WTH?
Trump Named President-Elect
Clinton Painfully Concedes Election

Newsmaker
Runoffs, Winners in City, State Elections

Fashion & Style
Delaney’s Armoire
A Fashion Innovator
Cover Story

Trump Shocks Nation, Named President-Elect

Clinton Painfully Concedes Election

Eric Craig
Multimedia Editor

At nearly 3 a.m. on Wednesday morning, in New York, Donald Trump announced he was President-Elect of the United States. As on Wednesday, Nov. 9th, Secretary Hillary Clinton holds the popular vote, with over 200,000 more votes than Trump. However, the electoral college vote, with 276 votes, six votes over the 270 needed to win the presidency.

In his victory, Donald Trump is the first president since the Dwight Eisenhower to win the presidency without any former political experience. Several commentators have also noticed that a presidential candidate has not proved the majority of projection polls wrong since the 1948 election between Thomas E. Dewey and Harry S. Truman.

How did he win?

Election Day was a tight race for both Trump and Secretary Clinton, with election projections not being finalized until 3 a.m., Eastern time, on Wednesday morning.

To begin, Donald Trump won electoral votes in all of the South and most of the Midwest. Trump won battleground states including Florida, Iowa, Ohio, Pennsylvania and, in this election, Wisconsin. Most of his wins were by narrow margins, being as low as roughly two percent and as much as four percent, according to the New York Time’s election polls.

According to CBS, third-party votes may have impacted what Secretary Clinton needed to close narrow margins in battleground states.

In 2012, Gov. Mitt Romney, republican challenger for presidency, did not win any of the Trump-Clinton battleground states. According to CBS, it is thought Secretary Clinton’s campaign strategist assumed she would keep the democratic-trending states that President Barack Obama won in 2012, including Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania.

With these states, Clinton could have won the election.

According to Google’s Election Analytics, Clinton was popular among educated and White voters in urban areas. Trump, how-
YOUR MACY’S MONEY REWARD CARD may not be: redeemed for cash, used to purchase Macy’s gift cards or applied as payment or credit to your credit card account.

If a purchase used to accumulate Macy’s Money is returned, your return may result in a reduction of the value of your Macy’s Money Reward Card and/or a reduction of your total refund amount. The remaining balance of your Macy’s Money amount you qualify for after deducting the returned item(s) from your original purchase amount. For more information, go to macys.com/macysmoney.

TIME TO CASH IN!

USE YOUR MACY’S MONEY NOW: EVEN ON TOP OF COUPONS AND SALE PRICES! NOW-WED, NOV. 16

YOUR MACY’S MONEY REWARD CARD may not be: redeemed for cash, used to purchase Macy’s gift cards or applied as payment or credit to your credit card account. If a purchase used to accumulate Macy’s Money is returned, your return may result in a reduction of the value of your Macy’s Money Reward Card and/or a reduction of your total refund amount. The remaining balance of your Macy’s Money amount you qualify for after deducting the returned item(s) from your original purchase amount. For more information, go to macys.com/macysmoney.

VETERANS DAY SALE

30%-75% OFF STOREWIDE NOW-SUN, NOV. 13

USE YOUR MACY’S CARD OR THIS PASS WED-SUN

EXTRA 20% OFF

SELECT SALE & CLEARANCE CLOTHING EXTRA 15% OFF SELECT SALE & CLEARANCE JEWELRY, SHOES, COSTS & HOME ITEMS EXTRA 10% OFF SELECT SALE & CLEARANCE ELECTRONICS/ELECTRONICS & WATCHES

MACYS.COM PROMO CODE: VETDAY EXCLUSIONS MAY DIFFER ON MACYS.COM


VALID 11/9-11/13/2016

OR, USE THIS PASS TIL 2PM WED, NOV. 9-SAT, NOV. 12

SELECT SALE & CLEARANCE CLOTHING & HOME ITEMS

$10 OFF YOUR PURCHASE OF $25 OR MORE.

