(USPS 526-500)

VOLUME 80 - NUMBER 57 • THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

Harris Slams Trump's Agenda as 'Decades in the Making'

By Stacy M. Brown BlackPressUSA.com Senior National Correspondent

n her first major speech since leaving the White House, Kamala Harris called on Americans to resist what she described as President Trump's assault on truth, democracy, and the economy.

Speaking at the annual Emerge gala — an organization focused on training Democratic women to run for office the former vice president delivered a fiery critique of Trump's leadership, warning that the country is heading into what she called a "manmade economic crisis." "We all know, President Trump, his administration, and their allies are counting on the notion that fear can be contagious," Harris told the crowd. "But what they've overlooked is that fear isn't the only thing that's contagious. Courage is contagious."

Harris said the administration is abandoning the nation's core values, operating not

in chaos, but with deliberate speed. "A vessel is being used for the swift implementation of an agenda that has been decades in the making," she said. "An agenda to slash public education. An agenda to shrink the government and then privatize its services. All while giving tax breaks to the wealthiest among us." A day after Trump reached 100 days in office, Harris accused him of betraying his promise to cut costs. She said working families and small businesses are being punished instead. "Some people are describing what's been happening in recent months as absolute chaos. And of course, I understand why," Harris said. "It's certainly true of those tariffs. Tariffs that as I predicted — are clearly inviting a recession."

She called Trump's tariff policy the "greatest man-made economic crisis in modern presidential history," warning that the trade war is driving up costs, damaging retirement accounts, and crippling small businesses. "Instead of an



Kamala Harris

administration working to advance America's highest ideals, we are witnessing the wholesale abandonment of those ideals," she said. While Harris said she wasn't offering all the answers, she insisted that Americans must keep fighting.

"The one check, the one balance, the one power that must not fail is the voice of the people," she said. And she ended with a blunt message. "Things are probably going to get worse before they get better," Harris said. "But we are ready for it."

Dr. Amos C. Brown Calls Out Smithsonian Over Returned Artifacts, Warns of Trump-Era **Attacks on Black History**

n Let It Be Known, the Black Press of America's daily morning show, Dr. Amos C. Brown exposed what he described as an attempt to erase Black history through the Smithsonian's decision to return artifacts he loaned to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Host Stacy M. Brown and co-host Niele Anderson led a discussion that covered the museum's actions, the political climate under Donald Trump, and the role of the Black church in defending historical truth. Dr. Brown, president emeritus of the San Francisco NAACP and longtime civil rights leader, said the museum recently notified him that two of his artifacts—a Bible he carried during the movement and a copy of Rev. George Washington



Dr. Brown said the museum had previously asked to keep the items permanently. "Now, all of a sudden, you can have it back," he said. "There was no conversation. Just an email."

Williams's earliest written history of Black people in America—would be returned. He said the staff cited the items' fragility after years on display. "They claimed the light had been on the books too long," Dr. Brown said. "It's a museum—they know how to preserve artifacts. This was

disrespectful to our history."

Dr. Brown said the museum had previously asked to keep the items permanently. "Now, all of a sudden, you can have it back," he said. "There was no conversation. Just an email." He tied the museum's actions

Continued on page 7

May Day and The Intersection of Civil Rights and Workers' Rights

By April Ryan

There's a real inflection point this May Day," Randi Weingarten, head of the American Federation of Teachers, said about the day unions worldwide attempt to recognize workers, their contributions, and the importance of fair employment practices and worker rights.

As 80 nations, including the United States, witness union leaders rally for International Workers Day, there is an intersection of civil rights and worker rights. Unionorganized rallies are taking shape, evoking memories of the fight for worker rights alongside civil rights. It wasn't always a happy marriage of ideas. National Urban League President and CEO Marc Morial emphasized that Americans in the public African Americans in union membership and leadership teachers and AFSME and are "a mixed record." Black



Union-organized rallies are taking shape, evoking memories of the fight for worker rights alongside civil rights.

allowed to join unions or be in leadership. Unions used discriminatory practices to have Black workers fired from jobs, particularly in the South. Today, in contrast, we see "broader acceptance in leadership for African employee unions like the others," Morial said. He people initially weren't lamented that "many unions

refused to admit Blacks." That reality of a "closeddoor policy" birthed Black unions, which moved Black workers into Black middleincome status. That significant socio-economic upward climb also helped fuel African Americans' pursuit of equality and civil rights.

Leon Russell, board chair Continued on page 7

Young Californians Losing Faith in the System

By Stacy M. Brown BlackPressUSA.com Senior National Correspondent

new national survey from the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School finds young Americans facing financial uncertainty, deteriorating mental health, and a growing lack of trust in institutions.

The 50th edition of the Harvard Youth Poll offers a comprehensive look at the attitudes of Americans aged 18 to 29—particularly young Black individualswho feel increasingly left out of national conversations and underserved by political leadership. Conducted March 14–25, 2025, the poll surveyed 2,096 respondents across the country. More than four in 10 say they are "barely getting by" financially. Young Black Americans continue to face deep financial stress, with 45% reporting hardship. Many express concern about limited opportunities, stagnant wages, and the rising cost



Conducted March 14-25, 2025, the poll surveyed 2,096 respondents across the country. More than four in 10 say they are "barely getting by" financially. Young Black Americans continue to face deep financial stress, with 45% reporting hardship.

of education and housing. Among those struggling, 51% believe President Trump's policies will worsen their finances in the coming years.

