New Orleanians Speak

How King's Message is Perceived in 2017

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At the turn of the New Year, resolutions are made, and moments are reflected on to make better decisions and choices for the future. At least that’s the plan in the beginning for many people.

January tends to be a monumental time to reflect on the past during the Martin Luther King, Jr’s Holiday. Many people may consider race relations, political progression, service and the leadership of the country, which are problems the nation will face throughout 2017.

During the holiday, King often serves as the ultimate exemplar for service, progression and leadership. As his ideals continue to serve as a model of change for the modern world, Data New Weekly asked several New Orleanians how King, his actions and his speeches have influenced their lives and communities.

**How King’s Ideals are Perceived Today**

Without a doubt, King has been recorded in history as one of the greatest leaders of all time, moving forward with Christian principles of non-violence and forgiveness, and composing speeches that have changed mindsets. However, others believe that his speeches and actions were overrated.

“I think the concept of the speech was great but it’s not realistic. It’s kind of a dream. It’s nothing like reality,” said Aja McCoy, a Junior Political Science Major at Xavier University.

“There is still segregation: Schools are still segregated; Neighborhoods are still segregated. People still chose to do it. Nothing has really changed except the mindset of those people. But I don’t think it has change for the better,” she added.

Eric M Craig
Multimedia Editor

Aja McCoy, Junior Political Science Major at Xavier University.

André Perry, PhD, Host of Free College on WBOK

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King’s ‘I Have a Dream’ Speech was an initial call to action to encourage the nation to envision a perfectly integrated world, where race would not be the only deciding factor between minorities and Whites.

Dillard University Student Government Association President Tevon Blair believes that concept has influenced many people today.

“The I Have a Dream Speech included the realization, in some areas, the ‘I have a dream’ speech is respectfully allowed the co-existence of all people and understanding of different cultures,” Blair said.

“In particular, to HBCUs, many people may say that we segregate ourselves from society or the real world but through our internship programs, daily interactions or the network we have built at our institutions we are equally prepared to contribute to the new reality post the ‘I Had a Dream’ Speech,’ he added.

While some people remember King for his integrative ideas, others remember him for his more conscious efforts. New Orleans Activist, Malcolm Suber, believes that King’s early speeches do not paint some of his final concepts that go beyond race.

“During the period of the ‘I Had a Dream,’ it was a time of maximums optimism. When people felt, this country could embrace African-American, and that racism was important,” Suber said.

“It wasn’t until the Poor People’s Campaign when King advocated for the poor Blacks, poor Whites and poor Mexicans that have been shut out,” he added.

Suber appreciated King’s remarks that focused less on race and integration, and more on the existing system that promote inherent inequalities in the American lower and middle-classes.

“I think King would have stood with people, recognize the type of society we live in with a billionaire ruling class. He would be in favor of creating a worker’s party that would contest billionaire’s power and collecting our forces to challenge ruler,” he added.

Dillard University’s Student Government Association Vice-President Joseph Caldwell said that King’s example needs to move us forward.

“The ‘I have a dream’ speech taught me look at people in an equal way. No matter what people do to you...we have to continue to work hard and strive to make sacrifices to make sure that the generations under us are taken care of,” he said.

How King Influenced Service

While King may initially be remembered for his ideas of non-violent protest, forgiveness and peace between races, Andre Perry, PhD, the host of Free College on WBOK, believes King exemplifies individual service through his ‘I’ve Been on the Mountain Top’ Speech.

“In the midst of a cheated labor strike, he was willing to let everything go. Some would say he predicted his own death, but he knew he has to let his ego go, his sense of worldliness go, in order to really push for change,” Perry said.

“A lot of people, including me, don’t risk a lot in their pursuit for social justice. I always go to that speech to keep me honest. When he says, longevity has its place. There is no poignancy in all of his speeches for me. Whenever I hear it, I ask myself to what extent am I really working for the people,” he added.

How to Move Forward In 2017

The year 2017 poses as a fresh slate for race relations, leadership and the respect of lives. However, reflecting on King, many people believe his ideals will help the nation move forward.

McCoy, however, believes in order to move forward we must forget the past, and start fresh again.

“We have to ignore the dream. We must stop mentioning the history of the previous solutions. We must stop forcing it, and we must allow it to happen on its own. That change has to come from the self. Afterward we’ll be good. On the other hand, Perry believes that King ideals and concepts are necessary to remember why people have the duty to help others.

