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GENESIS

MAGAZINE

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WINDOW**

**EVERYTHING HAPPENS
FOR A REASON**

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KYRON LEWIS**

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WE KINDA TALK

WOMEN OF VIRTUE

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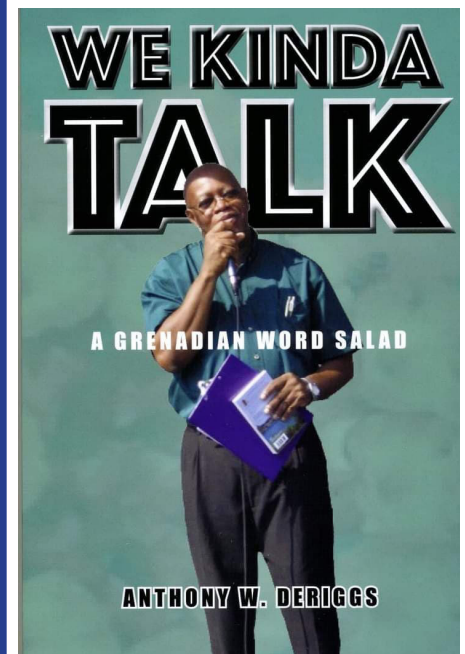
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**SPEAK
WHAT YOU SEEK
UNTIL YOU
SEE WHAT
YOU'VE SAID**





Unknown Heavens.

By John Calliste

The Opportunist's Lens

The Opportunist is always on the lookout for an opportunity. If he finds none, he will create one. It is better to prepare for an opportunity and not have one, than to be presented with an opportunity, and not be prepared for it. Most people are suffering from the possibility of mental blindness. They are unable to see an opportunity for themselves, and as such, they are incapable of seeing an opportunity for others. It's a fact that we all have equal amounts of hours in each day; twenty-four to be exact! Some folks will sit by while opportunities pass without any attempt to grab it. Consequently, they will complain about their condition and become angry at the ones who chose to capitalize on them.

We all have twenty four-hour days. The sad reality is that most of us fail to make use of them. Statistic have shown that most people will prefer to stay in a job that makes them sick, and totally dissatisfied, but they will not take any steps to change or improve their situation. Such persons are known to rationalize their decisions, usually with the help of poor excuses. They will settle for the known hell, rather than reach for the unknown heaven, slow dancing to an early grave. We must become willing to do the things today that others wouldn't do, to have tomorrow what they will not have. The future begins today. Look ahead, reach for the stars! Dream big and aim high. Tomorrow is prepared for those who are prepared today.

Remember, it is far better to prepare for an opportunity, and not be given one, than to end up in the predicament of being presented with an amazing opportunity, only to be caught unprepared.

wake
up with
determination.
go to
bed with
satisfaction.

K'ssentials

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EDITORIAL

GemFM Media FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

GemFM Media, a pillar in the community standing proudly on the integrity of its founders. Throughout the length and breadth of our existence, we have seen steady progress. Driven by our Motto, "Education is Liberation", we have made constant and committed efforts to live up to the highest standards possible. Every single GEM FM production, will serve to create a positive impact to everyone who listens to us on any of our broadcasting platforms, as well as interactions with or at each of our engagements. It was decided from the beginning, that we will be a channel of inspiration and motivation for all people. We understand that if this should become a reality, we ourselves must endeavor to embrace higher learning, and a refined mindsets. In reflection, as we reminisce on the journey thus far, we can truly say it has been a wonderful experience. Our GemFM team mates have worked selflessly, endlessly and passionately each in his or her capacity to meet our objectives and realize our goals. The dedicated following of our on-air audience, and other community supporters have truly been phenomenal. As a cooperative, Gem FM Organization continues to grow and blossom. Even as life presented challenges to us, we have responded with persistence, determination and resilience.

GemFM through its unique broadcasting, continues to sit on a high moral pedestal, with its firm foundation in God. As we move forward by God's divine providence, we persevere with the hope that we will preserve the value of this organization and serve the global community without prejudice, only with pride and prominence.

When the question is asked, where can you find music that uplifts, programs that inspire and an atmosphere that fosters positivity, and productivity, the answer will undoubtedly be Gem FM media. A name that resonates with class, all because our media team is intentional about putting together programs that will build the fiber of our society by weaving together elements of spiritual, moral and social issues as subjects in our dialogue. We purposefully appeal to the ideal of a better society and by extension a better world. It is our joy to showcase talents, celebrate the achievements of our people and establishments in an effort to encourage the pursuit of excellence. Helping others to come to the realization that together we can do, be and have, with faith in God and confidence in their abilities can go a long way in bringing awareness to our consciousness, as we discover what's possible. We can make a world of difference. It has been an honor and a distinguished privilege to be able to extend our network with the world right across the airwaves.

GemFM Producer continues to express his heartfelt thanks and appreciation

to the team of dedicated members who is committed to going beyond the call of duty. Raising the bar will always be a challenge. But we recognize, growth and change demand that we expand our minds, and stretch beyond our reach. With a dazzling future in crystal clear view, we embrace the challenge of serving our growing audience with information, ideas, insights that not only meet but exceed all their expectations. As we seek to establish an even stronger bond within our community, we extend a heartfelt thank you for staying on this journey with us. We will continue to grow from strength to strength. As you place your trust in our promise to deliver, we put our heads, hearts and hands and pledge to serve with excellence.