Only 15% of all respondents say the country is headed in the right direction. Just 16% report doing well financially, while economic hardship is more severe for women, young Hispanics, and those without a college degree. Nearly half

of young women (47%) report limited financial security, while 52% of young Hispanics say they are struggling or just getting by. Half of respondents without a degree report hardship, compared to 29% of college graduates. Approval ratings among young Americans continue to decline. President Trump's approval

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Sun Reporter 5-1-25.indd

Sun Reporter



(ISSN 0890-0930) Dedicated to the cause of the people-that no good cause shall lack a champion and evil shall not thrive unopposed. Published weekly by Sun-Reporter Publishing Co. 1286 Fillmore Street San Francisco, CA. 94115 Periodicals Postage Paid At San Francisco, California

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to -Sun-Reporter Publishing Co. 1286 Fillmore Street San Francisco, CA, 94115 Phone: (415) 671-1000 Fax: (415) 671-1005 E-Mail address: SunReporter@SBCglobal.net

Website: www.TheSunReporter.com **Subscription Rates:**

\$20 per year; 30 cents per copy. Member of National Newspaper Publishers Association, Inc., and California Publishers Association. Sun-Reporter has a six-column format, 1.895" per column with .125" between each column. Carlton B. Goodlett, PH.D., MD., Editor/Publisher

> **Amelia Ashley-Ward Editor/Publisher**

1945-1997

Target CEO Rakes In \$20.4M as Boycott Deepens and Black Leaders Demand Accountability

By Stacy M. Brown BlackPressUSA.com Senior National Correspondent

Target Corporation grapples with sweeping boycott led by grassroots activists and civil rights groups, the company's chair and CEO, Brian Cornell, walked away with a pay package worth \$20.4 million last year.

That total marked a 6.3 percent increase over the previous year, primarily driven by \$16.1 million in stock awards, alongside a \$1.4 million salary and \$2.3 million in bonuses and incentives. The company has faced mounting pressure following its decision to walk back significant diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) commitments, especially its highly publicized \$2 billion pledge in 2021 to support Black-owned businesses, improve the Black consumer experience, and invest in its Black workforce. The backlash has only intensified since February 1, when Rev. Jamal Bryant and a coalition of grassroots organizations

against the retail giant. That same day marked the beginning of Black History Month and the launch of a public education and selective buying campaign spearheaded by the Black Press of America. The movement has gained momentum nationwide, especially in the Twin Cities, just miles from where George Floyd was murdered in 2020. "This movement started here, in the Twin Cities," said civil rights attorney Nekima Levy Armstrong during an appearance on the Black Press of America's Let It Be Known news show. "We launched the boycott after Target rolled back its DEI programs, just days after Donald Trump returned to power and began his renewed assault on diversity."

Levy Armstrong said Target's decision to bypass local activists in favor of meeting with Rev. Al Sharpton, who has openly acknowledged that he wasn't involved in the boycott, further insulted them. "They said it with their chest, and now they want to quietly walk it back? Not on our watch," Levy Armstrong declared. "Instead of engaging

announced a national boycott with the organizers who live and work three miles from George Floyd Square, Target reached out to someone who admitted he wasn't even participating." Target's executive vice president and chief community and stakeholder engagement officer, Kiera Fernandez, reportedly took part in meetings about the boycott, but multiple requests for comment and engagement from the Black Press of America and community leaders have gone unanswered. "They made a Hail Mary pass," said Monique Cullars-Doty, co-founder of Black Lives Matter Minnesota. "They were hoping Sharpton would catch it and run it into the end zone for them. But we're the ones who've been doing the work, and they know it. That's why this boycott was always meant to be indefinite—not 40 days, not a fast, but until Target makes good on its promises and accounts for its role in fueling systemic harm."

> Meanwhile, Target's financial woes have worsened. Wall Street analysts have noted that the company's stock price has dropped 22.2 percent in the past month,

The company has faced mounting pressure following its decision to walk back significant diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) commitments, especially its highly publicized \$2 billion pledge in 2021 to support Black-owned businesses

hitting a 52-week low. Despite those challenges, Target has remained quiet on its political contributions, including a \$1 million donation to Donald Trump's re-election campaign last year—the first time the company had ever given to a presidential candidate. This week, Cornell reportedly warned Trump that his tariff and trade policies could disrupt supply chains, raise prices, and create shortages across store shelves. Yet Cornell also praised his company's performance in Target's most recent annual report. "We entered 2024 with

a commitment to stay nimble and generate profitable growth, and even in a challenging retail environment, our team delivered," Cornell told employees. "By controlling what we can control, listening closely to consumers, and staying focused on what differentiates

Target." Jaylani Hussein, executive director of CAIR-Minnesota, said the company's response proves otherwise. "We've been ignored," Hussein said. "They're still playing politics while losing Black consumers every day."

MAYOR LURIE, SPEAKER MERITA PELOSI CEI PROGRAM'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

AN FRANCISCO Mayor Daniel Lurie today was joined by U.S. House Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, California Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Stewart Knox, and members of the Board of Supervisors along with labor and trade leaders to celebrate the 20th anniversary of CityBuild.

A nationally recognized construction training program, CityBuild provides career pathways for San Francisco residents into the building and construction trades.