“I think we have to go back to the ways to touch members of our community that have been forsaken. Finding ways to get close and to nurture and heal them. We have people who lack help, Perry said.

Perry says that communities can do more to make equality in school possible. That is, Perry said, one area that has not met King’s achievement of a more equal nation.

“We have 7 universities in New Orleans and they are all distant in serving the needs of low-income people,” Perry said.

“The four and six-year college graduation rates for Black men are less than 10 percent in New Orleans. That’s horrific. There is lack of institutional and individual connectedness. People literally don’t care,” he added.

Clockwise from top: Malcolm Suber, New Orleans Activist; Dillard SGA President, Tevon Blair; Dillard SGA Vice-President, Joseph Caldwell

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

31st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Sunday, January 15, 2017

R.E.A.L. March
10 a.m.
Location:
Begins at A. L. Davis Park and ends at Martin Luther King Monument

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service
3 p.m.
Location:
Historic St. James AME Church
222 N Roman St
New Orleans, LA 70112

Monday, January 16, 2017,

New Orleans MLK Commemoration
9 a.m. at City Hall

31st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial March
9:45 a.m. at City Hall

1st Annual Dream Big Open Mic Experience
12 p.m.
New Orleans Jazz Market,
1436 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd.

1436 Oretha Castle Market,
New Orleans Jazz,
1436 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd.

Schedule
The State of Louisiana Ranks No. 10 in Racial Progress

Harvey Brown
Staff Writer

As the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday approaches, there is time to set aside how far we have come in Civil Rights as a nation. After the election of Donald Trump, and with the constant uphill battle with the Black Lives Matter Campaign, the nation has questioned its ability to maintain peace in its “post-racial” society.

According to a recent Pew Research Poll, Black voters felt as if race relations will fall after Trump’s election.

While some people may be split, on how much better the United States is for minorities, this study attempts to quantify those positions.

WalletHub evaluated all 50 states in the union in the amount of integration seen in their various cities and neighborhoods.

The study evaluated Employment and Wealth, Education and Civic Engagement and Health of Minorities vs Whites. The study subtracts how we Whites are doing to minorities to determine a state’s level of integration. To determine how much progress a state has made, WalletHub looks at Data Spanning over 50 years, analyzing if minority integration has increased over time.

According to a WalletHub Study, the State of Louisiana Ranks No. 10 in racial integration progress. Over the past few decades, the disparity between minorities and White in areas of employment, education and health have shrunk.

States such as Georgia (1) New

Racial integration in Louisiana has improved over the last 54 years.
Top 5 Most Iconic Fur Coat Ensembles

Fur is loved by many for its soft texture, high fashion reputation, and association with high status. Fur has been a trend for as long as cavemen were able to hunt and wore on any part of the body such as bathing suits, hats, scarves, and most commonly coats.

Many public figures have introduced fur in music, fashion, and lifestyle. Below are my top six most iconic fur moments in fashion history.

Migos:
Fur is not just for the ladies. Migos, a celebrity rap trio, recently involved fur in their latest music video. This shoot displayed their interest in the fashion scene while still keeping their focus on music. Migos kept it warm and stylish for their fans covered in multiple multicolored fur garments.

Naomi Campbell:
The legendary Super Model Naomi Campbell is no stranger to the fashion scene. Ms. Campbell made her own debut on the runway decked in an all green fur ensemble. Although they’re no animals with green fur, Ms. Campbell made it known that no matter the color fur is accepted in any way shape or form.

Rihanna:
Rihanna is well-known for her outlandish outfits and peculiar choice of wardrobe. The celebrity singer made sure she turned heads when she stepped out in her famous heart shaped fur jacket. The coat was made of fur and in the shape of a heart. It’s safe to say, Rihanna set the bar high showing that fur can not only be worn anywhere but morphed into any shape your heart desires.

The Curly Corner
Why Your Grandma Doesn’t Like Your Natural Hair and Why That’s Okay

“When you gonna press your hair?”, my Grandmother would inquire after touching my tightly wound coils. I always smile respectfually but usually give no answer. We had been down this road before and I knew my grandmother wanted my hair to be sleek and straight as I had always worn it since I was 7. Around 22 years old, I began transitioning from heat damaged hair to healthy natural hair. I finally saw how much damage my hair developed after passing the flat iron through it one too many times in one sitting.