By Liz Regis

GemFM Media From Education to Liberation



Women Of Virtue Empowering & Nurturing JOB - REVELATION – CAN GOD TRUST US?

The account of Job's life and affliction is very interesting and paints a picture of The God whose ways and thoughts are so much higher than our ways and thoughts that there will be things He'll do that we may never understand why or the purpose for doing ; until we stop looking with our carnal minds; until we stop reading with our emotions.

Job was a blameless man in Gods eyes, denoting the highest form of regard and confirmation of approval for eternal life, yet even though satan did not request to afflict him, God offered him up to satan to be afflicted. God gave satan permission to destroy and take away from Job all the tangible and physical blessings He had given to him but, in spite of this, Job remained faithful to God. He was a broken man; He moaned and lamented but remained faithful to God. In spite of this, yet a second time God offered Job to satan to be tried and afflicted.

Interestingly, God said to satan, "Job maintained his status of being blameless and upright, fearing God. He kept his integrity **THOUGH YOU (SATAN) INCITED ME AGAINST HIM TO RUIN HIM WITHOUT ANY REASON** (Job 2:3 NIV).

Satan, it would appear, convinced God, by reporting that he had not found anyone to tempt, to offer up someone to be tempted. Yet again, it would appear that Satan's use of persuasion moved God once more as the account of Jobs life tells us that satan incited God when he said to Him about Job "Skin for skin! A man will give up all he has for his own life.

STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND AND STRIKE HIS FLESH AND BONE AND HE WILL SURELY CURSE YOU TO YOUR FACE" (Job 2:4-5 NIV). God, it would appear was persuaded by satan's challenge and relented.

"VERY WELL THEN, HE IS IN YOUR HANDS BUT YOU MUST SPARE HIS LIFE."

Satan then left and began afflicting Jobs' health . Why would God who loves us, who calls us to live an upright and honest life, who found someone doing exactly that; someone who is the only person in all the earth living just as He calls to live, offer him to satan to be tempted not to live like that? Why would he be so pleased with him yet test him in a way that seemed impossible to withstand?

BECAUSE HE IS GOD! HE IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH which means that He already knows how deep our faith in Him is, even if we don't know. He already knows what He deposited in us when He created us, then formed us and placed us in the earth. He already knows that whilst we were as created beings in heaven with Him, He filled us with all we need to be able to resist the devils temptation – Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessings in Christ. For he chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight (Ephesians 1:3-4 NIV); All we need to do is call on Him.

He made both us and satan – The Lord has made everything for His purpose, even the wicked for the day of disaster (Proverbs 16:4 NIV), therefore just as satan was able to incite God to allow him to tempt Job, Job was able to incite God to allow him to overcome satans temptation of trying to make him turn away from God because of the many afflictions he had to endure.

God will never leave us on our own to war with satan, but just as satan needed God so he could tempt Job; just as satan had to persuade God to release Job to him, we are able

to persuade God to release the spiritual blessings in us to defeat satan. God diligently rewards us for seeking Him in the battle. He is The only Just God and He will justify us in every battle if we call on Him. He created all things and everyone, including satan, so good and bad we are able to call on Him; we are able to incite Him to answer our requests.

The account of Job is designed to show us that if satan could use his power of persuasion to cause God to release the one blameless person in all the earth to him to be tempted, how much more we who are walking in the ways of The Lord are able to move God to work things out for us.

Jobs story epitomises our walk of faith. Sometimes, affliction will come upon us, seemingly for no reason, because we have not done anything to deserve being afflicted, but Gods ways are far above our ways but His plan is always to prosper us; it is always for our good.

The Bible tells us that Job was blameless, upright, feared God, shunned evil and that there was no one on earth like him, and that's exactly why God chose him. Job was trustworthy, loyal, upright and feared God enough that God knew he would be the perfect person to show satan how weak and feeble his powers were when tested on such a person. It is also an example to us of how much we are able to overcome if we remain steadfastly upright and fearful of God.

Job's story would appear at first to be one of injustice from The Just God but, that's because we are seeing in through our carnal minds. We are reading the accounts through the eyes of our emotions instead of through the eyes of our spirit.

As Believers, God's word admonishes us to not look at the things that can be seen but to look at the things unseen – i.e.

– in all our looking, look at God, then we will see His perfect plan and purpose; then we will see the good in all He does.

Throughout the many afflictions Job suffered and in spite of those closest to him giving him good intended advice {the road to hell is paved with good intentions}, Job had already developed a lifestyle of honouring God in every circumstance, so this situation made no difference to him. He maintained his integrity. He knew the God he worshipped would not cause him to suffer in vain and though he cried out to God telling Him how he honestly felt, he used the situation to minister to his wife and friends. He used the opportunity to explain to them the reason for his faith. God knew Job would do that before He placed him in the earth. Before He formed him, He placed in him all he needed to resist satans temptations and at the right time, when Job's faith had been fully developed, God presented Job with an opportunity to put his faith to work (faith without work is dead).

Job knew what it took to rattle satan's cage and God knew that. God knew He could trust Job to go head on with satan no matter how hard the battle was, and that's why He chose to offer him up to satan to be tempted. God trusted Job explicitly and that's what he wants from us; our total, complete and absolute commitment to Him. He wants to be able to say yes to satan, knowing that we will say not to satan's temptation, which often comes through afflictions and the voices of those closest to us. He wants us to get to a position where will always choose Him above everything and everyone.