MACYS.COM PROMO CODE: VETDAY25 EXCLUSIONS MAY DIFFER ON MACYS.COM. Includes ALL: cosmetics/fragrances, Deals of the Day, Distributors/web busters, men’s store electronics, Everyday Values (EDV), furniture/homewares, Last Act, Macy’s Backstage, rugs, specials, Super Buys, Brendle, Coach, Dyson, Firth, Frye, Hawkeye Pankry, Jack Spade, Kate Spade, Michael Kors, Sale, Sole, Sounder, Solefood Shoes, Sorel, watches, Stance, Sam Edelman, Samsung watches, Shin, Stuart Weitzman, The North Face, Theory, Tumi, Vitamix, Wacoal, Wolford, Witchery, Tony Burch, USA,Widgets, Statement, Made in, Macy’s Marketplace, athletic clothing, shoes & accessories, designer jewelry/watches, designer sportswear, gift cards, jewelry trunk shows, previous purchases, select Scored deals, services, special orders, special purchases, tech watches/jewelry/accessories, PLUS, ONLINE ONLY: baby gear, baby clothes, Allen Edmonds, Brahmin, Birkenstock, Harley, Jasmine & Murphy, Morris, RVCA, Tommy Bahama, toys. Cannot be combined with any savings pass/coupon, extra discount or credit offer except opening a new Macy’s account. Dollar savings are allocated as discounts off each eligible item, as shown on receipt. When you return an item, you forfeit the savings allocated to that item. This coupon has no cash value and may not be redeemed for cash or applied as payment or credit to your account. Purchase must be $25 or more, exclusive of tax and delivery fees.

FREE SHIPPING ONLINE AT $50

VALID 11/9-11/13/2016. PLUS, FREE RETURNS. EXCLUSIONS APPLY; SEE MACYS.COM/FREEERETURNS

BUY ONLINE, PICK UP IN STORE

IT’S FAST, FREE AND EASY! DETAILS AT MACYS.COM/STOREPICKUP

FREE SHIPPING ONLINE AT $50

VALID 11/9-11/13/2016. PLUS, FREE RETURNS. EXCLUSIONS APPLY; SEE MACYS.COM/FREEERETURNS

BUY ONLINE, PICK UP IN STORE

IT’S FAST, FREE AND EASY! DETAILS AT MACYS.COM/STOREPICKUP

VETERANS DAY SALE PRICES IN EFFECT NOW-11/13/16. MERCHANDISE WILL BE ON SALE AT THESE AND OTHER SALE PRICES NOW THROUGH 1/12/17, EXCEPT AS NOTED.
Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

ever, went for an opposing route, picking up what Secretary Clinton’s campaign team missed. He went for the rural and uneducated White voters.

Trump visited many of the battleground states and campaigned in their rural areas. He held a similar tactic when campaigning in other party-leaning states.

According to CNN’s exit polls, over 53 percent of males, and 53 percent of the 45 and older crowd voted for Trump. Secretary Clinton had the majority votes from females, and the 44 and younger crowd.

Fifty-eight percent of Whites voted for Trump. Secretary Clinton had the majority of minority votes in the United States.

Trump, while tied with percentages, undercut Clinton by capitalizing on reaching White, uneducated voters in rural areas.

Candidates Thoughts on the Elections

By 2 a.m. Wednesday morning, a Spokesperson for Secretary Clinton sent her supporters home from the Clinton headquarters in New York.

Secretary Clinton in New York headquarters.

He promised that the results were not finalized, and that the election was not over.

Secretary Clinton chose not to speak during the early post-election day morning.

By almost 3 a.m., Trump declared he was the president-elect of the United States.

“I just received a call from Secretary Clinton. She congratulated us—it’s about us—on our victory. And I congratulated her and her family on a very, very hard fought campaign,” Trump said at his New York headquarters.