For two decades, the program has transformed lives, strengthened communities, and helped shape the city's skyline. Since its inception, CityBuild has graduated over 2,100 San Franciscans across its various programs and placed nearly 1,800 residents in union apprenticeships, a stellar 86% placement rate. Their graduates enter union apprenticeships with a high degree of knowledge, skills, and confidence, directly to our neighbors obtaining a Multi-Craft and communities that need it Core Curriculum (MC3) certification, the nationally recognized training developed by the North America's Building Trades Unions.

Mayor Lurie has taken steps to kickstart San Francisco's comeback by accelerating building projects and bringing new investment to the city. In February, he launched PermitSF to make the city's permitting system customerfocused, faster, and more transparent and make it easier to open a small business and build new homes. Earlier this month, he introduced his "family zoning" plan to build more housing so the next generation of San Franciscans can afford to raise their kids in the city, while taking and supporting legislation in February, March, and April to encourage housing development downtown.

"For 20 years, CityBuild has set the standard for how government, labor, and the private sector can come together to open the door to new careers and expand the workforce that builds and maintains our city," said Mayor Lurie. "CityBuild delivers impact most. San Francisco is on the rise, and we need to invest in our downtown and our neighborhoods and build more housing so the next generation

In his first months in office, of San Franciscans can afford the program serves as a to raise their kids here. In all of those efforts, we rely on CityBuild and the partners who make it possible."

"For 20 years, CityBuild has created a path to good-paying jobs for thousands of hardworking San Franciscans," said Speaker Emerita Pelosi. "CityBuild has changed lives and strengthened families—building healthier communities and expanding our city's middle class. Today's celebration honors not just CityBuild's legacy, but the people whose futures have been built through its success."

"CityBuild was born from a vision I shared with Supervisor Sophie Maxwell for a construction workforce development program to uplift San Francisco's local economy. Built on the principle that we are stronger together, this community-labor partnership has harnessed the power of the City College of San Francisco, community nonprofits, labor unions, and industry employers to refer and train San Franciscans for construction projects," said California Governor Gavin Newsom. "CityBuild's success has far exceeded my expectations, and it brings me tremendous pride that

nationwide model for how to foster sustainable and inclusive economic growth."

"CityBuild gave me a career I love and helped me grow mentally and professionally," said Meg-Anne Pryor, CityBuild alumna. "Coming up in Bayview, I didn't know what a career in construction could look like, but this program showed me I have a place in the trades. Now, as a journeyperson and apprenticeship coordinator, I get to help others from communities like mine start careers of their own—and that feels really good."

CityBuild equips graduates with foundational skills, launching their careers in every critical construction trade, from carpentry to of CityBuild, I'm reminded welding. CityBuild alumni have contributed to iconic projects like Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, Chase Center, Salesforce Tower, Salesforce Transit Terminal, the Treasure Island and Yerba Buena Island development project, SFO's terminal expansions, Mission Rock development, and the Central Subway. Many students come from backgrounds with limited access to stable, high-paying



Internationally Recognized Workforce Program Has Launched Thousands of Careers, Placing Nearly 2,000 San Franciscans in Union Apprenticeships

careers, and CityBuild is a powerful launchpad to longterm economic security.

"As we celebrate 20 years of the incredible impact this program has had on our communities," said District 10 Supervisor Shamann Walton. "CityBuild is more than just a workforce development initiative—it's a pathway to opportunity, empowerment, and transformation for so many San Franciscans, especially those from underrepresented neighborhoods. For two decades, it has been a bridge to careers in the building trades, giving people the

skills they need to build not only our city but their own futures. As we look ahead, we must continue to invest in this spirit of growth and community, ensuring that our workforce is ready to meet the challenges of a changing world while creating an inclusive, sustainable future for all."

Strong public-private partnerships drive CityBuild's success. By collaborating with labor unions, employers, community organizations, the city, and institutions like UCSF, the program effectively prepares local residents for high-demand construction careers and meets industry

A Week After Shedeur Sanders is Drafted in the 5th Round, He and His Fans Move Forward

By Lauren Burke

I have never seen anything in my of covering the

National Football League like what the National Football League just did to Shedeur Sanders," said Skip Bayless emphatically on the Skip Bayless Show on April 29.

Bayless had predicted that Sanders would be selected early in the first round. Another top draft expert, Mel Kiper, called the late drafting of Sanders "disgusting" and said "I don't know what is

going on with this" on the night of the draft. The biggest story that came out of the 2025 almost 50 years NFL draft was an unexpected one: Colorado Buffaloes QB and son of one of the greatest and most versatile players to play in the NFL, Shedeur Sanders, was surprisingly drafted in the 5th round.

> Shedeur Sanders would eventually be drafted by the Cleveland Browns. But the expectation was that he would be drafted in a much higher position. The NFL has many teams in need of a quarterback. That Sanders was

not drafted as an early-round pick has many speculating about racism, collusion against him, and dislike of his father, Deion Sanders. But despite the questions, Sanders' overall talent is not questioned by many who follow the NFL and college football closely. Now Sanders will have something to prove after the unexpectedly challenging draft experience. Mel Kiper, a prominent American football analyst best known for his work with ESPN covering the NFL Draft, predicted that Sanders would be drafted 5th or 6th overall. Kiper along with Bayless were shocked that Sanders was drafted in the 6th round.

"This has never happened before," Kiper also said when speaking on Sanders' late draft selection on ESPN two days after the draft. He pointed out that Sanders led the Southland Conference in completion percentage and was fourth in passing yards. It has never happened before in 47 years that a player that high has dropped this far," Kiper added in confusion. But Shedeur Sanders may get the last laugh.