Can God trust us like He was able to trust Job??

BY: JBelle

Dmitry Trenin: How Russia must reinvent itself to defeat the West's 'hybrid war'

The stand-off between Russia and the Western nations, which has been developing since 2014, escalated into an active confrontation with the start of the Russian military operation in Ukraine, back in late February. In other words, the Great Game has ceased to be a game. It has become total war, though a hybrid one so far, since the armed conflict in Ukraine is not of a full-scale nature at present.

However, the danger of it intensifying towards a direct collision not only exists, but is increasing.

The challenge Russia is facing has no equivalence in our history. It's not just that we have neither allies nor even potential partners left in the West. Frequent comparisons with the Cold War of the mid and late 20th century are inaccurate and rather disorienting. In terms of globalization and new technology, the modern form of confrontation is not only of a larger scale than the previous one, it is also much more intense. Ultimately, the main field of the ongoing battle is located inside the country.

Fyodor Lukyanov: The end of an era
Read more Fyodor Lukyanov: The end of an era. The asymmetry between the opponents is huge, particularly the imbalance between the forces and capabilities available to them. Based on this, the US and its allies have set much more radical goals than the relatively conservative containment and deterrence strategies used toward the Soviet Union. They are in fact striving to exclude Russia from world politics as an independent factor, and to completely destroy the Russian economy.

The success of this strategy would allow the US-led West to finally resolve the "Russia question" and create favorable prospects for victory in the confrontation with China. Such an attitude on the part of the adversary does not imply room for any serious dialogue, since there is practically no prospect of a compromise, primarily between the United States and Russia, based on a balance of interests. The new dynamic of Russian-Western relations involves a dramatic severance of all ties, and increased Western pressure on Russia (the state, society, economy, science and technology, culture, and so on) on all fronts. This is no

longer a source of discord between the opponents of the Cold War period, who then became (unequal) partners. It looks more like the drawing of a clearer dividing line between them, with the West refusing to accept even the perfunctory neutrality of individual countries.

Moreover, the shared anti-Russian agenda has already become an important structural element of unity within the European Union, while strengthening American leadership in the Western world.

In these circumstances, it's an illusory hope that Russia's opponents will listen to reason or be represented by more moderate political figures as a result of internal upheavals in their countries. There has been a fundamental shift towards disengagement and confrontation even in the political classes of countries where the attitude towards Moscow had until now been determined primarily by important economic interests (Germany, Italy, France, Austria, Finland). Thus, the systemic confrontation between the West and Russia is likely to be protracted.

Ivan Timofeev: Why the West's anti-Russian sanctions are politically pointless

Read more Ivan Timofeev: Why the West's anti-Russian sanctions are politically pointless. This circumstance almost completely nullifies Russia's previous foreign policy strategy towards the US and EU, which was aimed at the West recognizing Russian security interests, ensuring cooperation on issues of global strategic stability and European security, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and building mutually beneficial economic and other ties with Washington and Brussels. However, recognizing that the previous agenda is now irrelevant does not mean we should abandon active politics and completely submit to the circumstances.

It is Russia itself that should be at the center of Moscow's foreign policy strategy during this period of confrontation with the West and rapprochement with non-Western states. The country will have to be increasingly on its own. The outcome of the confrontation is not predetermined though. Circumstances affect Russia, but Russian politics can also change the world around it. The main thing to keep in mind

is that no strategy can be developed without a clear set of goals. We need to start with ourselves, with an awareness of who we are, where we come from and what we strive for, based on our values and interests.

Foreign policy has always been closely linked with domestic policy, in the loose meaning of the word, including economics, social relations, science, technology, culture, etc. Facing a new type of warfare which Russia is forced to wage, the line is erased between what was called the "front line" and the "rear" in previous eras. In such a fight, it's not just impossible to win, it is impossible to survive, if the elites remain fixated on further personal enrichment and society is left in a depressed and overly relaxed state.

"Re-establishing" the Russian Federation on a politically more sustainable, economically efficient, socially just and morally sound basis becomes urgently necessary. We have to understand that the strategic defeat that the West, led by the United States, is preparing for Russia will not bring peace and a subsequent restoration of relations. It is highly probable that the theatre of the "hybrid war" will simply move from Ukraine further to the east, into the borders of Russia, and its existence in its current form will be contested.

This enemy's strategy should be actively countered.

Andrey Sushentsov: Ukraine could be just the starting point of a bigger crisis

Read more Andrey Sushentsov: Ukraine could be just the starting point of a bigger crisis

In the field of foreign policy, the most pressing objective is clearly to strengthen the independence of Russia as a civilization, as a major independent global player, to provide an acceptable level of security and to create favorable conditions for all-round development. In order to achieve this objective in the current conditions – which are more complex and difficult than even recently – there is a need for an effective integrated strategy – general political, military, economic, technological, informational and so on.

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The immediate and most important task of this strategy is to achieve strategic success in Ukraine within the parameters that have been set and explained to the public. It is necessary to clarify the stated objectives of the operation and use all opportunities to achieve them. The continuation of what many now call a "phoney war" leads to a prolongation of military activities, increased losses and a decrease in the global stature of Russia. The solution to most of the country's other strategic objectives now depends directly on whether and when it succeeds in achieving strategic success in Ukraine.

