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First Edition

Published and distributed by: Cherri Hatton

P. O. Box 171351

Memphis, TN. 38187-1351

Front Cover Design By: Cherri Hatton

Edited By: S. "Mac" McNeil

Printed by: Instant Publisher

4010 HWY 72 West

Collierville, TN 38018

International Standard Book Number: 978-0-578-01720-4

This book is dedicated to the memory of my mother Bertha M. Young who had a passion to help that sector of the population that were less fortunate, and considered outcast; and instilled in me to do the same: And to my brother Andrew “Rico” Young, who fell victim to the Criminal Justice System’s disproportionate sentencing of sixteen consecutive life sentencing for armed robbery.

Acknowledgements

I first thank my husband, David, for understanding the time dedicated to the research and writing of this book, to my three children Mac, Pam, and Dee: you have always been true blessings of God in my life. You have been so supportive and encouraging, and I thank you for it.

Special thanks to my eldest son, Simon “Mac” McNeil, who was used as an instrument by God in the preparation of the writing of this book. Although neither he, nor I realized it at the time he encouraged me to go back to college.

Through what we believed was a transition in his life, moving to a new state, and starting a job with the University of Phoenix. It turned out to all be a part of God’s Plan for my life. Interestingly enough, he only stayed at the job for three months as an Enrollment Counselor, but his persistence in convincing me to return to school was the foundation for my writing career.

The university’s concentration on writing is where I learned basic writing skills necessary to become a literary novelist. Unbeknownst to me, these skills were to be used in accordance with God’s mapped plan in the ministry He had given me.

Also, Crystal Porter, a former business associate who prophesied that I would author a book approximately five years ago, I thank you for listening to God's voice and speaking into my heart.

The purpose and intend of this book is to give insight and an understanding of events in the world today, concerning the Black community and criminal injustice. To bring into focus, a problem that appears to go unnoticed, or is simply ignored.

Thomas Jefferson stated within the Declaration of Independence that **"All men are created equal:"** however, all men are not treated equal, as is related to race, social status, and economics within the justice system.

This books purpose is neither to create uproar nor to cause prejudice between the races; however, the ascertaining of equal and fair treatment within the Criminal Justice System is a yearning, and the purpose of this book is to evoke intelligent conversations and positive action based on acquired knowledge of this situation.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 7 states: *"All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against all types of discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to any form of discrimination."*

Although more reference is given concerning minorities with disproportionate sentencing, The Whip of The Justice System affects every faucet of society.

Whether White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American or any combination of the same, if a person is of low social economics, prison could very well be a part of their future.

This book will travel from causes and conditions, to possible solutions.

If it's never spoken, it's never heard, if never heard, it's never learned: if never learned it can't be taught."
(Cherri Hatton)

Table of Contents

God's Mapped Plan-----	Page 10-13
Introduction-----	Page 14-15
Chapter One: <i>Criminal Injustice</i> -----	Page 16-23
Chapter Two: <i>Titled Scales of Justice</i> -----	Page 24-41
Chapter Three: <i>Plantations of the 21st Century</i>	
	Page 42-50
Chapter Four: <i>The Whip Cuts Deep- Children as Targets</i>	
	Page 51-58
Chapter Five: <i>Scars of the Whip</i>	Page 59-64
Chapter Six: <i>Violence by Example</i>	Page 65-73
Chapter Seven: <i>Back Lash of the Whip</i>	Page 74-85
<i>Stepping Back to move Forward</i>	Page 86-107
<i>Famous Speeches and Quotes</i>	Page 108-147
<i>Digest This "First"</i>	Page 148-162

Gods Mapped Plan

I never would have imagined when I accepted a position with a major corporation in 1989 that it would be the beginning of a destined journey, a miraculous move of God.

I had just recently divorced and relocated to Memphis, TN with three minor children and I knew the importance of having time for the most precious gifts GOD had entrusted in my care, my children.

It was the summer of 1988. I knew I had to give up the job I was currently holding because of the hours. My youngest son was about to begin school in the fall, and I wanted to be able to take him to school and to pick him up from school. I needed to be there in the evening to assist with homework and to supervise my children's activities.

God knew my desire, to be a mother first and foremost. As I was contemplating on this decision, God removed me from that job through termination (what a blessing!!!). As I was driving home I talked to the Lord. "Father you know best. I know you already have things worked out for me". I had no concern of what was going to happen. I knew everything would be alright. That job is not where the Lord wanted me to be because of the work he later had for me to do; although I didn't realize that at the time.

In July of 1989 I was offered a position with the hours and flexibility I needed. I had been given a want and a

need, but most importantly, I was also given a mission without knowledge of it. That would later be revealed.

Nine years later. God was still moving me in the direction of my purpose. It is strange when things are happening in our lives we give little thought to it being a directive of God. Truly I had no ideal of the work God was preparing me for.

Starting at entry level position, and moving my way as far as I could go within the company ranks as a salaried employee, I gained the knowledge that I would later need to assist me in what GOD had purposed for me to do.

In July 1998, God's plan and purpose began to be revealed. I didn't understand why I had been chosen for this ministry. I didn't know anything about prisons or ex-offenders, and consequently had about the same perception of them as most people do. I had no desire to work with this segment of the population, though I was continuously being prepared. I was lead to do research to gain the knowledge I would need to be effective. A love and passion was then developing into what I knew God had called me to do. It would not be until March 2003, after my children were grown and no longer needed me in the same capacity, when the work was to begin. Again, God moved me in my career path; however, this time it was an unpaid position.

