



**MCS Still in
Business**

Martin Cleaning Service

**Carpet & Upholstery
Cleaning
Residential &
Commercial Services**
Minimum Service CHG.
\$50.00
A small distance/travel
charge may be applied

CARPET CLEANING
2 Cleaning Areas or more
\$30.00 each Area
Pre-Spray Traffic Areas
(Includes: 1 small Hallway)
1 Cleaning Area (only)
\$50.00
Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area
and Hallway

**Stairs (12-16 stairs - With
Other Services): \$30.00**

Heavily Soiled Area:
\$10.00 each area
(Requiring Pre-Spray)

Area/Oriental Rug Cleaning

Regular Area Rugs
\$25.00 Minimum

Wool Oriental Rugs
\$40.00 Minimum

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Sofa: \$70.00

Loveseat: \$50.00

Sectional: \$110 - \$140

Chair or Recliner:

\$25.00 - \$50.00

Throw Pillows (With
Other Services): \$5.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet
Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain
Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage
Services

**Call for Appointment
(503) 281-3949**

OPINION



Fearing a Return to Second Class Rights

Gravely concerned about Supreme Court

BY YOLANDA PARKER

Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh has a history of interpreting the law in a way that serves the interests of the powerful over equality and justice.

Having grown up in the segregated South, I'm acutely aware of what's at stake. I'm gravely concerned for what Kavanaugh's influence could mean for communities of color, women, the LGBTQ community, and others who've fought to advance civil rights in our country.

For me, this is personal.

I grew up as an Air Force brat. We were stationed in the South in the 1950s, when racial discrimination was deeply pervasive. Children weren't protected from discrimination — not even the daughter, like me, of an Air Force officer who spent a career serving his country. Despite being in a military family, I still had to attend segregated schools outside the Air Force base.

When we were stationed in Biloxi, Miss., girls in my junior high school weren't allowed to take sci-

ence classes — only home economics. My parents had to get special permission for me to take science. And each weekend there were civil rights demonstrations, where bigoted counter-protesters would sometimes leave adults and my classmates bloodied and bruised.

Through relentless struggle, the decades-long civil rights movement earned African Americans and other marginalized communi-

ties stronger voting rights, de-segregated schools and cultural establishments, equal employment, fairer housing, and more.

Protests gave way to judicial cases, giving us landmark decisions like *Brown v. Board of Education* and *Roe v. Wade* that legalized protections for our personal freedoms. More recent cases like 2015's *Obergefell v. Hodges* advanced civil rights to LGBTQ communities.

It's thanks to those hard-earned wins that systemic racial segregation has been outlawed, access to safe, legal abortion has been legalized, and same-sex couples have

the legal right to marry. But we've all seen and felt the toxic backlash to that progress since Donald Trump was elected.

The president has dehumanized immigrants and other Latino communities by calling them rapists and animals. And last August, after the deadly white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, he claimed there were "very fine people" on both sides.

I hung my Biloxi Junior High School diploma alongside my other diplomas to remind me of what we've all overcome — and how much we have to lose. And every day, when I see it, I'm instantly transported back to that frighteningly dangerous time.

If we allow yet another far-right extremist to our nation's highest court, I fear another backlash is on the horizon — a return to a time

Today, we are perilously close to reviving an openly racist, hostile, and xenophobic world for people like me and many others.

Not only is he normalizing racial hostility and small-mindedness, he's re-institutionalizing it by adding far-right extremists to his administration and to our courts. And now that Trump has nominated yet another ideologue to the Supreme Court, those rights we fought so hard for are seriously endangered.

My experience as a young woman in Mississippi gives me intimate firsthand knowledge of what's at risk if that fuel is added to an already growing fire. Today, we are perilously close to reviving an openly racist, hostile, and xenophobic world for people like me and many others.

when our rights were considered secondary, if at all. I know I'm not the only one who can't let that happen.

The Supreme Court is the final judicial arbiter of fairness in our system. Personally, I'll be giving every ounce of energy and grit I have to fight Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to that court. And I hope other Americans who believe in equality and justice for all will take it personally, too.

Yolanda "Cookie" Parker was the founder and president of KMS Software and is a board member of People For the American Way. Distributed by OtherWords.org.