Every two weeks, I would sit on a pillow on the floor of my grandma’s kitchen next to the stove. Despite the accidental burns and the melting Blue Magic grease on my forehead, I was always pleased with the look. I loved that my hair was long and that it was easy to comb through to style. I had been getting my hair pressed so long, that I was no longer aware of what my true curl pattern looked like.

During my transitioning period, my grandmother frequently expressed to me that she liked my straight hair more and...

Visit www.ladatanews.com for more photos from Fashion & Style.
On January 5, 2017, the Saenger Theatre hosted “Media Night” for the Tony Award-Winning Broadway sensation and stage production of Disney’s The Lion King. We were seated in the center row with aisles on both sides. We were six rows from the stage, perfect seating. Flanked on either side of the stage were sets of tribal percussion drums just waiting to send out their pulsating primal rhythms. The performance took place before a packed house, every age and race were represented.

The Lion King movie is my favorite animated movie, I am sure that I have seen it over 12 times. The live stage presentation followed the storyline completely and it was phenomenal to see that animated movie come alive before our very eyes.

Just as in the opening scene in the movie, the live stage show starts on stage with that iconic call that you have seen in every commercial. But then we heard a response from the back of the Saenger Theatre. When we turned to follow the sound, we saw, in the corner of the upper left balcony, a whimsical animal-like creature with a bare chest and glistening muscles. And while drinking in that sight, we heard yet another sound and it was coming from the right corner of the upper balcony. There crouching on the balcony railing was yet another of those fabulously whimsical creatures responding.

As we turned back to the stage we could see more animal-like creatures slowly making their way into sight from stage left and stage right. The costume designs are remarkable, from the zebras, the giraffes, antelopes, the flying creatures, and on and on; the stage was overflowing with mystical creatures. I did not have enough eyes to see everything that was transpiring before me.

And then, just at that very moment as I thought it was too much to see, a huge rhino-looking creature lumbered pass me coming down the aisle to my right heading up to the stage followed by a herd of other animals. Then coming down the aisle, to the left of me, were more animal-like creatures making their way up to the stage, among them was a massive pachyderm.

As there were creatures on both sides of us and behind us moving forward, it was as if we were drawn into that incredible procession. All of those incredible animal-like creatures converged on the Pride Rock Mountain scene to witness the presentation of Simba, the young lion cub and heir-apparent to his father Mufasa’s kingdom. The young Simba and young Nala were played by young kids, maybe eight or nine years old.

The wildebeest stampede scene, the lionesses hunting party scenes, and the hyenas were awesome. And as a Master Gardener I was also intrigued with the clever costuming used to portray the thick flora and fauna of the jungle, from large trays of grass carried on the heads of dancers mimicking jungle thicket, to the portrayal of large jungle flowers in human form.

In a word the show is amazing. Mere words cannot effectively relate this extravaganza, it must be experienced firsthand. A rousing standing ovation thanked the incredible performers at the end of the show. I want to see it again!
Barack Obama. As Americans first African-American President, Obama eloquently talks about the men who listened to Sojourner Truth’s famous December 1851 speech. She moved the audience with her mother’s grief, “cried out with my mother’s grief, I’ve borned thirteen children and lived to see God.” She added, “I’ve lived to see God!”

Obama’s Legacy
I can say that as I look back after these eight years the nation is headed in the right direction. While President Obama has had to fight against obstructionist in Congress, even Steve Wonder can see his many accomplishments as the Commander-in-Chief. First, he led the charge of bringing America back from a potential financial collapse, he also found and eliminated the leader responsible for 9/11 attacks, Osama Bin Laden. On the international front, he helped broker the Iran Nuclear Deal, in addition to negotiating the groundbreaking Paris Climate Agreement. On the domestic front on his watch we have seen the reduction of the unemployment rate cut in half, the beginning stages of reforming our broken Criminal Justice System. Marriage Equality becoming the law of the land and most important the Affordable Care Act, that’s given millions of people access to healthcare.

Keeping Our Eyes on the Prize
In these times, we can proudly say that we have witnessed the widening of the lanes of democracy and freedom of an emerging and more diverse America. But as we celebrate us moving forward conversely, there are those who are not happy with this direction and have chosen Donald Trump in the 2016 Presidential Election, who will be sworn into office on January 20, 2017 as our 45th President of the United States. While I would agree with many in saying this is distressing many of us who are involved in the struggle for equal rights and justice; it is in this time that the clarion call must be made to all as we must not sit idly by and allow turning back the hands of time on the progress many have fought and died for. It is time for us to re-engage and keep our eyes on the prize.