His Jersey sales are spiking and fans are buying directly

Shedeur Sanders would eventually be drafted by the Cleveland Browns. But the expectation was that he would be drafted in a much higher position.

than from an NFL-owned may cement Sanders' platform. What happens answers to his critics.

from his website rather next on the playing field

100 DAYS OF CHAOS: TRUMP'S RETURN FEELS LIKE A SEQUEL NO ONE ASKED FOR

By Stacy M. Brown BlackPressUSA.com Senior National Correspondent

onald Trump's return to the White House has triggered a surge in consumer prices, widespread protests, and mounting legal and political concerns—all within his first 100 days.

A new analysis from Americans for Tax Fairness (ATF) reveals that Trump's sweeping tariffs on foreign goods have already added \$14 billion in costs for U.S. households. According to the

Bureau of Economic Analysis, import taxes soared to \$96.3 billion in the first quarter of 2025, up 17 percent from the same period last year. ATF called the tariffs a regressive tax scheme that burdens working—and middle-class families while shielding the wealthy. "These are just the first effects of Trump's reckless and regressive tariffs—the beginning of higher costs that families will face due to the president's incompetent trade policies and to fund his tax giveaway to billionaires," David Kass, ATF's executive

director, said. ATF's analysis

found that the bottom 60 percent of households, which receive about one-fifth of the nation's income, will shoulder nearly one-third of the tariff burden. Meanwhile, the top 1 percent of income earners—those making more than \$940,000—will pay just one-tenth of the cost despite taking in more than one-fifth of national income.

The Yale Budget Lab projects that Trump's tariff policy will result in an 18 imported goods by the end 1934. Without changes in people from existence," Ella

consumer behavior, the rate could rise to 28 percent, the highest since 1901. More than 200 demonstrators shut down traffic across Washington on Tuesday to protest what organizers called "100 days of disaster." The protests resulted in eight arrests and widespread disruption throughout the city's morning commute. "For 100 days, Trump, Musk, and their billionaire friends have stripped away our fundamental freedoms-abducting our percent effective tax rate on neighbors, cracking down on political dissidents, and of 2025—the highest since attempting to erase trans

Weber, an organizer, said. Olivia DiNucci of CODEPINK said the administration has "gutted social services, sent billions to Israel, and boosted a trillion-dollar Pentagon budget, while families struggle to survive."

Rev. Al Sharpton said Trump's first 100 days "are Project 2025 in motion." He pointed to executive orders targeting diversity, equity, and inclusion, eliminating police accountability efforts, and attacking LGBTQ+ rights. "Trump may have executive orders. He may have the House and the Senate. He may have a conservative Supreme Court that will stand idly by even when he defies their orders. But he does not control our dollars. He cannot stop us from marching," Sharpton asserted. The Not Above the Law coalition accused the administration of ignoring court rulings, targeting political opponents through the Justice Department, and rewarding allies with sweeping pardons and federal contracts. "We have come too far, heard too many commitments, and proved our case for success to go back now," Sharpton said.

Black WWII Battalion Finally Honored

By Stacy M. Brown BlackPressUSA.com Senior National Correspondent

eventy-nine

years after their War II, the Black women of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion — the only all-Black Women's Army Corps unit to serve overseas during the war — have finally received one of the nation's highest honors two years after then-President Joe Biden signed a proclamation clearing the way for the award. The heroes will receive the Congressional Gold Medal.

"These heroes deserve their dues," Rep. Gwen Moore of Wisconsin said. "And I am so glad their story is

as pressure grew to include Black women in overseas military operations, the 6888th was tasked with solving a massive wartime mail crisis. More than 7 million U.S. troops, Red Cross workers, and government personnel stationed in Europe were relying on mail to stay connected with loved ones back home. By early 1945, the Army estimated a backlog of roughly 17 million pieces of undelivered mail—some dating back years. The Army's solution was a newly created battalion of about 850 Black women led by Maj. Charity Adams, who would later become the highest-ranking Black

woman in the Army during

to England in February 1945 and immediately went to work in Birmingham, sorting an estimated 65,000 pieces of mail per shift around the clock, using a system of locator cards to track service members and their units. "They expected we were gonna be there about two or three months trying to get it straightened out," recalled retired Maj. Fannie Griffin McClendon is one of only two surviving members. "Well, I think in about a month, month and a half, we had it all straightened out and going in the right direction."

By the time they finished the job in half the projected time, they had cleared the backlog and restored morale to soldiers desperate for word deployed to Rouen, France, and later to Paris, where they continued their mission while also investigating widespread mail theft and dealing with racism, sexism, and the trauma of burying fellow soldiers killed in a tragic vehicle accident — funerals they paid for themselves when the War Department refused. Despite their success and high praise from fellow service members, the women of the 6888th returned to a country still unwilling to properly acknowledge their service. They received standard medals issued to most who served, but no special commendation. That began to change in the 1980s as their story slowly

resurfaced through reunions,

documentaries. A monument was erected in their honor in 2018 at Fort Leavenworth, and they received the Meritorious Unit Commendation in 2019. In 2022, Congress voted unanimously — 422-0 to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the unit. Biden signed the bipartisan bill the following year. "That really shows how long this recognition took," said Kim Guise, senior curator at the National WWII Museum. "It is really important to recognize the accomplishments of these women and what they went through to serve their country in wartime."