The most important of these broader foreign policy tasks is not the overthrow of the US-centric world order by any means and at any price (its erosion is due to independent factors, but a Russian success in Ukraine would be a painful blow to US global hegemony) and of course, not a return to the fold of this set-up on more favorable terms, but the consistent building of a new system of international relations together with non-Western countries, and the formation, in cooperation with them, of a new world order and its consequent promotion. We need to work on this task now, but it will only be possible to act fully after a strategic success in Ukraine.

The framing of new geopolitical, geo-economic and military-strategic realities in the western part of the former Soviet Union, in the Donbass and Novorossiia, becomes extremely important and relevant in this context. A long-term priority here is the further development of allied relations and integration ties with Belarus. This category also includes strengthening Russia's security in Central Asia and the South Caucasus.

In the context of rebuilding foreign economic relations and creating a new model of the global order, the most important directions are cooperation with world powers – China and India as well as Brazil – and with leading regional players – Turkey, ASEAN countries, the Gulf states, Iran, Egypt, Algeria, Israel, South Africa, Pakistan, Argentina, Mexico and others. It is in these areas, rather than in traditional Euro-Atlantic arenas, that the main resources of diplomacy, foreign economic relations, and the information and cultural spheres should be deployed. Whereas in the military sphere the main focus for Russia now is the West, in other areas it is the rest of the world – the larger and more dynamic part.

Alongside the development of bilateral relations, a new priority should be given to the multilateral interaction between states in the non-Western part of the world. There should be a greater focus on building international institutions. The Eurasian Economic Union, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Russia-India-China grouping, BRICS, and the mechanisms for dialogue and partnership between the Russian Federation and ASEAN, Africa and Latin America need a boost for further development. Russia is capable of playing a leading role in developing a framework ideology for these organizations, harmonizing the interests of partner countries and coordinating on common agendas.

In relations with the West, the strategy of Russia will continue to address the containment of the nuclear, conventional and cyber abilities of the US, and deterring it from exerting military pressure on Russia and its allies, or even attacking them. Never since the end of the Soviet-American confrontation has the prevention of nuclear war been more relevant than now. The new challenge after achieving strategic success in Ukraine will be to force NATO countries to actually recognize Russian interests and to secure the new borders of Russia.

Moscow needs to assess carefully the reasonableness, possibilities and limits of situational cooperation with various political and social groups in the West, as well as with other temporary potential allies outside the bloc whose interests coincide in some respects with those of Russia. The task is not to inflict damage on the enemy anywhere, but to use various irritants to divert the opponent's attention and resources from the Russian focus, as well as to influence the domestic political situation in the US and EU in a direction favorable to Moscow.

The most important objective in this regard is developing a strategy for an emerging confrontation between the United States and China. The partnership nature of Russian-Chinese relations is the main thing that positively distinguishes the current "hybrid war" against the West from the previous cold one. Although Beijing is not a formal military ally of Moscow, the strategic partnership between the two countries has been officially characterized as more than a formal alliance. Russia's largest economic partner has not joined the anti-Russian sanctions, but Chinese companies and banks are deeply integrated into the global economy and are wary of US and EU sanctions, thus limiting the possibility of interaction. There is mutual understanding between the leaders of Russia and China, and the people of the two countries are friendly towards each other. Finally, the United States views both countries as its adversaries — China as its main competitor and Russia as the main current threat.

US policy brings Russia and China even closer. Under a "hybrid war," political and diplomatic support from China, and even limited economic and technological cooperation with it, are very important for Russia. Moscow does not currently have the opportunity to force even closer rapprochement with Beijing, but there is no necessity in too close an alliance.

If US-Chinese contradictions aggravate, Russia should be ready to support Beijing politically, as well as provide on a limited scale and under certain conditions, military-technical assistance to it, while avoiding direct participation in the conflict with Washington. Opening a "second front" in Asia is unlikely to significantly ease the pressure of the West on Russia, but it will dramatically increase tension in relations between Russia and India.

The transition from a confrontational, but still conditionally peaceful, state of economic rela-

tions between Russia and the West to a situation of economic war requires Russia's deep revision of its foreign economic policy. This policy can no longer be implemented primarily on the basis of economic or technological expediency.

Measures aimed at de-dollarizing and repatriating offshore finances are under implementation. Business elites (often incorrectly described as "oligarchs") who previously took profits outside the country are forcibly "nationalized". Import substitution is underway. The Russian economy is shifting focus from the policy of raw materials export to the development of closed-cycle production processes. So far, however, the country has mostly been defensive and reactive.

Now it is necessary to move from retaliatory steps to initiatives that will strengthen Russia's position in the total economic war declared by the West, allowing it inflict significant damage on the enemy. In this regard, a closer alignment of efforts of the state and the business community's activities is required, as well as implementation of a coordinated policy in such sectors as finance, energy, metallurgy, agriculture, modern technology (especially related to information and communications), transport, logistics, military exports and economic integration — both within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union and the Union State of Russia and Belarus and taking into account the new realities in the Donbass and the northern Black Sea region.

A separate task is to revise the Russian approach and policy position on climate change issues under the changed conditions. It is also important to determine the permissible limits of Russia's financial, economic and technological dependence on neutral countries (primarily China), and launch a technological partnership with India.

War is always the most severe and cruel test of durability, endurance and inner strength. Today, and for the foreseeable future, Russia is a country at war. It will be able to continue its trajectory only if the authorities and society unite on the basis of solidarity and mutual obligations, mobilize all available resources and at the same time expand opportunities for enterprising citizens, remove obvious obstacles that weaken the country from within, and develop a realistic strategy to deal with external adversaries.