“For those who have chosen not to support me in the past…I’m reaching out to you for your guidance and help so we can work together to unify our great country,” he added.

Trump promised he would work with people across the country to develop improvements on U.S. infrastructure, which will come “second to none” in Congress.

On late Wednesday morning, Secretary Clinton officially conceded the election.

“I have spent my entire adult life fighting in what I believe in,” Secretary Clinton said. “This loss hurts, but please never stop believing. Fighting for what is right is worth it,” she added.

It’s not the end of the world?

The United States government has a system of checks and balances between its executive, legislative and judicial branches; no one branch can act fully without the approval of at least one other.

Hence Trump will not be able to single-handedly impose policies without them being approved by Congress first.

While Congress is majority Republican, it doesn’t mean that he has a straight shot to enacting policy.

Not all Republican political thought-processes are similar to Trump’s own, meaning there can still be disagreement within the party. Second, Democrats still have tools, like a filibuster, that can postpone and even dismantle party-opposing legislation. And some Republicans will simply not support Trump.

On the international scale, Trump will not be acting alone.

While the president has the last word on military and executing the law, he has a cabinet that will assist him with his decision making. According to CBS, Trump’s campaign team has developed a list of candidates to fill cabinet positions, such as U.S. Secretary of State.

Even with the list, Trump does not escape oversight.

The U.S. Senate will have to approve all of his cabinet appointments. If the Senate deems them unfit, they will not be able to fill the position.

However, the president does have the power to set the national agendas through the yearly State of the Union Address. While he can suggest policy, it is up to Congress to create the legislation, while Trump reserves the power to accept or reject it.

In the meantime, to ensure the Trump administration acts within reason, hold your congressional representatives accountable. These are the individuals that will support or oppose policies suggested by Trump.

In the end

The American people, African-American and other minorities, have undergone eight-years of President Reagan, four years of George H. Bush, and Eight Years of George W. Bush. With Trump as president, we will still remain triumphant through his term.
On Nov. 8, 2016, the City, state and nation voted for elected positions across the country.

Locally, in New Orleans, citizens voted for Senate, House of Representative, judges, and school board.

On the senate level, John Kennedy (R) and Foster Campbell (D) advance to the Dec. 10th runoff election. Kennedy grabbed 24.9 percent of the vote, while Foster Campbell comes in second at 17.47 percent of the vote. Data News Weekly endorsed candidate, Caroline Fayard (D) obtained 12.4 percent of the vote.

In the House of Representative, Incumbent Cedric Richmond (D) won with 70 percent of the vote, with Kip Holden coming in second with 20 percent of the vote. On the judicial side, Judge Regina Bartholomew-Woods won Circuit Court by 65 percent of the vote. Judge Paul Bonin, who campaigned for criminal court, won by 40 percent.

For Orleans Parish School Board, Leslie Ellen (District 4), Woody Koppel (District 6), and Nolan Marshall (District 7), won school board.

When it comes to being a parent, there are no perfect answers — just being there is enough.

So don’t worry, you don’t have to be perfect to be a perfect parent. There are thousands of teens in foster care who will love you just the same.
Data Zone

Delaney’s Armoire

Tabitha Bethune’s Hit Wedding Dress

A brand consists of several different representations of anything from style, image, talent, and sometimes even fashion. At the Wildlife Reserve, Co-Owner and Head Designer Tabitha Bethune, views each client as a brand: a reflection of their own lives and personalities. Bethune designs for the starving creatives, helping each person find their inner creativity.

Wildlife Reserve is a company that specializes in image consulting, styling, designing, and branding.

“We can help anyone create their brand through careful evaluation,” Bethune said.

“I design for other designers, other innovators. It goes way beyond just making a garment or creating any mere prom or wedding dress,” she added.

Often, Bethune would take anywhere from six months to a year to incorporate the essence of the one’s brand in a customized piece. Creating a dynamic fusion between personality and fabric.

“We want what works best for the client, so I consider their message and brand and go from there,” Bethune said.