The medal is a posthumous tribute for most of the battalion's 855 members.

being told." Formed in 1944 the war. The unit deployed from home. The women then books, museum exhibits, and Only two are still alive today, including McClendon, who later joined the Air Force after military integration and became the first woman to command an all-male Strategic Air Command squadron. In addition to the medal and previous honors, their story is now part of popular culture. Netflix has a feature film titled The Six Triple Eight, directed by Tyler Perry and starring Kerry Washington. "They kept hollering about wanting us to go overseas," McClendon said. "So I guess they found something for us to do: take care of the mail. And there was an awful lot of mail." "It's overwhelming," she added. "It's something I

never even thought about."

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The Sun-Reporter

EDITORIAL

We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us. Preedom's Gournal. March 16, 1827.

When the Heat and Storms Come, Lies Will Not Save Us

comes earlier, it does not matter who you voted for. You still have to rebuild your home. You still have to find a way to breathe clean air. You still have to keep your family safe.

That is why what the Trump administration is doing right now to the National Climate Assessment should make

hen the every American furious.

This week, Trump dismissed the scientists writing the next National Climate Assessment and announced they will be "reevaluating" its scope. That is political talk for rewriting the truth.

The National Climate Assessment is supposed to be our country's report card, providing an "up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of climate change in the United States." It is supposed to detail how Americans, in every part of the country, are being impacted by climate change in their communities and everyday lives, and how we can prepare and be ready for what's to come - for our health, for our financial wellbeing, and more.

But the Trump administration wants to twist it. It was reported last month the administration might try to turn everything we know about climate science on its head and falsely spin the climate crisis into a good thing for humanity. That would be propaganda - not science.

As deadly heat, floods, fires, and storms come faster and harder every year, this could not be happening at a worse time.

Last year was the hottest year ever recorded. Not just here, but across the globe. And this year, western American cities like Phoenix and Palm Springs shattered their early spring heat records. The oceans are warming at an unprecedented and alarming rate; the Great Lakes are warming even faster. And from California to New Jersey, wildfires rage.

When it gets hotter, the air gets dirtier. Hospitals see more cases of asthma, heart problems, and heat stroke. Families see higher health care bills. Workers - especially those in construction, farming, and delivery jobs - face real danger just doing their jobs.

Meanwhile, the cost of living keeps rising. By pushing dirty fuels and trying to stop the shift to clean energy, the Trump administration is setting families up for higher electricity bills too. Solar and wind are already cheaper than coal and gas

days, marked on April 29, this

Ben Jealous

in most places. But without honest climate science guiding policy, big utilities and fossil fuel companies will keep squeezing working people while raking in profits.

None of this is an accident. It is part of a pattern.

Back in January, many of us warned that Donald Trump's inner circle had a plan to gut climate science across the government. To replace facts with polluters' wishful thinking. To erase the hard truths we must face together.

Now we are seeing it play out. And the cost will be measured in real lives, real homes, and real threats to our future. Higher temperatures strain power grids, buckle roads, and endanger seniors who cannot afford air conditioning.

Donald Trump's team can spin fairy tales all they want. But you cannot lie your way out of a flood. You cannot spin your way out of a superstorm. You cannot wish away the next record-breaking heat wave.

As a country, we must meet hard truths with hard work. But that starts with honesty. It starts with a commitment to science over spin. It starts with loving our children and grandchildren enough to fight for the future they deserve.

Because the truth is simple: Climate change is hurting us now. And if we let propaganda replace science, it will only get worse.

There is too much at stake to let that happen.

CHAOS, CONFUSION AND DELUSION 100 DAYS OF LIES AND INSANITY

BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX

re you better off than you were three months when the current President was sworn into office on January 20? That's the question President Ronald Reagan posed to voters when he squared off against President

Jimmy Carter in 1980.

Voters concluded that they are worse off and chose Reagan over Carter. But the current President is lucky that no election is taking place tomorrow. His approval ratings have tanked. He has the lowest 100 day approval rating of any President since pollsters started asking this question. Are you better off? Don't ask the thousands of federal workers who have lost their jobs, including those who used to work at US AID, or the IRS, or the Social Security Administration, among others. Don't ask the elders who are frightened about the future of Social Security. Don't ask the university professors who wonder if their free speech rights will be protected. If you ask any of these folks, they are worse off than they were 100 you they are patiently hoping for things to get better.

When the current President was elected, he promised to lower prices and inflation. Prices have not come down, nor has inflation. Instead, this President has behaved like the proverbial bull in a China closet, wreaking havoc and creating chaos across the board. The President's basic economic policy is tariffs. His rationale is that US-based manufacturing will grow if imports are more expensive than domestic goods. But the United States has neither the workforce nor the capacity to significantly increase in the United States. No matter. The President is stuck on senseless and can't seem to make up his mind about economic policy. First unreasonably high tariffs were imposed, then suspend for everyone except China. The chaos and confusion make it impossible for

businesses and consumers to

plan. Planning an automobile the car now or hold off, given up in the tariff wars, a call from one of the President's tech bros suspended, for now, tariffs on electronics. What will happen three months from now?

