

# NATIONAL FORUM

## Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Endorses Census 1990

In a move designed to encourage its membership participation in Census 1990, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. has issued a Call to Action to all its chapters across the country to become actively involved in the census process.

The 1990 Census is the full count of every person living in the entire United States on Census Day, April 1, 1990. It also counts every housing unit in the country.

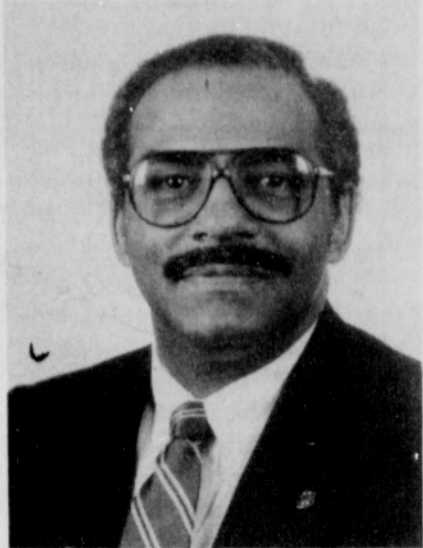
This count determines Congressional representation as well as the allocation of billion of dollars of Federal, State and Local funds for many programs, including health, welfare, housing and education. It is the foundation for economic planning at every level: many businesses use the census statistics for research, advertising and marketing.

"Aside from its fundamental value, Census 1990 will create more than 300,000 temporary jobs across the country," said Carter Womack, National President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. "Census jobs are open to qualified applicants 18 years of age and over. We are encouraging our members to apply for census jobs in areas where they are currently living," he added.

From April through June 1990, the bureau will need census takers to visit households whose occupants did not fill out and mail back their census by Census Day, April 1, 1990. A wide variety of other types of temporary census jobs will be available in the spring and early summer.

"When the Census Bureau began

taking the census 200 years ago, African Americans were counted as three-fifths (3/5) of a person. This procedure resulted in the gross undercounting of our people," Womack commented. It was not until 1870 after the Emancipation Proclamation that African-Americans were counted as whole individuals. It is for this and other reasons that Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is urging



Carter Womack

ing its members to participate in the upcoming Census. The 1990 Census has become a "bread and butter issue" for African Americans living in the United States.

Marvin Cheatham, National Director of Social Action for Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., said "the census, which takes the pulse of America, is also used to help national, regional, and local organizations with assessing the social

and economic progress of population groups. It also helps program goals and policies and provides population counts needed to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives."

In April of 1980, the last census count, an estimated 3.2 million people were not counted. More than 50% of those not counted, an estimated 1.7 million, were African Americans. "We must begin this census day to eliminate apathy and fear as reasons why we do not participate in the census," Womack further added. "We will benefit immensely by becoming an integral part of a process that measures fair share in America. Since one of the most undercounted group is African-American males between the ages of 35 and 54, we must strive to combat that dilemma."

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., an organization known for its social action programs, was founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C. on January 9, 1914. The three founders, Hon. A. Langston Taylor, Hon. Leonard F. Morse, and Hon. Charles L. Brown organized a greek letter fraternity that truly exemplified the ideals of Brotherhood, Scholarship, and Service.

Today, 76 years later, its membership which consists of 90,000 collegiate, business and professional men continues to preserve the founders deep conviction and the fraternity's motto of "Culture for Service and Service for Humanity."

## NEW ALLIANCE PARTY

Dr. Fulani, New Alliance Party, Raise \$12,000 for Reverend Sharpton's Trial Costs



New Alliance Party chairperson Dr. Lenora Fulani raised more than \$12,000 on Saturday evening for the legal defense of the Reverend Al Sharpton, who is currently on trial for fraud in a case brought by New York State Attorney General Robert Adams. The money, which was raised at a party held at the Castillo Cultural Center, will be used to defray the \$600 a day cost of trial transcripts. The 67-count indictment against Reverend Sharpton is widely viewed in the Black community as a reprisal for his uncompromising defense of Tawana Brawley in the face of the Attorney General's insistence that the young woman had lied about being raped and brutalized by a gang of six white men, including police officers.

"I'm thrilled about the money we raised, and that people who support our youth are participating in the fight to defend those independent Black leaders who are standing up for them," said

Dr. Fulani, who plans to run for governor of New York this year. Reverend Sharpton, the president of the United African Movement, is a leading member of the coalition which has come together behind Dr. Fulani's campaign for youth and democracy.

