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Is the NAACP/ Tampa a Useless and do nothing organization?

I see no meaningful and worthwhile reason for this branch to exist. Besides RE-LIVING the Civil Rights ERA of the 1950's and 1960's, and conducting annual events to raise money, what has the National Association for the Advancement of Certain People, A.K.A NAACP / Tampa, done to improve the plights of Colored people or any other people for that

matter lately? What did they really do doing the struggle for Civil Rights?

It seems all that all they are about is rehashing their made-up and trumped up false claims about their participation in the glory days of Civil Rights struggles.

This organization, or lack of it, played a very small or very insignificant rule in the street battles for Civil Rights in that ERA. They like to hijack undeserved credits from Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., SCLC, SNIC, Urban League, College students both Black and White, and regular folks who did the work and got the most beatings and jail arrests. But the way they portrait themselves, they were like the first ones to get their skulls cracked and were the only ones locked up in the South? They were not the foot soldiers at the front lines. They played a very minor role in the street marches and were not the first, second or third ones to go to jail. If anything, their efforts

were more geared towards the safety of legal defense fund raising and court appearances. Do the research.

I am thankful of to any some past members of this group, or anyone really did 40-50 years ago in the fight for my Civil Rights. I could never repay them for their blood and lives lost, but now TODAY I am worried about keeping my house out of foreclosure, stopping my car from being reposed, finding a job, the price of gasoline and praying that my brothers don't rob, attack or kill me when I walk outside.

I respect the Civil Rights history, but that alone is not putting beans on my table. The NAACP/ Tampa seem like all they want to do is perpetuate the past of hatred, promote clashes among the races, the doom and re-live gloom of days long gone by, and protect and promote the class system among Colored folks. They do this to maintain their phony status of being ...

**"OUR LEGITIMATE AND SOLE / EXCLUSIVE CIVIL RIGHT
REPRESENTATIVE".**

They seem so combative and always want to quickly thrown in your face Selma or Montgomery when challenged about their phony claim of legitimacy.

They love to say, ... "I was on the bridge when the State Troopers beat us with Billy clubs and the police dogs chewed by right leg ". It's like that dog bite is some sort of lifetime achievement award for a future of doing nothing and continuing to remain useless. I am glad you were there yesterday, (if you really were there?) so I can be here doing what I am doing now, but let's move on. I know I can sit in the front of the bus as I go file for my unemployment check. Again I thank you.

What state are those cities in? I never in my lifetime ever voted for them to represent me did you?

But yet when the "powers that be" need a group to

represent "the Community / us Colored Folks", they automatically seek out, run to and embrace, The National Association for the Advancement of Certain People. Why, I have often asked myself, well I finally figured it out. Since this group is known to be ineffective, a do nothing group/ quite useless, and its members will never really have any real input to whatever is going on, and on mostly never show up at published meetings, they are the perfect "no nothing" organization to pick. This automatic process of appointing the NAACP does a great disserve to the integrity, hope and aspiration to the Black community. The NAACP/ Tampa is really a false and sorry representation of the community.

There are so many other worthwhile Black Organizations that would do a much better job of representing the community.

It just looks like certain people have been in charge for years and years and years and are straggling what could be a very productive organization.

It's well known about the "certain people privileged class" at the branch. That class structure discourages many progressive, educated and sincere people from the community from joining or wanting to have anything to do with the branch. These certain people set the agendas. They maintain their grip on the organization, or lack of it, by intimidations, a valueless corrupted seniority system with propelled by self-serving interests.

The local leadership appears to be very dismal, confused, poorly organized and lacking clear purpose or mission statement.

Many of their high level officials cannot see beyond their ever flaunting Ph.Ds. Like who cares about those titles when you are unemployed, hungry or sitting in county jail lockup? Hey don't forget, you got those

advance degrees to benefit you and your pocket. It like they don't have regular first names? It's appears mandatory that you use Doctor so ... so ... when you address them? Or when they introduce themselves the third word out of their mouths are; I am Doctor... The word Doctor must be on their birth certificates as their birth given names? With so many PH.ds at the branch, one would assume that they would at least be organized enough to serve the community? There may be more doctors at this NAACP branch than the number of doctors at Tampa General Hospital. At the meetings, can you just check in your Ph.Ds. at the front door? Tell me what you have really been doing? Or what you can really do to improve the plight. Unless you are performing my medical procedure I really don't care about your Ph.D. or doctor status.

This organization, or lack of it, especially its leadership, is known for not returning calls for days or weeks, if at all. The leadership is known standing

up people for scheduled meetings including its own members meetings. (Often when they can't attend, they don't even give a courtesy call and say they won't be there).