Up to now, we have merely celebrated the Victory won by previous generations in 1945. The current challenge is whether we are able to save and develop the country. To do this, Russia's strategy must overcome the circumstances surrounding and constraining it.

The article was prepared based on the author's speech at the 30th Assembly of the Council for Foreign and Defense Policy and originally published in Russian on globalaffairs.ru.

The statements, views and opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of RT & GM



Kyron Lewis, reciepiient of the TTC CEO 2022 AWARD.

The May 2020 police murder in Minneapolis of African-American George Floyd had a ripple effect outside of the United States, including in Canada, with calls for greater action to improve workplace and community behaviour relating to people of African descent. One employee at the Toronto Transit Commission decided to do something, he said, to make a difference that led to the founding of the Black Transit Workers' Association (BTWA). "I realized that minorities didn't have much of a say in the organization," said BTWA president Grenada-born Kyron Lewis. "We've been working there but not in the leadership roles; not in the front office."

The aims of the BTWA, said Lewis, are to be "a voice to highlight Black issues, celebrate Black accomplishments and advocate for Black rights within our workplace, within our industry. It's the first ever Black-focused group within any of the transport systems in Canada".

For his work, Lewis was included in this year's TTC "best-of-the-best sixth annual Rewards and Recognition celebration".

The TTC, in hosting the event, compliments employees for "exceptional achievements in customer service, safety, innovation and creativity, leadership, teamwork and diversity".

Lewis, a bus operator of 18 years, is the recipient of the 2022 CEO Award.

A former president of the Grenada Association (Toronto), and head of his own charitable organization called Cover Me Foundation, Lewis has volunteered his time in causes in the Grenada and broader Caribbean community, particularly with relief assistance for nationals living in Grenada and Dominica.

TTC AWARDED CEO AWARD TO KYRON LEWIS

"He has always been an advocate for the Black community, and in 2019 brought together workers from across the TTC to give a voice to the frontline experience of Black TTC employees," the Transit Commission said in announcing the award to Lewis.

Lewis's CEO Award will be presented May 20 at the TTC's head office at 1900 Yonge Street.

"It's an affirmation that you're doing something right," Lewis told The Caribbean Camera, in commenting on his award.

"When you think you're doing insignificant stuff, there are those who notice what you're doing and who think that it's more than just insignificant. You're actually making a difference. They can see what you're doing; you don't need to go out and publicly announce what you're doing. The right people are always looking, so they see you."

Lewis, in his words, describes himself as a "servant".

"I try to help where I can; I try to fill needs where I can," he explained. "So far, I can say, I have been blessed with a little bit of success in assisting where I can. I think I will continue to do that as time passes and the opportunities arise."

Lewis said the BTWA has had the support of senior TTC management, including the chief operations manager and the chief executive officer.

"I made a proposal to start an organization within the TTC to raise awareness of Black voices. I laid out a plan on how I'm going to do it and what I'm to do," he said. "Out of that initiative, we now have within the TTC a diversity, equity and inclusion department."

By Lincoln DePradine



**"If you WANT to change the way the world
sees you, you must first change the picture you show it ." By Liz Regis**

WHAT OFTEN WINS!

A JOB SEARCH OVERVIEW

BY

Obtaining employment can be very challenging, especially if one lacks the core essentials skills. And although job search techniques are cumbersome, it does not have to be so horrifying.

When the economy drastically fluctuates, the workplace is equally affected. Some large companies still scout for potential employee candidates at various post secondary institutions to conduct interviews and actually offer jobs. When jobs are abundant, it's considered to be an employees market. Once upon a time, most entry level jobs could be easier attained with minimal schooling, and getting promoted was more based on seniority than qualifications.

Long ago, when jobs were very plentiful, having two jobs or leaving to go to the competitor was a very common practice. Some did it to generate an extra income, while others wanted it to help meet their financial obligations.

Eventually, in every cycle comes a decline, prompting a recession. For employment purposes, education standards have advanced to requiring a high school diploma at the very least. In reality, if you have minimal education, you will be competing with college and university graduates. Unfortunately, completing an application is no longer enough, for the most part. The same jobs of yesterday now request a (CV) curriculum vitae or resume. When there are few jobs available but many people applying, it is called an employee market.

With so much downsizing in the workplace, job stability is rare. In fact, a great CV, plus a dynamic cover letter is the operative difference to make one stand out. Even with great qualifications and high academic achievements, there is no guarantee.

Regrettably, encompassing higher learning, a marketable resume and cover letter, extensive experience and training is the contemporary package that will enable you better career prospects. Should rejection happen for a while, do not take it personally. Most companies do tend to have an incoming flood of resumes; the competition

is very intense.

Remember, the one who gets the job is not necessarily the most qualified, as some people have personal contacts inside of a company. Ultimately, it is the one who perseveres and has mastered the pre employment principles.

SELF - MARKETING - THE STARTING LINE

No one knows about a great product that is poorly marketed. People rarely purchase a product not packaged properly. Similarly, when seeking for work, an applicant must promote their skills effectively, plus, their presentation must be polished, groomed and professional. The first impression is a lasting one. Being at the right place at the right time and establishing some contacts will lessen the work. Explore these different options:

1. The Phone Directories have specific topics/industry headings. Compile a phone/fax/Internet/e-mail list and then make contact.

