

# International Human Rights: Strategies, Struggle and the Quest for Dignity

## POL180 - FINAL STRATEGY ASSESSMENT

<http://mp-filmmakers.com/>

### 1. Define The Problem And Its Context:

(What is a human rights related problem in the world you might be able to solve?)

Clearly, there is no issue, more dear to my heart, than the atrocities suffered by African people during the 300 years of slavery in the Americas during the African American Holocaust.

Some historians believe, upwards of 10 Million Africans were viciously slaughtered during the capture, gathering, transport, 'seasoning', laborious working conditions and outright murdering of captured African people during the 300 years slavery existed in the Americas.

Many sociologist and historians liken the brutal, vicious and inhumane experience suffered by African slaves to those suffered by Jewish Holocaust victims and other captured prisoners of war, only worst, simply because of the length of time the atrocities lasted and the amount of victims murdered.

Not to mention the generations of victims that continue to suffer today as a result of 'Post Traumatic Slave Disorder'. (PTSD)

Many researchers have identified other areas where African Americans continue to suffer even today as a direct result of slavery.

For example, high infant mortality rates, wealth disparities in America, low educational scores, homelessness and malnutrition as a result of poverty and food deserts in low income communities, just to mention a few.

Let's talk about racism for a moment, how it fits in to the equation and how we are all adversely affected by it.

In an ideal world, people would be kinder to each other, more likely to share with each other, less violent toward each other, fewer police shootings by unarmed citizens, less road rage, fewer assaults, fewer armed robberies and burglaries, fewer murders and homicides, fewer home invasions, fewer car thefts, fewer bike thefts etc.

Unfortunately, that's not the case.

Am I suggesting that most people are bad? Of course not.

To the contrary ... most people are good people.

Than what causes some people to be so mean to each other sometimes in our society?

I believe that often times it boils down to three primary motives: fear, guilt and anger.

When it comes down to Black vs. White racism in America, clearly in my mind, Black people are very angry at White people for the vicious crimes against humanity perpetrated against them by white people during the 300 years of brutal and shameless, government sanctioned Slavery, Jim Crow Laws, Red Lining and segregation in America, which resulted in humiliating and demoralizing Human Rights Violations towards millions and millions of African American people.

I believe, **Until America Reckons with the Moral Debt It Has Accrued ... And the Damage It Has Done to Generations of African Americans ... Racial Divide Will Continue to Be a Hugh Issue in America ... Forever.**

I believe, It's Time for America to Come Clean with its past, It's Time to Settle-Up with your moral debt ... So that We Can Finally Move Forward As One Nation!

White people are very fearful of Black people, and rightly so, realizing the brutal violence that their ancestors perpetrated on the African people.

They know that Black people have the right to be angry.

It seems like White people are waiting for Black people to forget about the African American Holocaust.

It also seems to me sometimes, that they have forgotten about the horrendous crimes against humanity they perpetrated, and choose, often times, to blame Blacks for racism.

***African Americans Can No More Forget Their Past ... Than The Jews Can Forget The Holocaust.***

***African Americans Can No More Forget Their Past ... Than The Japanese Can Forget The Internment Camps.***

***African Americans Can No More Forget Their Past ... Than Native Americans Can Forget The Brutal Slaughter of Their People.***

It's just not going to happen, not in 100 years or 1000 years, if our society manages to last that long.

In my humble opinion, we have a much better chance of solving racism in America by doing several very important things:

1. Admit the errors of your past.
2. Change your attitude toward Black people and the notion of 'White Privilege'.
3. Compensate Black people in the form of reparations for the harm you've done.

It's that simple.

White people will no longer have to feel the quilt that they currently experience.

And Black people will no longer feel the anger that they currently experience daily.

Only then will the healing process begin.

Forgiveness is a process that takes time, commitment, sacrifice and often time's reparation.

## **2. Articulate A Vision:**

What would creating change in this issue area require? For example, might it be served by the formation of a network, a technological development, persuading lawmakers to change existing policies?

### **Attention White People ... We Need Your Help!**

I envision a day, when things could look hopeful.

And what exactly does that look like?