Passing the Baton: A New Breed of Leaders Must Emerge
We must realize that yes these are trying times, but we are talking about a people who have survived slavery, Jim Crow and the 21st Century Racism that continues to engage and keep our eyes on the prize.

This Is Why I Finally Supported the Women’s March on Washington

“Isn’t I A Woman,” railed Sojourner Truth, “I have ploughed and planted and gathered into barns, and no man could tear me! And ain’t I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man – when I could get it – and bear the lash as well. And ain’t I a woman? I’ve borne thirteen children and seen most all sold off and when I cried out with my mother’s grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain’t I a woman.”

The similarities and differences between Black and White women are captured in Sojourner Truth’s famous December 1851 speech. She movingly talks about the men who say women should be “helped into carriages, and moved over ditches, and have the best place everywhere,” while “nobody ever helps me into carriages or over mud puddles, or gives me any best place.” Both Black and White women cry a mother’s grief for the loss of a child, and both endure labor pains. Black women’s lives, while similar, are different and often disadvantaged, because they lack the privilege that White women so easily take for granted and often fail to notice or remedy.

Thus, it did not surprise me that a White woman in Hawaii called for a “Million Women’s March” on Washington, D.C. on the day after the Presidential inauguration. And it did not surprise me, when White women took up the call. Too bad these same White women did not advocate more forcefully against the man who won the Electoral College vote for the Presidency.

My first inclination was to ignore this women’s march. The organizers have repeatedly struck me as tone-deaf and indifferent to the diverse needs of women. But when I talked to Tamika Mallory, the dynamic young woman activist who was once Executive Director of Rev. Al Sharpton’s National Action Network, I shifted my perspective. Tamika shared that, just a few days after the initial call to march was issued, organizers reached out to her asking for help. She said they said they “needed to ensure that women of color were involved.”

Now, there are four co-chairs of the Women’s March on Washington, including African American leader Tamika Mallory, Latina activist and part of Harry Belafonte’s gathering for Justice, Carmen Perez, a White woman entrepreneur whose t-shirts have been galvanizing, Bob Bland, and Palesstinian activist Linda Sarsour. I applaud Tamika Mallory. She told me “I was not willing to let this convening come together without having Black women involved.” In other words, White women cannot speak for all women. If White women had their way, the march and rally would probably focus only on equal pay and reproductive rights. Thanks to Tamika and her colleagues, a statement of principles, to be issued next week, will also address racial justice, police brutality, criminal justice reform and mass incarceration.

Absent the involvement of young Black women like Tamika, it would be extremely easy for me to ignore this march. But because some women have drawn a line in the sand and insisted on space for Black women in this march, they deserve support. They remind me of the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., who in 1913 elbowed their way into the Women’s Suffrage March when their involvement was unwelcome. They reminded the Women’s Suffrage Association that Black women were also women, and we would not be excluded.

Now, White Women are at it again, but strong, brave, Black women, the descendants of Ida B. Wells, aren’t willing to sit on the sidelines. The march is to remind all watching that “women’s rights are human rights.” Black women’s rights will be considered in this gathering because some Black women dared place themselves in an uncomfortable space (working with privileged, White women is never easy) in order to make a difference.

Gov. Edwards’ Administration Sends Final Plan for $438 Million Appropriation

Plans for Additional $1.2 Billion Would Send Most Funds to Homeowners, Renters, Business Owners

Data News Staff Edited Report

Gov. John Bel Edwards says the Office of Community Development submitted its final plan for an initial $438 million Flood-Relief Appropriation on Jan. 6th to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development — more than a month ahead of the federal deadline. Edwards said the state could be cleared to begin spending the money as soon as March.

Meanwhile, the Office of Community Development is working on an action plan for an additional $1.2 billion Flood-Relief Appropriation that Congress approved in December. The Restore Louisiana Task Force had been scheduled to vote on an overall budget structure for that plan at its Jan. 6th meeting. However, the meeting was can- cellled due to severe weather.

The cancellation will not result in any delays in the recovery process. The task force will review the proposed final plan for the $1.2 billion at its next meeting, scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 20th at the Livingston Parish Governmental Building at 2055 Governor Bluff Blvd. in Livingston.