2. Social Agencies may have regular job postings and training programs funded wholly or in part by the government.

3. Walk from door to door and ask them if they are accepting resumes. Wear business attire and look very presentable.

4. Check the newspapers' classified section early mornings.

5. Community Centres and Libraries may have job boards.

6. Contact Career Agencies. They offer contract, temporary part-time/full-time hiring and permanent placement options.

7. Ask family and friends for a referral, suggestion or input.

8. Volunteering offers invaluable experience, a potential reference letter, referral, and /or may in fact land a job/ career.

9. Consider self-initiated services/ venture. Your skills may help you get your dream job. (Use flyers and business cards).

10. Network with professionals. Make sure some of them are within your industry of choice. Get business cards made to hand out at special events. Exchange contact information.

11. The internet offers job postings, a wealth of information including many regional job banks and job search tips.

12. Depending on the career, an Agent/ Talent Scout may be helpful. He/she may get paid by employers, others will charge you if you get work (or not), and some have annual fees/union dues. Research his/her success rate, qualifications, and reputation.

(Telephone etiquette is very important. Be courteous, alert, interested, keen, articulate and responsive. Please keep personal voice mail messages professional.)

When searching for a job, it is important to think optimistic and be positive, even if the answer "NO" has been said at least 30 times that day. One should never feel ashamed to let people know that they are in the market for a job. Being in between jobs is not a crime. Keep these tips in mind for the right attitude:

1. Do not qualify a company as waste of time. It is usually difficult to know which companies have current employment vacancies. Try to drop off and send out as much resumes as possible because it will increase the odds of getting called for an interview.

2. Do not be too easy to give up: take the time to make a plan. An agenda will allow the maximum usage of preparation time, energy and focus.

3. Remember to wear business attire, even when dropping off resumes. Surprising as it may seem, an interview could happen on the spot so, remember to dress with the anticipation that there will be an interview.

No War Or Invasion Is Ever Justified Except When It Fits The West Economic And Political Agenda.

BY JOHN CALLISTE



He said it right there, whether you

like it or not. There is no greater evil system in the world than the nation that unleashes the Munroe doctrine on other nations and yet they will use their media houses to demonize other nation that does what they have been their practice for the last 50 years.

They are always fighting to control the minds of the people through the media calling their fore, crazy, mad and lunatics. Accusing them of war crimes and crimes against humanity. When in fact they are also guilty of the same acts of violence from Africa to Central America, killing and deposing of leaders that are not toeing their line of match.

While they are demonizing Putin for the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Sudi Ariba is bombing the living daylight out of Yemen, Isreal is bombing Syria and is dropping bombs on Somalia. France has a military base on Ghana soil just like the Americans in Cuba (Guantanamo Bay). Yet they want us

to believe that Putin is evil and they are the good Blue eyes Christian nation. What they are not telling us is that they are a racist bunch of people that have been engaged in crimes against humanity for years but are calling foul when they cannot get their way.

In 1989 they entered an agreement to dismantle NATO and Russia will dismantle the Warsaw pack. well Russia did and they did not, instead, they continue to expand their reach into the former Warsaw pack threatening the security of Russia. Well after years of Bouris junked stupors a new commander in chief has risen to the top, to stop their expansion and hold them accountable to their promises to dismantle Nato and stop their expansion.

Is it justified, you be the jury on that but make sure you have evidence on both sides of the argument before condemning one side based on western media biases, based on the US government's propaganda on the Russian invasion using women and children to gain your sympathy? Before you seek to condemn Russia's invasion of Ukraine remember the invasion of Iraq and misinformation lies and the eventual killing of Saddam, Gaddafi and many of their comrades and family members. What is happening now in Ukraine pales in comparison to the war crimes and crimes against humanity that were committed in the Iraqi, Afghanistan and Libya war and not forgetting Syria conflict? Unless we understand the political and economic consequences and who stands to benefit from all this will forever be led to believe a lie. Seek the truth, equal rights and justice for all. There will be no world peace until there is justice and not just us because until

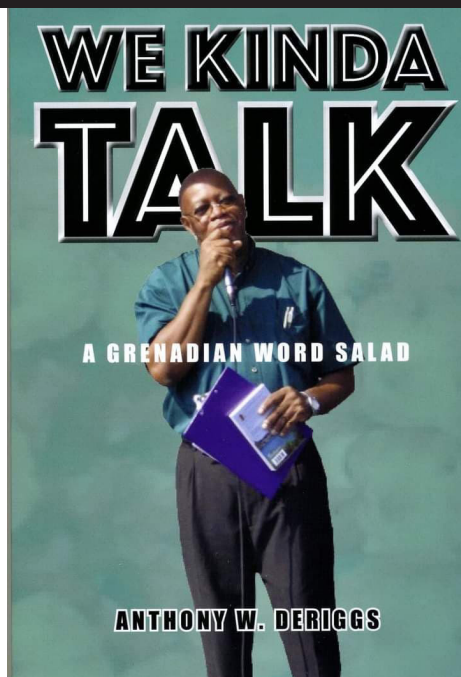
the colour of a man's skin is no more significant than the colour of his eyes racism in our society will continue to dictate our world political, social and economic development. It is up to you and me to ensure that they fail. If we unite under one banner of love and demand from our leaders locally and internationally equal rights and justice for all of God's children regardless of race, colour, religion and to be free from occupational, economic slavery we as a people will forever be at the feet of those that control our elected officials in high and low places. What we need is liberation in a meaningful way to self-determination.



