

# EDITORIAL

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## The Portland Observer

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## Letter To The Editor

Send your letters to the Editor to:  
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## Coping: A Woman Being "Used"

BY DR. CHARLES FAULKNER

Dear Dr. Faulkner:

"I had a wonderful relationship with a man I recently met. For the first two weeks, things were going just great. Then he started being unreliable. He would promise to pick me up at 9 but wouldn't come until 11. He would promise to take me out but would cancel the date at the last minute. (Sometimes he wouldn't bother to call to cancel the date). So, one evening when he called to say that he would be two hours late, I simply told him that I was tired and had gone to bed. Now he calls once a week. What have I done wrong?"

--Hillary, Portland, Oregon

Dear Hillary:

You certainly have my sympathy, but you may have blown the relationship. Here is why. Your friend must have found you attractive in order to have shown the initial interest in you that he did. Then, it happened. You probably submitted too easily in either a sexual or social way. In other words, your behavior suggested to him that you were easy, and desperate, that you were not popular with other men, and that he did not need to be on his best behavior in order to befriend you. This may not have been true, but he probably believed that it was.

The fact that he has apparently lost great interest in you could well mean that he has relegated you to the status of his "available anytime girl," the person he calls when no one else is available.

Considering that you selected an intelligent man, because you are also intelligent, he probably inter-

preted your statement, that you were "tired and had gone to bed" differently from the way you wanted him to. You intended to suggest that you were "hard to get" but he probably thought that you were angry at his tardiness. To him, this meant that you wanted desperately to be with him and were angry because you couldn't be. He knew that you would be available whenever he called again. I'll bet that if you had told him that you were getting ready to go on a date with another man, he would have begged you to wait for him. Strategy is everything.

You attracted him initially, by conveying the impression that you were a highly selective lady who was "choosy" about the men she wants. (Women want men who other women want, also). However, after his first weeks with you, he concluded that you had no other male friends to compete with him. Dating you no longer enhanced his ego. You allowed "the chase" to end. Or, in simpler terms, you failed to play "the game." Being sincere unfortunately does not always have its rewards.

However, please do not stop being sincere. In the future, determine the extent of your friend's sincerity before releasing your emotions. Accept him, initially, as a friend and no more. Just as you attracted him, you will attract other men, so maintain your dignity and accept this as a learning experience.

If you have questions, comments or suggestions for Dr. Faulkner, write him at 5722 Green Street, #302, Philadelphia, PA, 19144.

## Fair Elections Bill supported

BY DR. LEANER FULANI

**A**s regular readers of this column know, I ran for President of the United States twice as an independent, becoming (in 1988) the first woman and the first African American to appear on the ballot in all 50 states.

One of the things that I demonstrated in that campaign (and the many other independent campaigns I have run or supported) is that the cards are stacked against independent campaigns and independent parties.

The American electoral system has a structural bias in favor of the two major parties. And as the third party options become more important to the evolution of black politics, eliminated these biases becomes and important part of the black agenda.

State legislatures, controlled by

the Democrats and Republicans, have passed laws that erect incredible barriers to independents. Take ballot access, for example.

Independents have to collect many more signatures, in a shorter period of time and face many more hyper-technical requirements than do major party candidates running for the same office.

When black and Latino insurgent candidates for public office are thrown off the ballot by the party machine, they often turn to independent candidacies. This often means having to negotiate prohibitive ballot access requirements.

The Fair Elections Bill was originally written by Ballot Access News publisher Richard Winner and Gary Sinawski, my national elections attorney and one of the foremost ballot access lawyers in the country.

Congressional Black Caucus member John Conyers (D-Mich.)

was the first to introduce the bill in 1985.

Former Congressman Tim Penny (DFL-Minn.), a good friend of the independent political movement, sponsored and championed the bill in the 101st and 102nd Congress.

I applaud Ron Paul for carrying the banner this year.

The political balance of power is beginning to shift in American politics, as new independent parties come onto the scene and begin to impact.

The Reform Party, for example, which ran Ross Perot for President last year garnered enough votes to win ballot lines in over 30 states.