Over the past year Bethune worked on one of her biggest pieces yet, designing a wedding dress for local model and community health worker Priscell Holman. The gown received over one-million views on social media.

The customized gown incorporated all things cultural and all things unordinary. Bethune made sure the gown included significant aspects tailored to Holman’s brand. Including ten crystals symbolizing her relationship time frame, layered Ghanaian prints honoring the groom’s heritage, and even pockets to display Holman untraditional style and personality.

“The dress was me, it was NOLA, it was non-traditional. I never imagined myself walking down the aisle with a bouquet so Tabitha gave me pockets and I did a runway walk down the aisle. A model walking down the runway to her groom,” Holman said.

The gown received over 40,000 likes on Instagram within 4 hours and over 1,000 reposts between Facebook and Instagram, catching the attention of one influential wedding business figure, David Tutera, WE TV’s “My Fair Wedding” Host.

For more information on Bethune and the Wildlife Reserve visit www.thewildlifereserve.com or email Tabitha@thewildlifereserve.com

Delaney George
Columnist

Holman poses in Bethune’s design in a historical creole setting as a reflection of her own heritage and wedding ceremony vision.

Above. Holman poses in the “Priscell” dress Bethune designed specifically for Holman’s big day.

Below. Bethune works on one of her pieces with careful precision and detail, as she does all of her designs.

Local model, stands in the middle of the street car lanes, posing in another one of Bethune’s elaborate designs. Fashion Columnist, Delaney George.
Data News and Cumulus Radio
Kick Off New Partnership

Judge Regina Bartholomew-Woods and Congressman Cedric Richmond celebrate their win with other elected officials.

Data News Staff Edited Report
New Orleans Data News Weekly and Cumulus Radio have partnered together to tell stories that matter most to the community.

Election Day
This past week, Data News Weekly and Old School 106.7 teamed up for their Power to Vote Campaign, which was created to touch on the importance of voting. On Election Day, Terry Jones, Publisher of Data News Weekly, and Terry Davis, Old School 106.7, covered voter turnout live from several local polling stations.

“It’s important to the community to be in touch. Data has an outstanding reputation of being “The People’s Paper” over five decades,” Davis said.

“We’re going where people are and giving them the news of the community and then covering it,” he added.

On Election Day, Jones and Davis covered the election the entire night.

Davis said the voter turnout was strong, following the latest voting trends.

Jones said the election is important to the City, and has seen people all over New Orleans.

The Partnership
The partnership developed two months ago, and the two media organizations plan to continue to work together on stories that mean the most to communities.

“I think it’s fantastic that they can bring us in on this level and to understand that together we can make a difference,” Jones said.

Listen to Old School 106.7, and read New Orleans Data News Weekly for updates on the new Media Partnership.

Data News and Cumulus Radio
Kick Off New Partnership

 SENIORS

NOW’S THE TIME TO SELECT YOUR DOCTORS & HEALTHCARE PLANS FOR 2017.

Join JenCare to experience healthcare just for Seniors!
Our Senior Medical Centers are designed to give you the access you need to respectful doctors who listen. Call us today or visit JoinJenCare.com to schedule a tour and select your JenCare PCP. We accept a number of different Medicare Advantage plans designed for Seniors like you.

JenCare
SENIOR MEDICAL CENTER
JOINJENCARE.COM
(504) 312-4701
Mockery of Democracy 6
We the People of the United States

By Edwin Buggage
Editor, Data News Weekly

America After Obama: Trump and American Tyranny

The election for President of the United States is over and we have made the choice of who we will be moving forward with in our great country. A majority of the electorate have decided to vote Donald Trump President of the United States. We have again made history, but in a way that is unexpected. That we have chosen a dangerous and divisive road that endangers us both here and abroad. It seems the country has decided to reject the better angles of its nature, as Abraham Lincoln stated in his first Inaugural Address in 1861 and chose Lincoln, someone who pits Americans against each other.

