



“Challenging People to Shape
a Better Future Now”

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‘Cavemen’ Keep Sexism Alive

Women serve in almost every high-powered job in the United States: CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, Senators, university presidents, race car drivers and even astronauts. Yet, there are some male bozos who think women should be treated as inferior beings. Conservative blogger and Fox contributor Erick Erickson is the latest man to come out of his cave. After the publication of a Pew study that found that women are the primary or sole source of income in 40 percent of all American households that have minor children, Lou Dobbs had the poor judgment to assemble an all-male panel May 29 for “Lou Dobbs Tonight” to discuss the report.

Lou Dobbs: “Erick, your thoughts on this study and what it portends?”
Erickson: “Lou, I’m so used to liberals telling conservatives that they’re anti-science. But this is — liberals who defend this and say it’s not a bad thing are very anti-science.”
“When you look at biology, look at the natural world, the roles of a male and female in society, and the other animals, the male typically is the dominant role. The female, it’s not antithesis, or it’s not competing, it’s a complementary role. We as people in a smart society have lost the ability to have complementary relationships in nuclear families, and it’s tearing us apart.”
“And what I find interesting in the survey is that three-quarters of the people surveyed recognize that having moms as the primary

THE CURRY
REPORT

George E.
Curry

breadwinner is bad for kids and bad for marriage, and reality shows us that’s the truth.”
After pushback from a lot of women, many of them conservative, Erickson tried to clean up his remarks the next day on his radio show, but only made matters worse:

‘What the study highlighted, and what Erickson and his fellow Fox News commentators ignored, is the persistent class divide among mothers’

“It is a fact that children in a two parent, heterosexual household tend to have a more stable upbringing and a better chance of success than those of single parents or gay parents. This is a fact. This is not to insult gay parents. This is not to insult single parents. It’s just a fact. And the, of the subset of children who are raised in a two-parent, nuclear, heterosexual household, children where the father is the one who is the leader of the family, or the breadwinner of the family, however you want to

say it, tend to out-perform those where the mother is the primary provider of the family outside of the home. Those are the facts. All I have done is pointed them out.”
“... And I understand that some women believe they can have it all, and that’s the crux of the problem. I have to tell you, as a man, where women are told that men have so many more advantages in society, we can’t have it all. Women, you can’t have it all either. Life is a series of compromises and choices.”
“America Live” anchor Megyn Kelly challenged her Fox News colleague.
Kelly: So I’ll start with you, Erick. What makes you dominant

“I’m sincerely confused as to why you used behavior of animals to suggest that women shld stay at home,” Fox political analyst Krisen Powers tweeted.
Katie Pavlich wrote on her Twitter account, “Not offended by idea of a strong male leading the household, offended he implied women aren’t capable of doing so.”
MediaMatters, the press watchdog group, noted, “What the study highlighted, and what Erickson and his fellow Fox News commentators ignored, is the persistent class divide among mothers. According to the data, married mothers who earned more than their husbands were ‘disproportionally white and college educated.’ The single mothers, on the other hand, were ‘more likely to be black or Hispanic, and less likely to have a college degree.’ They also made significantly less: single mothers in the study had a median income of \$23,000, about a quarter of the median income of couples with a female primary earner. If those single mothers were never married, their median income dropped to \$17,400, hovering near the poverty threshold.”
“Furthermore, though more women may be ‘breadwinners,’ women still earn significantly less than men. The report showed that 75 percent of husbands still make more than their wives. In fact, women’s wages decreased in 2012, causing the gender-wage gap to widen with women earning only 80.9 percent of what men earned, or about \$163 dollars less per week.”
George E. Curry is former editor-in-chief of Emerge magazine.

Hip Hop Can Maintain Political Momentum

Hooray! The Associated Press reported that America’s Blacks voted at a higher rate than Whites in 2012 for the first time in history. Was it because there was a Black man running for president, or because threats of voter suppression? Was it a combination of the two? Or, did White America vote in fewer numbers because they felt, like many Blacks have felt for years, that neither candidate represented them and their views?

Whatever the reason, 1.7 million more African-Americans voted for Obama in 2012 than in 2008. That raises another question: Do we understand what role we play in American politics?
When I was a young girl, I asked my mom if we were Democrats or Republicans. She told me we were Democrats. I asked why, thinking I was going to get an explanation with so much substance that I could rush to school and educate my classmates. Her reply was simple and direct: “Because we are Black.”
As I ventured out into the world, what my mom said seemed to resonate among most Black Americans. People really don’t ask African-Americans if they are Republican or Democrats unless they are the stereotypical Black conservative who goes out of his or her way to walk, talk, dress and act differently from the rest of

HIP HOP UNION

Jineea Butler

Black America. As conservative darling Ann Coulter put it, “Our Blacks, are so much better than their Blacks.”
Our Blacks? This is not slavery and Coulter is not my slave master.
For most of my life, I went to the polls and voted a straight Democratic ticket, never learning about

rats to run game on us by not participating or only choosing to be Democrats.
On the other hand, should vote for Republicans simply because they are not Democrats? According to the last NAACP Legislative Report Card, every Republican in Congress earned an F when voting on issues deemed important to us. Not even a D in the whole bunch.
We must hold Democrats — including the ones who vote like Republicans — accountable. Black Americans want better for our

Black Americans want better for our communities, but just don’t know how to get better from either Democrats or Republicans

the candidates and the political process. It wasn’t until a Black Republican entered my life and challenged my reasons for being a Democrat did I begin to see the process clearly. He made me think, if all Black people are Democrats, what happens when Republicans or any other party wins? Do we expect those who won without our support to vote for legislation that resonates with the Black plight? We make it easy for Republicans and even Democ-

communities, but just don’t know how to get better from either Democrats or Republicans.
In Malcolm X’s acclaimed speech of 1964 “The Ballot or the Bullet,” he says we should control the politics and the politicians in our own community through Black Nationalism. He says, “We must know what part politics play in our lives. And until we become politically mature we will always be mislead, lead astray, or deceived or maneuvered into supporting someone politically who

doesn’t have the good of our community at heart.”
We underestimate our political power. Thanks largely to Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, Blacks voted solidly Republican until Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal. Even as late of 1960, Republicans were receiving 30 percent of the Black vote.
Blacks left the GOP in droves after Barry Goldwater’s right-wing presidential defeat in 1964 and the Party’s adoption of a “Southern Strategy” — concentrating on White voters at the expense of Blacks.
Many worry what will happen now that Obama’s name will never appear on another presidential ballot. But Hip Hop can play a unique role in keeping our issues on the front burner.
Rev. Jackson Sr. put it best when he said “We never lost a battle that we fought, but if we don’t fight we can’t win.”
Most of us who don’t vote, are certain not to win. Our non-vote is also a vote — a vote for the opposition.
As political season begins and petitions begin circulating, don’t suck your teeth and walk away. Demand that these candidates that are asking you if they can have a job representing your community have a plan for fixing problems and a vision for the future.