Unless you understand the political and economic consequences and who stands to benefit from all this we will forever be led to believe a lie. Seek the truth, equal rights and justice for all.



"WE KINDA TALK, WE KINDA PEOPLE."



Anthony Wendell DeRiggs, was born in Grenada. He attended the St. George's R.C. Boys' school and the St. John's Christian Secondary school.

After successfully obtaining subjects in the O' and A' Level GCE examinations, he taught at the St. John's Christian Secondary until he left for the United States in 1978. Anthony, a graduate of Brooklyn College, City University of New York, is a poet, author and story teller. He has written four books: *Recollections of an Island Man*, *Island Reminiscences and Other Selections*, *Reflections and Ole Talk* and *We Kinda Talk*. *Reflections and Ole Talk* was published in London by Hibiscus Communications.

In 2006, Anthony was the recipient of The Distinguished Writers Award from the Grenadian-American Educational & Cultural

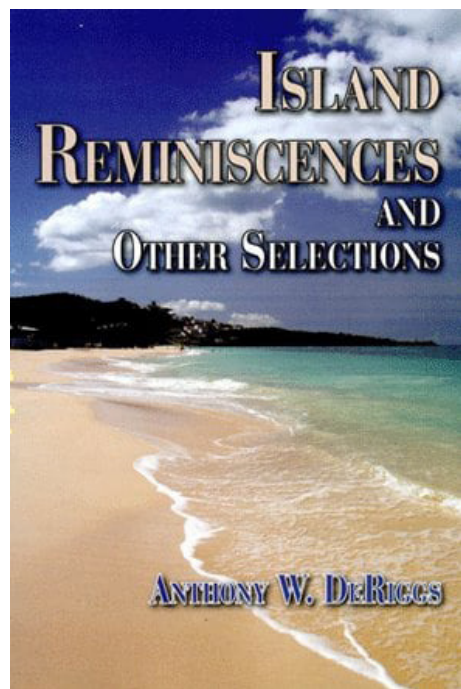
Organization of Central Florida. During the month of May 2018 Anthony received an award from Senator Kevin Parker of the 21ST Senate District in Brooklyn as well as the City Council and a Citation from Brooklyn Borough President for his part in keeping Caribbean literature alive.

He has appeared on various occasions at the Caribbean Cultural Theatre in Brooklyn and Poets and Passion where he read from his books.

His book launches took him to a number of places including the University of Maryland, Memorial Hall in Toronto, the GBSS Auditorium and Spice Basket in Grenada. Through the years, he was a guest on a number of Radio stations and social events where he highlighted his literary work. He is preparing to have a book launch in Orlando, Florida in June 2022.

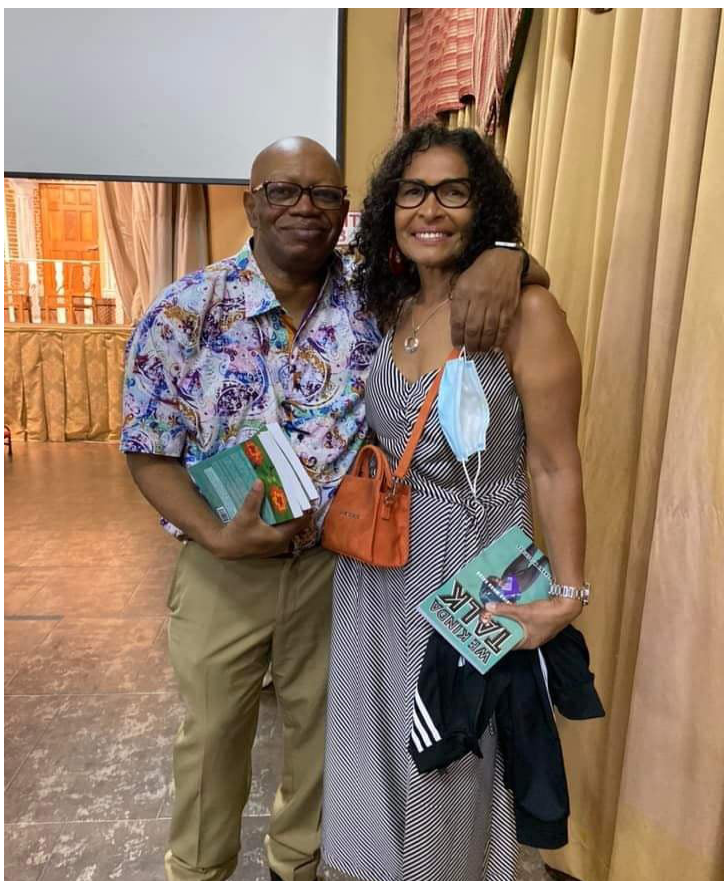
Anthony Wendell DeRiggs shines a

spotlight on the history and culture of Grenada and the Caribbean in his books.





Wende Deriggs books sin





Anthony W. DeRiggs has been telling stories for a long time from his current home in the United States; stories about when he was young in Grenada. Lately he has been writing them down and sharing them, much to the benefit of readers. In this book, his stories and poems are gathered between covers. The publication of DeRiggs' book is not soon enough for his admirers outside and inside Grenada.