Among those who made contributions on Saturday were representative of the Washington, DC-based Rainbow Lobby, which advocates for democracy in this country and abroad; the International Peoples' Law Institution; the Castillo Cultural Center; the East Side Institute for Social Therapy and Research; and Dr. Fred Newman, the leader of the left tendency which gave birth to those independent institutions as well as the New Alliance Party. Dr. Newman, "the poorest and most radical millionaire in the country," made a \$5,000 contribution on behalf of the poor and working people and their middle class

allies who, he said, have supported the grassroots organizations he has helped to build over the last 20 years.

Former Brooklyn State Senator Vander Beatty, whose 1979 Recall Campaign was a forerunner of the New Alliance Party-led Dump Koch movement; Leola Maddox, the wife of attorney Alton Maddox, who is defending Reverend Sharpton in his current trial and is also a target of Mr. Adams' legal vendetta; civil rights attorney Stephen G. James; and the actor and monologist John Patterson were also present.

People who wish to contribute to Reverend Sharpton's defense fund can send checks or money orders, made payable to the United African Movement Defense Fund. Contributions should be sent in care of Dr. Lenora Fulani, New Alliance Party, 2032 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, 10035.

## Black Medical Schools Form Consortium for AIDS Rsearch \$1.2 Million Program to Address AIDS Crisis Minority Communities

Drew University to Study AIDS Prevention

Los Angeles-- Minorities, primarily African American and Hispanic, now constitute 45 percent of reported U.S. incidence of AIDS since 1981, and AIDS will become a "ghetto disease" by the year 2000, say some medical researchers. A program launched by the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles, in cooperation with six other predominantly Black health professions schools, will address the problem in a \$1.2 million-funded research and prevention effort. The AIDS Consortium Center was planned and organized by the Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS). The Consortium is funded by a grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources.

Four different areas of AIDS research will be headquartered at different medical schools across the nation: Epidemiology and Prevention at Drew University; Drug Development at Florida A & M University; Clinical trials at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee; and Animal Models at Tuskegee School of Veterinary Medi-

cine in Alabama. The Consortium is headed by Rudolph E. Jackson, J.D., Professor and Acting Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia. Other schools involved in the AIDS Consortium Center are Xavier University in New Orleans and Texas Southern University in Houston.

"AIDS is rapidly becoming less a disease of white, gay men as it has been perceived in the U.S.," say Perry Brown, Dr. PH., Assistant Professor at Drew University Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology, and Coordinator of the AIDS Epidemiology and Prevention Program. "We are seeing a rising increase of reported AIDS cases among minorities, particularly Blacks and Hispanics."

Though Blacks comprise only 12 percent of the total U.S. population, more than twice that number, some 27 percent, of AIDS cases have been diagnosed in the Black community. Hispanics comprise less than 8 percent of the U.S. population, but account for approximately 15 percent of the AIDS cases. Asian and Native-American communities are also affected by the HIV infection, but not as severely.

Minority woman and children are markedly over-represented among persons with AIDS. Of all AIDS cases reported to date among adult women, approximately 52 percent are Black, 20 percent are Hispanic and 26 percent are white. About 26 percent of children under the age of 13 who have AIDS are from the minority community, 52 percent Black and 23 percent Hispanic.

There are also significant differences in the prospects for survival of minority AIDS patients, says Dr. Brown. He reports and estimated mean survival rate for African Americans following an AIDS diagnosis is approximately 6 to 8 months, compared with 18 to 24 months for Whites. In explanation, Dr. Brown cites evidence that minorities seek medical care later than their white counterparts, and thus are more susceptible to the effects of severe infections that commonly strike the resistance-weakened systems of AIDS patients.

The AIDS Consortium Center will coordinate efforts among the participating medical schools to develop more effective, targeted strategies for AIDS education, prevention and treatment.

## University of Chicago's School of Business Awards Phillip Morris Company

George R. Lewis, Vice President and Treasurer, Philip Morris Companies Inc., accepts an Appreciation Award from the Black MBA Association, University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business. The presentation followed his recent keynote speech to the Dusable Business Conference's dinner at the Marriott Hotel.

Making the presentation are, from left, Karen Mitchell, Conference Vice Chairperson and Leslie Brown-Franklin, Conference Chairperson. Speaking on the topic, "Corporate America and the Black Community: An Agenda for the Future,"

Lewis told the business students that talented, hard-working minority junior executives would do well in major business corporations in the future.

He based his remarks on a combination of actions by some corporations, the large numbers of minorities scheduled to go into the workforce and in the increasing importance of the Black community's purchasing power.



Making the presentation are, from left, Karen Mitchell, Conference Vice Chairperson and Leslie Brown-Franklin, Conference Chairperson

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