It is a sad day from eight-years ago when we were moving in the direction of “Hope” and “Change” that Barack Obama began eight-years ago in widening of the lanes of Democracy. It seems our republic will have to fight harder to continue in this direction under a Trump Administration. After this race, we as Americans must re-visit who “we” will be; for at times during this election our nation has taken a turn for the worse in a contentious campaign that pits Americans against one another. And now that we have made our choice at the polls again making history by electing Donald Trump, Lady’s Liberty light is not shining as brightly in America. It is a day that hate and division “Trumped” inclusiveness and is reminiscent of the south rising again after the Civil War and Reconstruction to disenfranchise African-Americans and Jim Crow racial injustice were as American as apple pie.

America’s Future Greatness: Diversity is Key

And while the outcome may seem we are moving in the wrong direction, we still must note the reality of demographic shifts shows a country that is a rainbow of colors and one where the White population will soon no longer be the majority new bridges must be built if we are to continue as a nation that is the leader of the free world. Moving forward we must restore hope and confidence in our global partners, we must continue to show that in spite of our President, we are still on the right track, ensuring the rights of all our citizens.

The dream of America is still alive and that the gains fought for will not be relinquished easily.

It is the charge of forward thinking progressive Americans in this time of social change if we are to move forward as a nation; we collectively must figure out how to adjust as a society where there are more “We” in “We the People” and that it means something different in the 21st Century. Today, we are a world that is global and transnational, where national borders no longer solely define us. It is in this age that we as Americans must not revert to isolationism and embrace our emerging diversity as a nation an asset.

Commentary, Continued on page 9.

The 2016 Presidential Election Exposed America’s Racist and Sexist Patriarchy for the World to See

Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

Just a few days before the corrosive 2016 election, it occurs to me that no matter what the outcome, our social fabric has been shredded by the ugliness of this campaign. Sure, there have been ugly campaigns before, but this one has revealed the extent to which racism and sexism are acceptable features of life in these United States. Women, including Hillary Clinton, have been routinely disparaged, not only in politics, but also in their roles as television talking heads and anchors. While I’m not weeping for Megyn Kelly (she’s a big girl, and she can take care of herself), her on-air collision with Newt Gingrich was classic, with a joyfully male bully loudly talking over a television host and accusing her of being “obsessed” with sex. And the disparagement of women flowed down the ticket – in Illinois, Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL) had the nerve to disparage challenger Rep. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) because of her Thai heritage. Her dad traces his family’s military service back to the eighteenth century, while her Mom is from Thailand. When she cited her military background, Kirk nastily said he was unaware that her family had come all the way from Thailand to fight for the United States. Shame on Kirk for demonstrating his ignorance by criticizing the military service of a woman who lost her legs in the Iraq war.

All’s fair, they say, in love and war, and many see politics as a special kind of war. And certainly, those women who play the politics game have to have thick skin and broad shoulders, because men are not likely to treat women with kid gloves because of their gender. However, gendered criticism (“she lacks stamina,” “look at that face”) is woven into the fabric of our nation’s racist patriarchy, and the “other” (women, people of color) is often put down using gendered or racialized code words. In some cases, as with Tammy Duckworth, people don’t even bother to use code words.

The backlash from eight years of the Obama presidency means that plenty of racists have come out to play. I thought we’d seen the last of David Duke, the reported KKK member who is again running for the U.S. Senate from Louisiana. Instead, he seems to have slithered from under some rock, just in time to endorse Donald Trump, throw shade on Evan McMullin (the Utah native and former CIA operative who is running a long-shot campaign for President), and attack Jewish people. Most listeners recoiled from Duke’s hateful words, and the Trump campaign quickly distanced itself from the Duke endorsement. Shocking, though, that this level of racist hate is so openly articulated. And Mr. Trump’s racial rhetoric suggests that the Duke endorsement, if unwelcome, was at least somewhat consistent with that which Mr. Trump has been preaching.

