Show Me a Black Person Who Isn't Angry, and I'll Show You a N----r Who Needs a Psychiatrist!

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Had those misguided souls who stormed the Capitol Building been Black, the full measure and weight of D.C.'s law enforcement, would have been brought to bear within a matter of minutes. In plain words, the number of hearses dispatched to the grounds of the Capitol would have been enough to bring D.C. traffic to a standstill for days on end. That was my first thought. *Inside Man*: NOT a Spike Lee Joint, was my second thought. It would have been, in my humble opinion, a mission impossible for a mob of that size to breach the Capitol without the cooperation of an Inside Man or two or three or more. And let us be clear about something, those folks were not protestors, rebels, or insurrectionists. They are not deserving of that badge of honor. Protestors, rebels, and insurrectionists rise up in response to a wrongdoing for which they sought redress through conventional channels, only to be ignored, placated, or summarily dismissed for the umpteenth time. Their grievances are legitimate and oftentimes well documented.

What we witnessed in Washington, D.C., were rioters who behaved senselessly and without cause. The meaning behind their action was frivolous and completely lacking in substance. What is more, it was not lost on those of us who are Black, that the manner in which the members of that mob was handled, is indicative of the double-standard that exists in America when it comes to race. More specifically, when it involves Black people. And some wonder why Black folk are angry. Yes, we are angry—been angry—been angry for a long time, a long time.

The number of YouTube videos posted on a fairly regular basis in which (drawing heavily on the work of Dr. Bobby Wright here) the White psychopathic racial personality is on full display, is in no short supply (see Wright, Bobby Eugene (1974), *The Psychopathic Racial Personality and Other Essays*, Third World Press). If it is not some young White woman accusing an African American teen of stealing her cell phone and then attempting to wrestle him to the ground in a New York hotel lobby, it is some White lady accusing her Black neighbors in Montclair, New

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Jersey, of doing work to their home without a permit, or some White lady in Central Park calling the police on an African American man claiming falsely, I might add, that he is threatening her and her dog. It is one thing after another. Is there any wonder that Black folk are angry? Then of course, there are the countless murders of Blacks by police officers, seemingly, if not actually, on a daily basis. Not only do they kill us but do so with impunity. Why? Because, some prosecutors, judges, and district attorneys have entered into a contract whereby they have agreed, explicitly or implicitly, not to recognize Blacks as equal (see Mills, Charles (1997), *The Racial Contract*, Cornell University Press). If that is not bad enough, we now have African American attorney generals in places like the Blue Grass State that (paraphrasing Eldridge Cleaver here) are part of the problem rather than the solution.

As someone on the north side of fifty, I have long known that not everyone who looks like me can be counted on to look out for me. This is a reality, that as disappointing as it is, is something that we as a race of people have simply had to accept. The idea that there are those who look like us, but who have made a conscious decision to ingratiate themselves with the oppressor at the expense of Black people, is in my opinion, a sin worthy of a lifetime of misery and heartache. Yes, Black folk are angry, and why shouldn't we be? You cannot walk in a park, drive your car, worship in the house of the creator, sleep in your bed, or enjoy a bowl of ice cream on your couch without having to worry about being shot by some deranged White person, be that someone a police officer or a civilian. Even when the evidence points to White peoples' culpability, those in the criminal justice system come up with new and imaginative ways to fail us. No one was more eloquent and piercing in his critique of America where Black people were concerned than the Honorable Minister Malcolm X. "America is not a Democracy, it's nothing but a hypocrisy" is what he was fond of saying.

For those of you who wonder, incredulously, why Blacks are angry, we have every right to be angry. If there was ever a race of people who would be fully justified in storming the Capitol, given the inferior position to which the state has gone to great lengths to attempt to confine us, it would be Black folk. White folk riot on the Capitol and get, for the most part, a measured response from law enforcement. Black folk, on the other hand, protest and rise up in the streets in response to the public execution of George Floyd and the reckless killing of Breonna Taylor and are met with a violent offensive on the part of police officers and other law enforcement agents. So yes, Black folk are angry. Show me a Black person who isn't angry, I'll show you a N----r who needs a psychiatrist!

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