The Governor’s Office of Community Development would direct most of the $1.2 billion toward homeowners, renters and small business owners:

- $395.4 million for homeowners
- $30 million for renters
- $50 million for business owners

The action plan would also set aside $105 million in matching funds for public assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This would help local governments meet their cost-share match needed for public infrastructure improvements. 25 percent for the March flood and 10 percent for the August flood.

Edwards says the Office of Community Development is also working on more recommendations for the specific eligibility requirements for families and business owners. He said the goal is to expand the number of flood survivors, especially homeowners, who receive assistance.

“We’ll write the plan for spending the $1.2 billion so we can expand the Homeowner Assistance Program and offer at least some measure of help to everyone who had major or severe damage and did not have flood insurance,” Edwards said. “This is a critical step as we strive to help as many flood-impacted homeowners, businesses and communities with unmet needs as we possibly can.”

Details on all flood-related programs are available on the Task Force website, restore.la.gov.

About the Restore Louisiana Task Force

The Restore Louisiana Task Force comprises 21 individuals from throughout the state who were appointed by Gov. John Bel Edwards to oversee the rebuilding process after historic flooding in March and August 2016 impacted 51 parishes. The Task Force’s mission is divided into six categories: community planning, economic, health and social services, housing, infrastructure and natural and cultural resources. For more information, visit restore.la.gov.

Leon Clipp stands in front of his home, ruined by the 2016 Louisiana Flood, with one of his grandchildren.

Commentary, Continued from page 8.

exist in America. It is time for us to re-engage and join with decent like-minded people who I still feel are most Americans and continue to make our collective stride toward freedom. I feel it is in the best interest of our nation to do so. Most importantly, this fight must be led by our young people. It is in these times that they take the mantle of leadership that previous generations of youth people like John Lewis, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and Andrew Young did during the struggle for Civil Rights. This list also includes our own local Civil Rights icons such as the Rev. Avery Alexander, Jerome Smith, Julia Aaron Humble, Don Hubbard, Ernest “Dutch” Morial, Dorothy Mae Taylor, Oretha Castle Haley and many others who had the courage to take a stand in the fight for freedom, justice and equality.

Liberty and Justice for All: The Struggle Continues

As I sit and await Inauguration Day, unlike after the 2008 and 2012 election’s I will not be on the National Mall when President Barack Obama will hand the keys of leadership of our nation to Donald Trump. And while I am disappointed at the outcome of the election, I am still hopeful and optimistic about the direction of our nation. Although, I realize we must fight harder to stay the course and be the great nation we are becoming. It is our time to re-commit and say that we can never go to sleep at the wheel ever again. Furthermore, we must stay committed to making the dream of M.L.K. a reality and one where decency, love, understanding and respect for difference can trump closed minded and short-sighted bigotry and hate. That we must continue to move towards the theme of President Obama’s 2009 address on that day; “A New Birth of Freedom,” we must in these tough days ahead move towards the renewal of a sense of community and national unity and realize that the bridges that connect us are greater than the walls that divide us. It is then and only then can we make our great country even greater.
that my natural hair looked "nappy". Although frustrated and upset at first, I had to realize where she was coming from. When she was young it was imperative that Black women wear their hair straight and curled to emulate the White beauty standard. At that time, natural African hair was still considered somewhat shameful and extreme. To be a beautiful wife and obtain a job, Black women like my grandmother straightened their hair for acceptance. My grandmother was probably just worried that the rest of society would respond to me negatively with all my natural kinks and curls.

Your Grandmother may never fully accept the natural kinks and coils that you’re characteristic for but that doesn’t mean you should be discouraged. Your hair will grow, your curls will bounce and Grandma will be happy that you’re happy.

**Khloé Kardashian:**
Well-known reality TV Star and PETA Supporter Star Khloé Kardashian is all about the fashion scene but does not condone wearing real fur. To express this belief, Kardashian made a loud but fashionable statement in her “Fy! Furg” ensemble. Kardashian walked the New York Streets flaming her fashion sense with faux fur as well as her concern for animals.

**Cannon:**
Former Dipset Member Cannon is known for his loud personality and leader antics. In his prime he was one of the only males to wear fur, and pink fur at that. This iconic shot of Cannon is still talked about till this day. Wearing an all pink fur coat, paired with an all pink hat and phone to match, this ensemble will definitely be a hard one to ever forget.
NAACP Leads Full Court Press Against Donald Trump’s Attorney General Pick

Lauren Victoria Burke
NNPA Newswire Contributor

The NAACP called a full court press opposing Senator Jeff Sessions’ nomination to replace Loretta Lynch as the next Attorney General of the United States.