The use of terms like “law and order” or “stop and frisk” ignores the issues the Black Lives Matter Movement has raised, not the least of which are the police killings of young Black people. And the Black Lives Matter Movement has been routinely been disparaged during this 2016 campaign. The disparagement of the Black Lives Matter Movement really disparages all Black people and reminds us that, despite progress, race still matters.

If racism and sexism are woven into the fabric of our nation, how do we pull those threads out without ruining the fabric? Or has the fabric already been so fully shredded that we have the opportunity to “start over.” Actually, there will be no starting over. Our economic structure and the credo of predatory capitalism depend on the ability of capitalists to extract surplus value from the work of those that are “other.” Capitalists maximize profits by minimizing expenses. Thus enslavement, though an inhumane institution, was also an efficient one for those who were able to use free labor. We’ve come a long way from enslavement, but the exploitation of workers continues, which is why the “Fight for $15,” which will disproportionately benefit women and people of color, is so important.

This 2016 election has put many of our national wounds, and much of our fractured history, on display. Is there healing after all of this divisiveness? Washington gridlock isn’t likely to stop just because the election is over. Still, there must be leaders who are willing to talk solutions. When does our nation finally confront race and talk about reparatory justice? When do we, culturally, talk about sexism and the pay gap that remains, despite women’s progress? Or will we continue to limp along, wounds exposed, the fabric so frayed that it can’t be stitched back together?

Julianne Malveaux is an author and economist. Her latest book “Are We Better Off Race, Obama and Public Policy” is available via www.amazon.com for booking, wholesale inquiries or for more info visit www.juliannemalveaux.com.
Eric Griggs, M.D., Danylee Kimble, and Raven Spooner

Mental conditions are a serious topic that is not discussed often enough. The most common form of a mental condition is depression. Depression is a complex condition that can alter your life. It can change your relationships, how you work, and even how you eat. Although there is no standard for diagnosis, several symptoms are common for depression. These symptoms are loss of interest in former enjoyed activities, increased or decreased appetite, changes in sleeping, feeling worthless or guilty, and thoughts of suicide.

The best way to defeat depression and suicide is to prevent it. The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) suggest prevention through screenings all adults. Screenings lead to appropriate and effective treatment. Treatment can reduce depression symptoms and the risk of suicide. The best place to get a screening for depression is through your doctor. Asking for a depression screening is a great step in caring for your mind.

We the People and Restoring Faith in Democracy in America

Today we are at a time in our history where we must choose the direction of our nation. Now the election is over it is not a question of who is elected, but how we as citizens will steer our political leaders towards policy positions that get things moving for the people of our nation. Further, we must heal the wide divide showing nations around the world that in spite of our differences that “We” are still the United States of America and are poised to continue in our role as the leader of the free world.

Today as the oldest Constitution al Democracy in the modern world, we in our 240 years have become a greater nation by embracing change and that not always comes easy. In hindsight, we can look at our history and note with collective pride we have survived the American Revolution, the Civil War, the fights for Civil Rights for Blacks, the Women’s Movement and our most recent fights with the LGBT population and embracing our recent immigrants from all over the world. This shows our resilience and resolve that at our core we are a decent people who are working towards a nation that holds true to the words that appears in the Preamble to our Constitution; “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty.” These words have guided us through our forming of a more perfect union. Today this is still our goal in our changing country and one election will not stop us from us to continue in this quest. And who we become as a nation does not lie in the hands of one person that’s President, but us collectively, for we must remember the future of our Democracy is not an “I” project but a “We” project. It is in our hands and how we shape it is what our nation will become in the 21st Century and today we have made that choice.

We must continue to steer it in the right direction by being civically engaged and holding our elected officials accountable. If we do this we can recover from this campaign, that’s been at times a mockery of Democracy. If we do this, we can survive as a nation and our republic that’s been through many historical turns in its 240 years will be preserved. But it is us not the politicians who must do the work to make sure that is the case.

