African American Learners
Journal of the Institute for the Study of the African American Child (ISAAC)

Call for Papers

Ten Point Program For Reparations for African Americans in the United States

African American Learners is joining with The Journal of African American History (JAAH), the Journal of Black Psychology, Review of Black Political Economy, Journal of Pan-African Studies, Journal of Black Studies, and Souls, in issuing a “Call for Papers” for upcoming Special Issues and Symposia devoted to the discussion and analysis of what might be included in a “Ten Point Program” for reparations payments to African Americans in the United States. African American Learners is soliciting manuscripts that identify and explain how reparations payments should be used to advance the educational conditions collectively for African Americans in the United States, especially the children and youth. The Ten Point Program for the United States follows the issuing of the “CARICOM Ten Point Program” formulated by the Caribbean nations and issued in March 2014.

The CARICOM Ten Point Program focuses on “reparations as a development strategy.” Their goal is to use reparations payments to deal collectively with pressing economic and educational problems facing the citizens in the Caribbean that trace their origins to the underdevelopment imposed by slavery, slave trading, native genocide, and economic exploitation by the European nations. The 14 CARICOM nations voted unanimously to seek reparations and demand: 1) an official apology from slave trading nations; 2) support for repatriation programs for those desiring resettlement in Africa; 3) the creation of an indigenous peoples’ development program; 4) support for Caribbean cultural institutions such as museums and research centers; 5) the launching of public health programs to address the high rates of hypertension and type II diabetes; 6) the mounting of illiteracy elimination programs; 7) the expansion of knowledge of Africa through school and cultural exchange programs; 8) the development of rehabilitation programs to overcome psychological trauma produced by enslavement and underdevelopment; 9) the transfer of knowledge of the latest technology and science into the training of Caribbean youth; 10) the reduction of domestic debt and cancellation of international debt.

African American Learners is seeking analysis of an issue or problem that should be included in the Ten Point Program. Using the CARICOM Ten Point Program as the model, what specific issue and problem should be included in reparations for people of African descent in the United States? For example, African Americans do not have to seek a “full apology” for slavery and slave trading since one has already been issued by the U. S. Congress. However, like people in the Caribbean, African Americans face a severe health crisis and could use reparations funds to obtain increased access to medical services to combat childhood obesity, type II diabetes, HIV infections, breast cancer, and high infant mortality rates. Health care professionals are invited to submit proposals for the use of reparations payments for much needed medical programs aimed at African American neighborhoods and communities.

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There has been a significant decline in the enrollments at many Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The call for reparations can be used to increase the endowments and scholarship funds available at HBCUs. What would be the plan for disseminating funds to the HBCUs? Should a "Reparations Superfund" be created to provide successful educational alternatives to "test preparation" in public elementary and secondary schools, and to relieve the financial debt of college students and graduates who agree to work in social welfare and other programs created using reparations funds? How can reparations funds be used to support neighborhood redevelopment programs aimed at unemployed or formerly incarcerated black youth?

African American Learners is an online peer-reviewed, scholarly journal sponsored by ISAAC to present empirical, theoretical and methodological research and analysis of the home, school, and other environmental factors that impact the learning processes for African American children and adults.

Submitted essays will be blind peer-reviewed and will be evaluated and published on the basis of clarity and the documentation included supporting the proposed program. Manuscripts can be up to 20 pages, double-spaced, 12 point font, including references. African American Learners uses APA Style 6th Edition for citations. Your cover letter should include the title of your essay or manuscript, name, postal address, e-mail address, phone number, and fax number. Your manuscript should begin with the title of the essay and should NOT include your name on the manuscript. Manuscripts should be submitted through the ISAAC web site at: www.isaac.wayne.edu. On the Home Page at the lower right is a tab, "Manuscript Submissions". Follow the prompts.

The deadline for submitting manuscripts is July 15, 2016. The special issue on reparations is scheduled for publication in February 2017.

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