There appears to be no unified sense of direction or understanding of the real concerns and needs of today.

The NAACP / Tampa may have more committees than members. There are always lots of committee reports and meetings about nothing at all. It's like they are really leadership-less, more like a ship without an anchor just stringing along a bunch of well-meaning folks in lifeboats.

If you file a complaint with the local office, you can just forget about ever getting any sort of reply. You will have a better chance hearing back from the Florida Board Pardon and Clemency. The Florida Board is running about 3-4 years behind. It is a complete waste of time to file any complaint with that office. It's

like all the complaints just go into a black hole, or even in a trash basket, where the complaints will never to be addressed or followed up on. If you don't believe me, find someone who has gotten a follow up review that did not involve media attention?

Its own members constantly complain that they can't reach its leadership, or they don't know what the leadership is up to, or the leadership is not returning their calls. They are given a beeper number with special codes to use when beeping. To me, it just another layer and obstacle to effective communications. It also is a way of distancing between its members and its leadership.

They also complain about the leadership stacking family members and hommies in the organization.

This group occupies important seats at many government boards, task force, school board and other functions. Some of these boards are; the Juvenile Task

Force with Commission Kevin Beckner, the Public Safety Coordinating Council and HartLine (the transit system).

More times than not their designated person never shows up, or comes in terribly late and they never really have anything to constructively to say. When they can't make a meeting, they don't even bother to inform anyone in their organization, to attend in their places. When are present, they never ask the right questions or maybe they just don't know what questions to ask. Poor preparations and lacking subject matter knowledge is the order of business for these members. It just really appears to do more than a butt keeping a seat warm. They act like a tree stump just sitting there. It's like their members are clueless to the issues being discussed, are people with ZERO or very little knowledge of the importance of their seats at the table or even who the other people at the table are. I would venture to say that these appointed members can't name our county commission members?

They are totally unprepared and uneducated about any positions they occupy. I think they are there for the GLITZ and GLAMOUR reasons or to just be seen with important people. The people that sit at table should at least be qualified and understand the political process. They claim to represent the minority community, but they seemingly are always voting with the majority of the members on any boards they serve on.

The NAACP/ Tampa, The National Association for the Advancement of Certain People, love to add their names or to co-brand themselves with the folks and sponsors of the events real organizers of meaningful purposes.

I bet the 99% of Colored people living in Tampa does not know the NAACP's president name, or can list five board members, or even know where their office are located? However, they can name the Buc football team members, it coaches and 5 players.

The office in Tampa would rather come out against a

Confederate Flag site to honor solders Black and White than to speak out against real issues affecting the community. (That flag issue brought media/camera coverage)

Issues like;

1. Speak out about Black on Black crime
2. High school drop rates
3. One parent family's struggles
- 4.The big drug problem in the hood
5. Do something about why 6 out 10 Black men go to prison before the age of 30
6. See why 49.7 % of the state's prison populations are Black men when there are only 7.7 % in the general population
7. Elderly care
8. Helping Blacks to join the information highway with computer training

9. Encouraging Blacks to attend college
 10. Abuse by probation officers
 11. Monitor criminal court case
 12. Truly finding jobs for Blacks
 13. Consumer rip offs
 14. Prenatal care
 15. Warning youngsters of the criminal justice system
 16. Work with The State's Attorney's office about
diversion programs instead prosecutions
 17. Creating live hotline for police abuse
- ... I could go on and on.

But you know, if there are no media cameras there, you won't find the NAACP there. It's like to them, no cameras/ it's not an issue of important for Colored Folks.

I feel that we, the Colored People of Tampa deserve better service than what we are receiving.

Every year they host a fancy high society funding event. The participants are Tampa area's "Who is who" of Corporate, Civic and the public. They raise lots of money. Where does the money go to? Is there a public accounting? They can find money to advertise this upcoming event, but can't seem to find money to advertise their next monthly money raising events, but don't have money to advertise their next meeting's location or topics or any of their achievements. The public knows about the Rays baseball team schedule than the NAACP meeting dates or location. What role does these certain people play with the accounting and distribution of the money raised? Its time these groups that give money to really think about this local branch and ask hard questions. They should especially ask about their effectiveness as a Civil Rights

organization and about who is really in charge over there.

The National Association for The Advancement of Certain People / Tampa should change its ways or just close its useless do nothing doors. This NAACP branch is not very well received by Colored Folks in Tampa. They need to just clean house and put non pompous people there to help the community.

I move to the Tampa about eighteen years, I had always held the real NAACP in high regards. But there is something unique and fundamentally flawed with this branch. I don't know about other NAACP branches elsewhere around the country, but they cannot be a dysfunctional as the Tampa branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Certain People.

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