“Senator Sessions stands against everything that you and I fight for: He’s spoken out against the Voting Rights Act, and has described the work that the NAACP and ACLU do to protect civil rights as “un-American,”” December 30 fundraising email read.

The email continued: “We must do all we can to prevent him from rolling back the rights and protections our parents and grandparents worked so hard to gain.”

Additionally, the Alabama chapter of the NAACP is planning a series of press conferences at Sessions’ Senate offices around Alabama in the cities of Huntsville, Birmingham, Dothan and Montgomery. Earlier this week, the Senate Judiciary Committee held confirmation hearings for Sessions on Capitol Hill in Washington.

On December 29, national NAACP President Cornell Brooks called for Sessions’ nomination to be blocked. The opposition against Sessions led by the oldest civil rights organization in the U.S. will be test of the strength of Black advocacy as President Trump arrives in the White House on January 20, as America’s first Black President departs at noon the same day.

“As a matter of conscience and conviction, we cannot ever waver or mumble our opposition to Senator Jefferson Beauregard Sessions becoming Attorney General of the United States. Senator Sessions has callously ignored the reality of voter suppression but zealously prosecuted innocent civil rights leaders on trumped-up charges of voter fraud. As an opponent of the vote, he can’t be trusted to be the chief law enforcement officer for voting rights,” said NAACP President and CEO Cornell William Brooks.

Brooks will join with local Alabama chapters of the NAACP for a statewide protest against Sessions becoming Attorney General.

“Despite 30 years of our nation moving forward on inclusion and against hate, Jeff Sessions has failed to change his ways,” said NAACP Alabama State Conference President Benard Simelon in a statement. “He’s been a threat to desegregation and the Voting Rights Act and remains a threat to all of our civil rights, including the right to live without the fear of police brutality.

In addition to the NAACP, three groups have demanded the Sessions’ confirmation hearing be delayed. They are: the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans, People For the American Way and Alliance for Justice.

The groups are asserting that Senator Sessions hasn’t made available the text to his speeches, media interviews and other papers as Alabama Attorney General and as a member of the Senate from 1997 through 2002.

But much of Sessions’ views are well-known and have been for years.

“Some of us in Alabama recall, Senator Sessions saying he liked the Klan,” said Mobile, Ala, NAACP Branch President Lizetta McConnell. “He said it was a joke, but saying something like that while discussing a case where the Klan murdered a young, black man says a lot about a person.”

McConnell continued: “We need someone who realizes that attorney general has got to actually care about the people’s rights he’s protecting and not just doing it, because it’s his job.”

Lauren Victoria Burke is a political analyst who speaks on politics and African American leadership. Lauren is also a frequent contributor to the NNPA Newswire and BlackPressUSA.com. She can be contacted at LBurke07@gmail.com and on Twitter at @LVBurke.

Newsmaker, Continued from page 5.

Jersey (2) and Maryland (3) ranked the highest for the most progress made in racial integration. Maine (51), South Dakota (50) and Vermont (49) were among the states with the worst progress made in racial integration.

Analyzing the 2016 Stats, Louisiana ranks No. 37 in overall racial integration. Hawaii, Idaho and Kentucky were among the states with the highest integration. Washington D.C., Wisconsin and Minnesota were among the lowest.

While racial progress has improved, Jasmine L. Harris, PhD, explains why racial integration is at its current state.

“Most Black people (as slaves) were legally prevented from owning property or earning income for the first 250 years of this country’s existence, the likelihood of general death accumulation necessary for one’s own upward mobility…. was simply not available to any Blacks in the U.S. until the early 1900s,” Harris told WalletHub.

“In 2016, Black people only earn 65 percent of what White income earners make, thus limiting their ability to translate income into wealth (via the purchase of property, stocks, real estate etc.).

MCDONOGH 35

The National McDonogh 35 High School Alumni Association is reaching out to all graduates as it begins the celebration of the school’s Centennial Celebration (1917 to 2017).

If you are a graduate or if you know of someone who graduated from the school, contact the alumni association at mcdonogh35alumniassociation@yahoo.com, mcdonogh35alumniassociation.org, or write to McDonogh 35 Alumni Association, P.O. Box 50506, New Orleans, LA 70122, ATT: Alumni Association.

Submit New Orleans school items to Orleans@nola.com. Include contact information.
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