

## [Let the Light Shine: Keep the Billboards Up!](#)



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BY La Verne Tolbert, Ph.D.

The toomanyaborted.com billboard campaign is an educational tool to inform the black community about the ravages of abortion on our population. Throughout Los Angeles, 70 billboards proclaim these simple facts: “Black children are an endangered species,” and “Black is beautiful.” Viewers are directed to the website for more information.

Our timing for the campaign was strategic ... to coincide with the celebration of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and in protest of the 38th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion. Why? Planned Parenthood and abortion proponents specifically target Black women. To date, more than 20

million Black babies have died, and that’s too many!

Janette Robinson Flint, who wrote “Trust Black women — take the billboards down” in the L.A. Watts Times last week, has complained because the billboards were along the route of the King parade and visible to the community and its leaders. This was our goal. The message, designed by African Americans, is for African Americans. Ryan Bomberger, whose mother chose to put him up for adoption rather than abort, is the genius behind this marketing strategy. The L.A. campaign is being sponsored by the Rev. Walter Hoye, president of the Issues4Life Foundation, and supported by those of us who serve on his board and advisory board.

Additionally, throughout the country, the Black pro-life movement supports these efforts because, frankly, enough is enough. We plan to bring this campaign to as many inner cities as possible. We’re not sure which source Flint is relying upon, but her information is somewhat faulty. The Radiance Foundation’s TooManyAborted.com campaign has yet to appear in Illinois or Florida, but prayerfully, we’re on our way.

Flint accuses the campaign of being a “racist and divisive campaign that objectifies Black children [and] charges Black women with genocide.” How can Black women — the victims of abortion — be charged with genocide? Where is that message? Such empty rhetoric has been used for nearly 40 years to convince Black women to exercise their right to have their babies aborted.

Think about this. Why is abortion more necessary for Black women than for other women? Why is this right so religiously defended by those who tout the reasons of economic disparity? Here’s why: The Department of Health and Human Services hired Planned Parenthood in 1970 to establish abortion clinics in the Black community to limit the growth of the Black population.

Ever wonder why you don’t find abortion clinics lining the streets of other communities?

During the '50s and '60s, Black women traditionally had large families. They were identified as “particularly fecund” or fertile by the government, so a plan was implemented: Hire Planned Parenthood to establish free-standing, low-cost, non-medical family-planning facilities in the Black community and put birth-control clinics in their children’s schools.

The Family Planning Services and Population Research Act of 1970 (Title X) designated \$400 million each year for these services. By law, monies are not to be used for programs that provide abortions. But it seems that Planned Parenthood does so regardless.

Flint noted that Black children are not comparable to bald eagles, blue whales, and California condors. This is unfortunate, because if they were, killing them would at least be a crime.

Black children are more endangered by abortion — 3 times more than the majority population — than any other racial demographic in America. Statistically, for every 1.3 live births in the Black community, 1 child is aborted. This is not liberation. This is elimination. We simply want the killing of our children to stop now.

What Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. would never stand for is the taking of innocent unborn lives. He would be appalled at the deterioration of the Black family in the aftermath of abortion — a barbaric practice that lies to women and dehumanizes us all.

Once upon a time, 78 percent of all Black households were headed by two married parents. Today, our communities barely boast 30 percent intact families. The biggest determinant of poverty is single parenting.

Abortion is never the answer to poverty. Abstinence education, which has been denied to the children and teens in Los Angeles (nearly \$8 million in abstinence education funds was rejected by our state legislators) must be taught in our churches and schools.

Instead, there are more than 140 school-based or school-linked health clinics in urban middle and high schools encouraging boys and girls to have sexual intercourse.

They are given low-dose birth-control pills and cheap condoms, so pregnancy is inevitable for those who become sexually active. No problem! School staff and “health” workers are eager to transport minors off campus to a local Planned Parenthood clinic for abortions and even sterilization without parental notification or consent. Parents come home from work and have no idea that their child has had a major surgery. Something is wrong with this picture.

Abortion is never the answer to an unplanned pregnancy. How can it be that the death of black unborn children is touted as a “benefit,” a byproduct of reproductive “justice”? Black women have been victimized through slick marketing, canned media rhetoric, and fear-infused “counseling” at Planned Parenthood centers. When staff members earn compensation for every baby aborted, we understand why few women are offered the option of adoption. The Radiance Foundation actively educates and advocates domestic adoption and provides resources such as pregnancy care and pregnancy help centers.

It used to be said, “If you want to hide something from a Black man, put it in a book.”

Well, we found the book — “Population and the American Future” (1972) published by Signet — and more. Visit [www.toomanyaborted.com](http://www.toomanyaborted.com) and read our research. It’s time for us to wake up!

La Verne Tolbert, Ph.D., is a former board member of Planned Parenthood, NYC. An abstinence educator

and advocate, she is author of “Keeping You & Your Kids Sexually Pure.” Dr. Tolbert, an advisory board member for the Issues4Life Foundation, teaches as an adjunct professor at Azusa Pacific University.