Co-President Elon Musk, who was allowed to purchase a major role in government, is moving unchecked from the federal organization, clowning with a buzz saw, while workers are apprehensive about their futures. The federal government is experiencing brain drains, with many of the longest-serving workers preferring to retire than deal with the whiplash of trying to figure out what's next. Recession fears are now at the 1990 level, and consumer confidence is at its lowest level since 1952. Musk's economic acumen is demonstrated by the precipitous drop -71 percent - in his stock announced he will cut back on his work with the Department of

In his one hundred plus

Government Efficiency.

likely to tell you that they are purchase? Would you buy President has issued about 140 executive orders. Though days since the President gook looming tariffs? What about he was elected to manage office, though some will tell electronics? Initially caught the economy, few of these executive orders have to do with the economy. Instead, he has leaped into the culture wars, including executive orders specifically targeting some of the Smithsonian Museums, especially the National Museum of African American History and Culture. The executive orders, which are not laws, have introduced an atmosphere of fear and obeisance. Law firms, universities, and others are happily kowtowing to this President's racist, antidiversity agenda. Too many, included elected legislators, are operating out of fear, too intimidated to say that the emperor is wearing no clothes.

> Our economy is suffering, and so is our international reputation. Mexico and Canada, among our largest trading partners, are furious with us, so much so that Canadians elected a Prime Minister, Mark Carney, who was trailing in the polls until



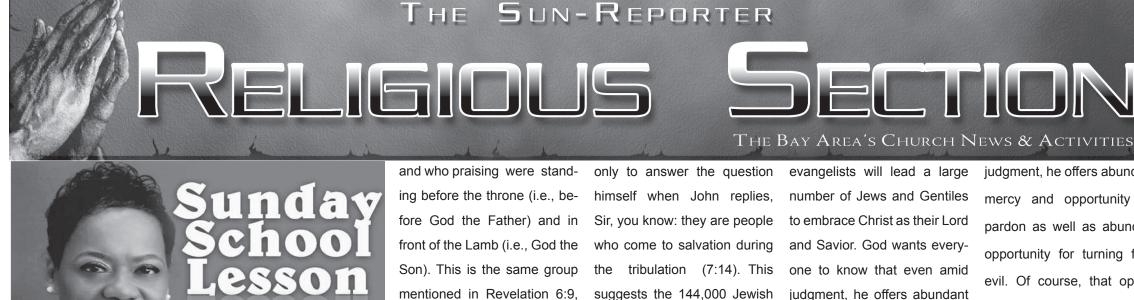
Dr. Julianne Malveaux

this President started attacking Canada. Who can trust us or plan to do business with us after our vacillating policies have left them confused? Who will lend us money when they can't trust our stability. Can the European Union use this uncertainty to strengthen the euro? Will the euro supplant the dollar as the world's default currency?

In addition to the chaos and confusion, there is also the delusion that this President continues to embrace - that he won the 2020 election. This delusion fuels much of his decision-making, as many who investigated him have now been threatened with investigation. This administration seems to revel in delusions, including delusions about history, delusions about prices (the President keeps saying grocery prices have dropped – they have not), and delusions about reality.

If I had to grade this President on his 100 day performance, I'd give him lower than a failing grade, call it an F minus. He is wrecking both the national and the international economy. He has ushered in an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty. And he has the nerve to say he "having

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The Great Multitude

Lesson Text: Revelation 7:9-17Related Scriptures: Leviticus 26:9-13: Isaiah 25:1-8; 49; 8-12; John 12:12-16Place: from PatmosTime: around 96 A.D.Golden Text: "After this I beheld, and lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kinders, and people, in tongues, stood before the throne.

At this point, yet another great worship service oc-

curs in heaven, the third such service in four chapters. The presence of a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language confirms the truthfulness of Revelation 5:9, where the Lamb is praised for redeeming such a diverse multitude. They appear wearing white robes, holding palm branches, standing before both God the Father and God the Son (see Revelation 7:9),

Shunda Criswell

mentioned in Revelation 6:9, but here they were wearing white robes and holding palm branches, apparently signifying righteous triumph. Salvation belongs to our God ... and to the Lamb (Revelation 7:10). Angels, the twenty-four elders, and the four living creatures (Revelation 7:11) join the worship with a chorus attributing blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and strength to God forever and ever (and Revelation 7:12). Worship positions believers in God's presence and in the sphere of his governmental rule, so that we can carry out his kingdom goals in the physical realm. (Revelation 7:9-12, The Tony Evans Commentary). One of the elders asks about the identity of the multitude in white robes (7:13)

suggests the 144,000 Jewish evangelists will lead a large number of Jews and Gentiles to embrace Christ as their Lord and Savior. God wants everyone to know that even amid judgment, he offers abundant mercy and opportunity for pardon as well as abundant opportunity for turning from evil. Of course, that opportunity will close at Christ's second coming. Yet for the moment, men and women cannot claim God inhibited them from repenting and following him. One of the elders asks about the identity of the multitude in white robes (7:13) only to answer the question himself when John replies Sir, you know: they are people who come to salvation during tribulation (7:14). This