I am active in the Reform Party, along with an expanding network of Black activists around the country who are finding that the independent option adds a new dimension to black empowerment dynamics at the local level.

Here are some recent examples.

When three African Americans in Union County, Ark. wanted to serve on the county board of directors, they ran on the Reform Party and won. And in 1994 in Alabama, Nate Robertson became the nation's first elected official of the Patriot Party, the independent party that is now a part of the Reform Party coalition, with his successful run for county commissioner in Green County.

The Fair Elections Bill, like many other structural democratic reforms such as term limits, equal access to delegates and campaign finance reform, are very important for the black community.

We need a level playing field in the electoral arena to allow independents to impact.

Write your Congressman. Tell her or him to sponsor and work for the passage of the Fair Elections Bill.

## Federal Reserve Board needs diversity

BY JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

**P**resident Clinton will soon nominate two people for the Board at the Federal Reserve.

Recently, Lawrence Lindsey announced his resignation for the board and Janet Yellen moved to the Council of Economic Advisors.

The board of governors has seven members, each appointed to 14 year terms. Counting Alan Greenspan's reappointment as chairman, President Clinton will have chosen five of the seven. Next year, the term of Susan Phillips expires and then he will have chosen six of the seven governors.

The primary responsibility of the board is to set monetary (money supply) policy. They also develop and administer the major federal

laws governing consumer credit.

So far, the president has not nominated a single person of color to be a member of the board. With the two nominations he is about to make that record must change.

The Board of Governors, the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and four other regional Federal Reserve Bank presidents make up the Federal Open Market Committee. This group meets regularly to decide the cost and availability of money and credit in the economy. All of its members are white.

Their actions can slow the economy, making it difficult to create jobs. Sometimes, the mere suggestion they may act to slow or speed the economy can send the bond and stock markets reeling.

Like some industrial countries,

we have made our central bank independent. We insulate it from open partisan political pressures. The economic policies the Federal Reserve pursues can, in theory, best benefit America without the political fallout of making the tough decisions needed to curb inflation or generate jobs.

The policies they decide have at least as important an influence on the everyday lives of Americas as those we take in Congress to tax or spend. When the Federal Reserve Board took action, the effect of which was to slow the economy in 1994, employment growth slowed, and manufacturing employment in particular declined.

Real people lost jobs and board policies affected real peoples lives.

The costs of fighting inflation are

not felt uniformly.

Some segments of America are still reeling from the deep recession of 1981. Parts of the district I represent, Chicago and the south suburbs, have not yet recovered. Jobs that were lost have not come back.

Until 1994, adult African Americans had to endure double digit unemployment and still suffer twice the unemployment rate of whites, despite tremendous increases in the educational attainment of that work force during that 13 year period.

So, it is vital that the Federal Reserve Board have people who are very sensitive to how economic policies affect different communities, especially its impact on employment.

The President must strive to give those communities a voice in setting economic policy. So far, he has not.

## Business information you can trust, III

**T**o repeat an old fashioned phrase, here are several more 'absolutely trust worthy' formats for structuring business enterprise in the most energetic, effective and proactive manner you may wish to achieve.

In previous 'Perspective' columns we have discussed, "Starting & Operating A Business In Oregon: A Step By Step Guide", and "Gale's Encyclopedia of Associations." These extremely useful tools for structuring or improving a commercial enterprise were reviewed on April 16; both can be found at your downtown public library the first at your bookstore.

Last week's column featured that wondrous listing and display of America's principal manufacturers and suppliers of every possible machine, tool, material, part and service a business enterprise might involve. It was pointed out that this "Thomas' Register of Manufacturers" could, on the one hand demonstrate to a new entrepreneur that he would not need as much expensive space as thought since others were making parts essential to his prod-

ucts and they could be 'bought-off-the-shelf (like wheels or lights); but on the other hand with more space available, the neophyte could expand his production.