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

National Depression Screening Day

Depression is a disease, and it should not be handled alone. However, we can defeat this disease by getting screened. National Depression Screening Day is October 6th, but any day is a great day to assure proper care of your mind.

For more information, go to: http://www.nami.org/Learn-More/Mental-Health-Conditions/Depression

Get checked. Get fit. Get MOVING™


New Orleans is taking part in a national sleep out.

On Nov. 10, 2016, Orleans Parish Sheriff Marlin Gusman plans to join several people around New Orleans and the country in sleeping outside, with just a sleeping bag and a cardboard box, to raise awareness of homeless youth in the nation.

The sleep out event is supported by Covenant House New Orleans, which is an organization dedicated to assisting homeless youth.

“I’m honored to join other New Orleans leaders and community members to raise awareness for and give a voice to the homeless and at-risk children in our community,” Sheriff Gusman wrote in a prepared statement.

“I encourage everyone in New Orleans to donate to this important cause, which greatly benefits our City’s youth and also adds to the safety and well-being of everyone living here,” he added.

Over 13 other cities in North America, and several other community leaders, are participating in this year’s sleep out.

According to the Covenant House, New Orleans has 26,000 youth that are at risk for homelessness. Nationwide, the population of at-risk youth is 1,000,000.

Sheriff Gusman has taken part in the sleep out in New Orleans since 2012. This year, Sheriff Gusman and Covenant House of New Orleans are aiming to reach a goal of $460,000.

Money donated to the Covenant House of New Orleans will aid the organization in providing food, shelter, medical assistance, counseling and employment programs.

For more information on how to donate to the fundraiser, visit www.covenanthouse.org and visit the New Orleans chapter.
I remember being in fourth-grade and there was a girl in my class that had beautiful long, curly hair. Or at least that's how my fourth-grade teacher described it. She described her hair as being “fine”, “pretty” and “long” as opposed to all the other little girls in the class, including myself, whose hair was more so on the kinkier side.

I wanted to have long, curly hair like my classmate or “good hair” as it was expressed by my peers and family members. “Good hair” didn’t need to be straightened every two weeks like mine. “Good hair” laid down flat in ponytails and didn’t frizz. “Good Hair” was a freedom.

As I grew up, I became a lot less concerned with the actual texture of my hair and wanted more length at all costs. I was constantly measuring how long my hair was to other girls. I truly believed that I could only be my most beautiful self with long hair that flowed down my back.

After college, when I had grown tired of all the concoctions I placed in my hair to increase my length, I became more preoccupied with having natural hair. I then focused my energies on curl definition and volume. I became obsessed with defining my natural curls so they wouldn’t look too frizzy or kinky.

This obsession with curls was becoming the new “good hair” for me. My hair had to look a certain way in order to be considered acceptable. All of the most popular natural hair gurus on YouTube had loose curls with thousands of followers while kinkier haired girls were virtually ignored on many social media platforms.

Kinkier hair may require specific products in order to better highlight its unique texture but it should never be compared to the looser curls of someone else. “Good hair” is definitely a social construct but how we respect our individual interpretations of beauty is a social necessity.

It’s time for us as a community to wake up and realize this nightmare is real. I have lived long enough to know what we are looking at if we don’t fight, so it is time for us to stand up. Data News Weekly is ready to lead in this fight for justice and equality for our people. We have come too far and we will as the great song Civil Rights marchers sang, “Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around.” This is our wake-up call and our fate and future we will as the great song Civil Rights marchers sang, “Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around.”
SOME PARENTS BEG THEIR KIDS TO DO HOMEWORK. SOME KIDS ARE BEGGING FOR IT TO MAKE SENSE.

Learning and attention issues can look different to parents and kids. That’s why there’s Understood, a free online resource with answers, advice and tools to help your child thrive. Go from misunderstanding to understood.org.

Brought to you by 15 nonprofit partners