Where black folks and White folks could stand shoulder to shoulder, together in harmony, able to share one vision for America, and not fearful of one another and not angry at one another.

Even as I write these words, I can't help but feel rather foolish and naïve that I'll ever see anything like it in my lifetime.

Many before me have tried to tackle this problem of racism in America, and many others have tried to tackle the challenges that reparations offer.

I believe reparations offer the best chances of achieving the success we all seek.

For Black people and for White people.

Not until Black people feel valued for the many contributions and sacrifices they have made to help in the building of our great nation ... there will be no peace.

African Americans have voluntarily fought, bleed and died in every single war fought against America in its brief history and will probably continue to do so.

And many battles have been fought right here in America for the civil rights of all Americans, Black, White and everything in between.

We Will Always Be Stronger As One Nation ... Under God ... Instead Of Segregated ... Fragmented ... And Divided By Race And Hate.

Instead of being branded as a breeding ground for terrorist, and easily radicalized, as one KGO radio talk show host suggested, it makes more sense to embrace and include those individuals who have been disenfranchised and denigrated throughout our history, by the media and society, for hundreds of years, which has ultimately contributed to a climate filled with negativity and preconceived notions by some and violence and hate by others.

The sooner we all learn to live together and respect each other, the safer we become as a nation.

### **3. Set Out A Strategic Goal:**

Your strategy goal should clearly define the problem, the objective and the strategy, tactics and sequencing that you think could be efficacious.

The goal would be for Congress to authorize reparations to and for African Americans.

Not in the form of a check, but in the form of a strategically laid out package that would benefit African Americans and America as a Nation.

It is perhaps too late for many African Americans that have suffered PTSD (**Post Traumatic Slave Disorder**) ... to be made whole again. (If Ever)

We can only look ahead to a future of bright young minds ... filled with **Hope, Optimism and Enthusiasm** ... if we are to ever get ahead and prosper in America today.

It is not our intent to get over on anyone, be angry or take advantage of a very bad situation.

Until African Americans feel they can get a fair shake in the American Dream, and White America stands up and admit the wrongs from their past, the healing will never begin.

Once again, we should always keep in mind and always remember that America is a new nation, and like with all new nations ... mistakes are often made in the process.

Realizing that the only prudent, moral and ethical thing we can do when a mistake has been made ... particularly so when others have been harmed or injured, is to acknowledge our mistakes, apologize and attempt as best we can, to make amends, pay reparations to those you have harmed, and then, and only then can we attempt to move forward.

It is time for a national healing to begin in America, so that we can begin to move forward as a stronger nation.

We encourage you to join in support of our effort for Reconciliation and Reparation to those who have been harmed ... for the security of our nation is at stake.

We envision a reparation package to look something like the following:

### **African American Reparations and Recovery Act Of 2016**

1. College Education - 100 Years of Free College Education for African Americans in America
2. Free Land - 10 Acres Per Family Name ... For Every African American Veteran in America
3. Business Loans: Federal Loan Guarantee Program for All Qualified African Americans in America
4. Black Folks Casino & Land With Sovereign Nation Tax Status for African Americans in America
5. Government Contract Awards and Infrastructure To Level The Playing Field In America
6. Clean Energy Technology and Solar Energy Technology To Also Level the Playing Field
7. Immunity from Prosecution for All African American, Drug Related ... Non Violent Crimes for the Past 50 yrs.
8. Military Service - Train for Career Options such as Military Police, Illegal Immigration Officers or Border Protection and Security Officers

*(A. Which will allow an adequate supply of well trained police officers to correct the seriously unbalanced amount of white police officers patrolling African American communities?)*

*(B. African American Veterans can also be trained and hired as "Illegal Immigration Officers" to help deter and maintain the Illegal Immigration and border safety issues in America.)*

*(C. African American Veterans can also be helpful in developing a fair and equitable "Immigration Policy" once and for all that will safely and securely serve America's best interest.)*

9. Build an African American Library and Cultural Center On The West Coast Similar To The National Museum of African American History and Culture.