Today we will evaluate another important guide that can lead to the formation of a successful business; I introduce the "Standard Industrial Classification manual (SIC)." The preface states, "...used to promote the comparability of establishment data describing various facets of the U.S. economy. The classification covers the entire field of economic activities and defines industries in accordance with the composition and structure of the economy."

As we review its structure here, you should see many opportunities to gain insight in respect to how certain areas of industry and commerce are structured -- leading to new ideas of how your expertise or training might occupy a profitable niche. You might see a commercially viable nook or cranny within "Industry Group No. 571, Industry

No. 5712, Furniture Stores, or No. 5713, Floor Covering Stores or how about No. 5719, Miscellaneous Home Furnishing Stores?"

Out of the many subvariables, some opportunity for enterprise may leap out from the page; "aha!, that's how I can use the skill and perceptions I gained several summers ago. And looking at Thomas' Register of Manufacturers, the space and capital could be within my reach. Further, I can use Gale's Encyclopedia of Associations to contact organizations of firms that are either in the same field or are close enough for their experience to be useful" (marketing, accounting, advertising, equipment, personnel). Critical correlations not taught in school. Write! Learn!

Now, the process I just described is an elaboration of a technique I used to "expand my student's mind's" when their selection of possible business ventures seemed pretty well limited to what they saw in Portland. I would have them study the yellow sections of out-of-town phone direc-

tories where they would of course come up with many, many new entrepreneurial prospects. Just try San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Dallas, Etc. (All to be found at the Public Library).

There are 'thousands of such major groups listed in this "Standard Industrial Classification Manual", perhaps 10,000 or more is a better description. They range from the generic: fisheries, fur farms, logging, fish hatcheries, all types of farms, orchards, dairies, timber companies, etc., to the Extractive Industries: Mining, oil and gas wells. Then there are the financial services, theatrical, amusement, transportation, lodging, food, health and gift, retail, electronic, building, construction, nonprofit, communications, electrical, Direct Mail, etc.

But most importantly, there are thousands of 'between-the-line' industries that service, repair or otherwise support the more conventional or standard types of enterprises with which most of us may be more familiar. You are certain to find new and possibly profitable commercial niches which would never have otherwise occurred. Concluded next week.

## Tuskegee syphilis study's terrible legacy

BY BERNICE POWELL JACKSON

**S**ometimes European Americans find it difficult to understand the reaction by people of color to events and believe that we overact or are a little paranoid.

But to really understand our reactions, one must know the history of people of color in this nation.

For example, one must know that Japanese Americans were put in concentration camps during World War II.

One must know of the many treaty violations which have been experienced by native Americans.

And one must know of the Tuskegee syphilis study undertaken by the federal government using

African American men as its subjects.

Earlier this year, four of the eight living survivors of this terrible experiment gathered at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Notasulga, Ala. to ask President Clinton to publicly apologize for the government's actions in this horrible study. The president has indicated a willingness to do so.

It is a peculiarly American tragedy of race and medicine," said James H. Jones, author of a 1981 book on the Tuskegee study, in a recent Washington Post story.

In 1932, the government began a study on the treatment of syphilis and lured 399 men, mostly poor and uneducated African Americans, to participate with the promise of free

lunches, transportation and medicine.

The study followed the progress of this dreaded disease in these men, some of whom were told they were being treated, but who actually were being given placebos. The subjects were told they had "bad blood."

But the most horrible part of this 40 year study is that even after penicillin was introduced as a successful cure for syphilis in the late 1940s, the study was continued until 1972 and only ended then after it was exposed publicly.

Thus, men who could have been treated successfully for this disease, went untreated.

It essentially reduced black men into unwitting laboratory animals," said the Washington Post story.

There is some evidence that some of the researchers continued the study based on the incredibly racist belief that African American men would respond differently than European American men.

In addition, there is also evidence that the government got local Alabama doctors to cooperate with them by agreeing not to treat the Tuskegee subjects with antibiotics.

After the study's public exposure, the federal government did agree to pay \$10 million in compensation to the victims and their families, but it never apologized for one of the most blatant examples of racism in our nation's history.

It is that apology that the survivors and their families now seek.