Early in February 2003, I awoke and went to work as usual without any knowledge that God would speak to

me to resign my position on that day to begin the work he had for me to do. I loved my job. We were like family, but I resigned after fourteen years to begin my journey working with ex-offenders at the directive of my ultimate “**Boss**”. *Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. [James 4:17]*

In 2004 I founded and incorporated, Preparing A Way, Inc. [along with co-founders Minister Shirley Cole and Pat Tamayo] A non profit organization with a mission to: advocate for the rights, and fair treatment of the ex-offender community with the purpose of successful reintegration into society as productive, self-sufficient citizens, and to reduce the high return rate of ex-offenders returning to the Penal System.

I’m often asked why I choose to work with ex-offenders and not some other segment of the population. My answer is always the same “I did not chose I was chosen”. *[Isaiah 61:1] The spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound. [Romans 12:29] “For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance”*

I now have a love and passion working for and with this segment of the population.

“God have certainly been the navigator of my life, he has lead me, guided me, directed me, inspired me,

rocked me, and when the road got really bumpy he carried me. There have been detours; twist and turns; ups and downs, bumps and bruises, success and failures, and I'm still not at the final destination he has mapped out for me. I have swallowed his plan, but am still digesting it."

Do we have a morale obligation to others? "*Am I my brother's keeper*"? This the oldest question ever recorded. [Genesis [4:9] "And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the Ground".

Introduction

America's Criminal Injustice is compelling, and outlines the criminal justice system's propensity for violating human rights in an institutionalized setting. People of color are treated more harshly in the criminal justice system than are their white counterparts. This book will explore the radicalized criminal injustice among minorities related to incarceration in the U.S., on sentencing and correctional practices, at both the federal and state level, with disproportionate sentencing; and the excessive use of minimum mandatory sentencing; with the interconnections between incarceration and racism. Evidence will show that there are more minorities in prison, jail or on probation compared to their white counterparts. Which leaves this question to be asked, are African Americans committing more crimes?, or are they just caught more often because the police target them, and are profiled more in the media associating people of color with crime? A speech in part given by President John F. Kennedy after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. states:

“What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence and lawlessness; but with love and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of

justice toward those who still suffer within our country, whether they be white or whether they be black.”

“The system of slavery in the United States is the key to understanding the institutionalized racism that infests every level of our criminal justice system” states Ellen Barry, author of African American Women in United States Prisons: The Modern State-Sanctioned Slavery System.

Chapter One

Criminal Injustice



chapter One

Criminal Injustice

America was one of the first nations to declare that the rights of the individual were paramount, that "all men were created equal": **"Land of the Free"** That a man's freedom to choose was one of his most sacred freedoms. These concepts contrast radically with what history and present day society has shown to the black community. With the belief that blacks were an inferior branch of humanity, groups like the KKK wanted to show white supremacy as Blacks endured torture and death at their hands.

For years blacks were denied the choice to exercise their full rights within America. There was neither life, nor liberty, with slavery and covenants and laws that prevented blacks from living in certain communities, using certain facilities, the denied right to vote, or to an education. The pursuit of happiness was succumbing by the continuous master mentality.

Even after segregation was supposedly abolished it still exists socially and in communities and schools.

The crimes and injustices that have been bestowed upon blacks and the racial infrastructure in America continue to devour Blacks at an astounding rate as is evident within the criminal justice system. The

national silence on these injustices bestowed on a community of people is overwhelming.

For a better understanding of what's happening in today's society one must look at the past, not to live in the past but to understand, educate, learn and grow from it ,and then to move forward from it.

Relevant portions of the 14th Amendment of the Constitution of The United States reveal the legal situation that made the beatings, the lynching, and racial murders for subjecting Blacks to the mistreatment, and control of Whites.

In a US Supreme Court Ruling In 1866, the 14th amendment only limited states against injustices not individuals. “**No state** shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States”.

Knowing Black Americans could not be protected under the 14th amendment from mistreatment by private individuals, they could terrorize and discriminate with the knowledge the US government could not be used to punish them. A state government simply had to be careful not to pass any laws that would take away their cushion of rights protected by the 14th Amendment.

Perhaps this could explain why William Lynch, a British slave owner came to America according to legend for the purpose of educating American slave

owners on how to keep their slaves under control teaching the use of fear, distrust and envy.

Some have questioned the authenticity of the speech that was supposedly given by Mr. Lynch to the American slave owners. The authenticity as less meaning than the evident usage throughout history, with the social engineering designed to foster distrust, envy, and conflict within the Black Community. It definitely shows a “beginning in theory”.

Anger is often a conclusion upon reading the alleged speech, but more than anger it should be an eye-opener to change the thinking pattern of a race toward their fellow man. It should also represent a desire to understand how a race was taught violence and separation as a way of control, and the effects of it today. The following is the alleged William Lynch speech.

"Gentlemen, I greet you here on the bank of the James River in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twelve. First, I shall thank you, the gentlemen of the Colony of Virginia, for bringing me here. I am here to help you solve some of your problems with slaves. Your invitation reached me on my modest plantation in the West Indies where I have experimented with some of the newest and still the oldest methods of control of slaves.

Ancient Rome would envy us if my program were implemented. As our boat sailed south on the James River, named for our illustrious King, whose version of

the Bible we cherish. I saw enough to know that your problem is not unique. While Rome used cords of woods as crosses for standing human bodies along its highways in great numbers you are here using the tree and the rope on occasion.

I caught the whiff of a dead slave hanging from a tree a couple of miles back.



You are not only losing a valuable stock by hangings, you are having uprisings, and slaves are running away, your crops are sometimes left in the fields too long for maximum profit, you suffer occasional fires, and your animals are killed.

Gentlemen, you know what your problems are: I do not need to elaborate. I am not here to enumerate your problems; I am here to introduce you to a method of solving them. In my bag here, I have a fool