10. Build an African American Human Rights and Civil Rights Law College And Law Library. (One in California and One in Washington DC)

It's Time To Come Clean America ... Time To Settle-Up ... So We Can Finally Move Forward As One Nation. It's Action Time Now Folks ... And This Is Where It All Begins!

Won't You Come Join Us Now In Our Effort For Peace, Reconciliation and Reparation?

#### **4. Discuss Anticipated Barriers, Obstacles Or Resistance To Change:**

The task requires you to anticipate the barriers, those might be psychological, cultural, political, economic, legal and to think through how you would approach these.

- 1.) Exactly who would benefit from reparations and for how long?
- 2.) Establishing criteria on exactly who would be eligible to receive reparations?
- 3.) Exactly how much would reparations cost the America people?
- 4.) Exactly where would the money come from? (Foreign Aid Budget – DOD Budget)
- 5.) Could it be done without overburdening the American taxpayers?
- 6.) How do we overcome the notion of White Privilege in America?
- 7.) Choosing the right political climate to help ensure success of the program.
- 8.) Overcoming legal obstacles. (Historical and Current)
- 9.) Overcoming and dealing with the ongoing issue of illegal immigration.
- 10.) Exactly who would administer the program for reparations?

#### **5. Describe A Plan Of Action:**

Try to use class discussions, cases we've studied and readings to help you think through some of the issues you will need to navigate, as well as tactical and strategic approaches you might use.

- [Interns in Action Network](#) - African & African American Studies – Stanford University
- [Short Survey: Do African Americans in America Today, Deserve Reparations, For Over 300 Years of Brutal And Shameless, Government Sanctioned Slavery, Jim Crow Laws, Red Lining and Segregation, which Resulted in the Senseless, Brutal, Vicious and Inhumane Slaughter, Rape and Murder of Millions of Innocent African Americans?](#)
- Elicit Interns From – [107 Historical Black Colleges and Universities](#) in America (HBCU)
- Elicited Interns From – Yale, Oxford, Harvard, U. C. Berkeley, Princeton University
- Produce Award Winning Documentary Film – [The Cost of Racism in America](#)
- Educate people on African American Contributions, History and Culture
- Prepare a vision of how things could look and feel in America for Blacks and Whites

## **6. Incorporate Learning From The Experiences Of Other Campaigns To Advance Or Protect Human Rights:**

Try to use class discussions, cases we've studied and readings to help you think through some of the issues you will need to navigate, as well as tactical and strategic approaches you might use.

So far as I've been able to determine, the African American story and experience, remains to be quite different from any other story of its kind, both in magnitude and in the scope in which the perpetrators committed their crimes against humanity.

That's only one reason that makes the solving of this issue so overwhelmingly complex and profound.

If it were anywhere close to being an issue easily solved, it would certainly have been solved long ago.

The amount of moving parts necessary are not only vast, but seriously complex as well.

Putting together an interdisciplinary collaboration network of like minded thinkers is vitally important to the success of the project.

Over the next six weeks or so, we will continue to assemble the plan and the network of folks necessary to carry it out.

Ideally, I would like to start with a hand full of interns from the [African & African American Studies Department at Stanford University](#), to develop a network that will eventually grow to include students from [107 of the Historical Black Colleges and Universities](#) across the nation.

While simultaneously continuing to grow our network of like minded thinkers across a group of other colleges and universities, all focused on social justice and reparations for African Americans.

And, considering this is presidential election time, we believe this is a great time to leverage the African American vote, particularly with Hillary Clinton needing the African American vote in order to beat Donald trump in the election.

I will be visiting [Congressman John Conyers](#), in Washington DC to discuss some possible strategies we can use to push our agenda forward.

Congressman Conyers is currently its [longest-serving current member](#), making him the [Dean of the House of Representatives](#), which will be helpful to us in getting a meeting with the Clinton Campaign.

This document is far from finish.

I will be working on the rest of this document over the next six weeks, culminating with our visit to Washington DC on Sept 22 -29<sup>th</sup>, and our visit with Congressman Conyers and the Clinton campaign.

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P. S. I did and will Participate in the 3 Film and 2 Lecture Series Related to the Stanford Summer Human Rights Program. (Final film and lecture showings 7/28 and 7/29)