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evangelists will lead a large number of Jews and Gentiles to embrace Christ as their Lord and Savior. God wants everyone to know that even amid judgment, he offers abundant mercy and opportunity for pardon as well as abundant opportunity for turning from evil. Of course, that opportunity will close at Christ's second coming. Yet for the moment, men and women cannot claim God inhibited them from repenting and following him. (Revelation (Revelation 7:13-14). One of the elders asks about the identity of the multitude in white robes (7:13) only to answer the question himself when John replies, Sir, you know: they are people who come to salvation during the (7:14). This sugtribulation gests the 144,000 Jewish evangelists will lead a large number of Jews and Gentiles to embrace Christ as their Lord and Savior. God wants everyone to know that even amid judgment, he offers abundant mercy and opportunity for pardon as well as abundant opportunity for turning from evil. Of course, that opportunity will close at Christ's second coming. Yet for the moment, men and women cannot claim God inhibthem from repenting him. (Revfollowing elation 7:15-17). History and important for the believer's of Christ. In Revelation 7:14-15, "The great tribulation refers to the seven-year period of unparalleled trouble on earth, concluding with the return of Christ (read Daniel 12:1; Mark 13:19). The believer's who came through the Tribulation are pictured as wearing white robes before the throne of God and serving Him day and night in the temple. (The Woman's Study Bible, NIV notes). To God We Praised! Be Blessed!

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Rev. Amos Brown Continued from page 1

to the Trump administration and its public plan to eliminate diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. "This is a direct result of Project 2025," he said. "We didn't read it. We didn't take it seriously. Now they're doing exactly what they said they would do." When asked if others have received similar notices from the museum, Dr. Brown said he couldn't

confirm specific cases but said sources told him the staff is acting as if they are "tiptoeing on eggshells." He said the environment inside the museum has shifted dramatically since previous leadership. Dr. Brown identified the staffer who contacted him by first name only and said the museum officials' response was vague. "They're talking about some panel that will review whether to keep the items, but I don't

know who's on this panel," he said. "Anytime people are in closed-door sessions, and vou don't know who's making decisions, something's wrong." He confirmed he has had no recent contact with Smithsonian Secretary Lonnie Bunch. "Not once," Dr. Brown said. The segment turned to the national implications. Dr. Brown pointed out Donald Trump's threats to defund the museum and a broader campaign to ban books and whitewash history. "There is a move in this country to induce cultural and historical Alzheimer's," he said "This nation has been fed conspiracy theories, lies, and a hatred of truth."

He warned against division and urged churches to teach Black history regularly. "As the Jews do with Passover, we need rituals of remembrance," he said. "We should be

teaching our youth what we've

survived." Dr. Brown also spoke about reparations in California, where he served as co-chair of the state task force. When asked if California would be the first to deliver reparations, he answered flatly: "No." He cited a lack of political will. "We've had studies, apologies, and talk. But no action." Anderson and Brown discussed the national response to the museum's decision. "People are visiting because they're afraid the

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museum won't be the same the next time," Anderson said.

She also raised questions about the silence from museum leadership and noted that previous offers to keep Dr. Brown's items had been replaced with attempts to remove them quietly. "Tell your own story. Speak for yourself. And never let anyone mess with your cultural identity," Dr. Brown said.

May Day Continued from page 1

of the NAACP, told the Contrarian, "The concept of two movements with one mission developed out of the red-baiting of the McCarthy era." Red-baiting was to falsely accuse someone of being a communist. Both the fight for workers' rights and the fight for civil rights were labeled communist activities. "Labor and civil rights workers came to understand they had to work together," admitted Russell. The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

was significant in melding civil rights and labor rights issues. Russell recalled "the natural relationship between the NAACP and Sleeping Car Porters." The bond between the two organizations "matured when A. Phillips Randolph organized the union. That was a natural coalition, and, certainly, much of the information about civil rights organizing was carried from town to town and state to state by the porters," said Russell. The 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom was a very public display of labor rights and

civil rights working together. It is one of the most famous mass rights gatherings in history and is where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have A Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. The United Auto Workers sent thousands of workers to the march and contributed funding. The UAW support had "a lot to do with the fact that A. Philip Randolph was on the executive committee of the AFL-CIO in those days," Morial noted.

King's connection with

labor rights and civil rights continued through his fateful 1968 visit to Memphis to support Black sanitation workers who had complained of deadly and unfair work conditions and low wages. King also long advocated for education as part of the civil rights movement. Today, leaders like Becky Pringle, the president of the National Education Association, are stepping forward. "May Day is another day of action," particularly on education issues that resulted from the civil rights movement like Title I, she said. "Historically,

programs for the Department of Education came from the civil rights movement." Title I addresses the needs of lowincome students by bridging gaps so that all students have access to education regardless of race, where they live, or their ability. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which ensures students with disabilities are not denied the resources they need for learning or physical disability, also stems from the civil rights movement. "This bond was forged in the crucible of injustice and strengthened

the establishment of the major

by a shared demand for dignity, fair wages, and human rights." Russell said.

"We honor that legacy from the courage of the meatpackers in the tragic loss of Emmett Till, from labor strikes to the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom." As for today's rallies, "we continue that journey together, standing in unwavering solidarity to ensure justice, opportunity, and equity for all workers in every community," Russell said.

Young Californians Continued from page 1

stands at 31%, virtually unchanged from earlier years. Approval of Democrats in Congress has dropped to 23%, down from 42% in 2017. Congressional Republicans remain essentially unchanged at 29%. Among young Black Americans, Trump's approval has risen to 16%—up from just 6% in 2017—but a strong majority still disapprove. Social connection has also weakened. Only 17% of young people report feeling deeply and 18% say they feel no strong sense of belonging. For Black youth, the sense of isolation intersects with political disengagement and mental health struggles. Those without strong community ties are more likely to report symptoms of depression, with 59% saying they felt down or hopeless for several days in the past two weeks.

