d0cd318>

Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County

Monthly Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 12th

6:30 pm Reception, 7:00 pm Program

Hope Community Hall


Caldwell Presbyterian Church

1609 E 5th St, Charlotte, NC 28204



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

Happenings!



**IN-PERSON
TOWN
HALL**

with Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.

Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Mayfield Memorial Missionary Baptist Church
700 W Sugar Creek Rd, Charlotte, NC 28213

Congresswoman
ALMA ADAMS
10th District of North Carolina



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