The long-term effects of and homeownership are

the COVID-19 pandemic remain evident. Isolation during formative years especially among those who were entering high school or college in 2020 continues to shape mental health outcomes. Individuals aged 19 and 23 report the highest levels of lasting social isolation, with 38% and 40%, respectively, saying they lost connection with friends and have not reestablished those relationships. Among those who lost friendships and failed to reconnect, 55% reported depressive symptoms. Views on traditional life milestones are shifting. Just 48% say having children is important, and 57% say the same about getting married. While 86% say financial security is a top

goal, only 56% are confident

they'll achieve it. Confidence

in reaching life goals is higher

among Republicans, who are

more likely than Democrats

to say marriage, children,

important—and achievable. Distrust in major institutions is widespread. Only 19% of young Americans trust the federal government to do the right thing most or all of the time. Trust in Congress stands at 18%, the presidency at 23%, and the Supreme Court at 29%. The survey also found that young Black Americans are more likely to say they feel excluded from decisions that affect their lives and communities.

The debate over Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) remains divisive. Just 9% of young Americans say DEI initiatives have helped them personally, while 11% say they have been harmed. Among Democrats, 22% report positive experiences with DEI, compared to only 3% of Republicans. Conversely, 21% of young Republicans believe DEI harmed them. Young people of color are more likely than white youth to view DEI as promoting fairness. Foreign policy views also reveal generational differences. Young Republicans are less likely to support global alliances than Democrats. Only 13% of young Republicans say the U.S. should maintain current NATO obligations, compared to 46% of Democrats. When asked about reasons for U.S. involvement abroad, respondents most often cited protecting allies, defending national security, and addressing human rights violations—but fewer than one in five supported interventions promote democracy or counter foreign influence. Concerns about immigration have shifted over the past year. Forty-two percent of young Americans now say there is a crisis at the Southern border down from 53% in 2024. Among Democrats, belief in a border crisis dropped 17 points, from 43% to 26%. Democratic respondents are also more likely to say that recent immigration has done

more good than harm.

President Trump's policy proposals continue to meet resistance among young Americans. None of the eight tested initiatives—ranging from tariffs to eliminating federal departments received majority support. Tariffs were backed by just 19% overall, and only 5% of Democrats. A proposal to create a Department of Government Efficiency received 35% support, the highest among those tested. One of the least supported policies—redeveloping Gaza by displacing Palestinians was opposed by a majority, including 77% of Democrats. "These findings are a stark reality check," said Setti Warren, director of the Institute of Politics. "And leaders across the country would be wise to pay close attention." "This is a generation that's weathered pandemic isolation during formative years, entered an

unstable economy, and faced skyrocketing housing and education costs—all while being told they're not resilient enough," said John Della Volpe, director of polling at the Institute of Politics. "What Gen Z needs isn't another lecture, but genuine recognition of their struggles and leaders willing to listen before they speak."

"Amid financial hardship and a devastating crisis of community, young Americans are increasingly disillusioned with the world as they struggle to find their place in it," said Jordan Schwartz, student chair of the Harvard Public Opinion Project. "This generation doesn't expect politics to solve their problems, but as young Americans continue to lose faith in government institutions, the need for politicians to listen to and learn from young people has never been greater."

Democrats Take to the Steps of the U.S. Capitol to Speak Against Expected GOP Budget Cuts

By Lauren Burke

show of solidarity against the congressional Republicans and the Trump Administration, dozens of congressional Democratic members of Congress gathered on the steps of the U.S. House of Representatives from sunrise to sunset Sunday, April 27 to speak out against budget cuts.

"The budget is a moral document," said New Jersey

Senator Cory Booker as he sat wearing a black shirt and pants next to the Democratic leader in the U.S. House, Brooklyn Congressman Hakeem Jeffries. The two started with only Senator Chris Coons of Delaware at 7:30 am on Sunday. As the day moved forward many other members, advocates, and curious onlookers joined them in support of their effort to bring attention to what may be a historic budget in terms of cuts to social programs.

Throughout the day,

lawmakers took turns sharing personal stories and reading testimonies from constituents whose lives have been transformed by government assistance. But since Trump took office for his second term in January, his focus has been on cutting the federal government and the jobs and programs associated that assist millions of Americans. "I was on the steps of the Capitol with Leader Jeffries, Sen. Booker, and many others to make the case for what's at stake with Trump's budget. For African Americans in

Medicaid, food assistance, and social security. It's all on the line. A moral moment" wrote Senator Amy Klobuchar, who may lead the Democrats as the next Leader of the Party in the U.S. Senate after the criticism of the leadership of Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and the retirement announcement of Senator Dick Durbin on April 23. Congressman Andre Carson (D-IN) and Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO) also joined the group on the steps during the day.

general, cuts to social safety net programs will have a disproportionate impact.

On the same day Democrats sought to bring attention to historic budget cuts, the Governor of Illinois, JB Pritzker called for mass mobilization. Pritzker said the Democratic Party must "abandon the culture of incrementalism" and stop with consultant driven communication strategies. "Never before in my life have I called for mass protests, for mobilization, for disruption. But I am now," Governor Pritzker, who is a billionaire as part of the family that owns the Hyatt Hotel chain, said As the sun set behind the Capitol dome in Washington, lawmakers in a party that is in the political minority and out of power appeared to understand that the cuts would eventually take place.

But they pledged to continue fighting inside the halls of Congress and for communities across the U.S. they represent.

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