My late father, over twelve years ago, told his stories of Grenada, and I helped him get those stories into a book. When I first read A.W. DeRiggs' stories on Talkshop, I was drawn to them out of my love for story-telling.

DeRiggs' stories, like my Dad's, reveal the fondness both men have for Grenada—my Dad from the point-of-view of a retiree to Grenada, and DeRiggs from his childhood memories and ties into adulthood to the Spice Isle.

I am honored to be able to aid A.W. DeRiggs in the publication of his book. I am also blessed to have the opportunity of helping DeRiggs' narrative get into print in the story-telling tradition of Garrison Keillor, Mark Twain, Paul Keens-Douglas, Edwidge Danticat, and the many other unsung keepers of cultures of the past.

The attributes of a good sense of dialogue, a compelling narrative voice and the ability to create a world, resonates with readers.

Ah! But if you were raised in Grenada, the grandest compliment is Your pieces take me back home

We can visualize, through DeRiggs' tales and anecdotes, what life was like on the Spice Isle and how the people

TWO-THIRDS PERSUASION

there made a difference to his life — from Ma Rubes to the 'green fig' man naturally to DeRiggs.

The way DeRiggs writes about how a 'George Otway' bath was taken, or a pleasant rain bath, or a hot water bath straight from the pipe, evokes an atmosphere we can feel. Wouldn't you like to 'breeze out,' doing the 'liming' thing?

If storytelling is two-thirds persuasion, DeRiggs convinces us by way of his craft and his skill in relating past events. Humorous storytelling is often subtle because it comes out of honesty. When you read DeRiggs, you carry a soft chuckle along with the reading of his words.

Lying can destroy a good story. If there is slight exaggeration in his stories, though, we don't mind at all. DeRiggs' narratives make sense because he loves his country and cherishes his memories.

The affection DeRiggs has for his country and the people who live there reveals the character of DeRiggs in the tone and attitude of his writings. The stories often make obvious and universal points as if they were wise lessons from our respected elder.

Stories of human activities that endure give us all a common ground for identification; an insight into our human nature. In writing about the characters of his youth, sound of mind or not, and about his joyous experiences, DeRiggs has managed to write about us all.

DeRiggs writes informally. His clear vocabulary and syntax explain matters which we non-Grenadians may not understand. He takes us on a happy narrative journey with his words. Although he writes in the past tense, as readers we feel we are reliving the past. Thus, DeRiggs repeatedly engages us into a moment of the past. Present and past tense are effectively utilized in reading DeRiggs' narratives. We feel like we are there.

The common language or vernacular words of oral Grenadian communication are written down in a manner which carries the storytelling voice. If the words are not explained in the

text, DeRiggs provides a glossary. His elaboration of live experiences use colloquial and idiomatic expressions; that is, informal sayings, usually used in the rhythmical, spoken language of Grenada.

DeRiggs captures the cadence of Spice Isle language. Consider this quotation from the book about bus drivers:

"Some people got dey rides and got speeches from the drivers:

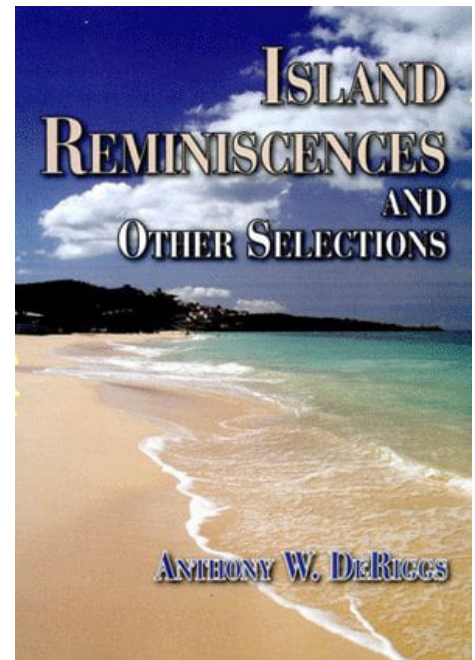
'Man, wipe yuh dam foot before yuh come in me car, nah.'

'Whey yuh going wid all dat mud?'"

Discussion could be presented on the origins of the vocabulary and culture, the-specific phrasings used by DeRiggs, but let us leave that for scholars and enjoy.

Enjoy and appreciate this delightful and thoughtful book.

By Ann Elizabeth Wilder.





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- ✓ Focus on Eradicating Poverty
- ✓ Improve Healthcare
- ✓ Create Jobs

LET'S MOVE GRENADA
FORWARD



VOTE

JONATHAN LA CRETTE

Candidate for St. George North West

Jonathan La Crette is a former schoolteacher, Vice-Principal, Principal, Human Resource Manager in the private sector, NGO director, and currently the OECS Commission's Sustainable Development Movement Ambassador for Grenada. He is the NDC's Candidate for the constituency of St. George North West.

Mr. La Crette, who hails from Fontenay, is one of our fresh, youthful faces but possesses vast professional experience and personal accomplishments. **He is prepared to serve all the North West St. George people to move his Constituency forward.**



TEVIN ANDREW

Candidate for Carriacou & Petite Martinique

Tevin Andrew is a community leader and small business owner. He came through the ranks of the NDC organization from Branch Chair, to Youth Arm Chairman and now, Party Chairman.

This tenacious and indomitable young man will lead the NDC's team in the Constituency of Carriacou and Petite Martinique. **He is passionate about the development of his people and is prepared to serve to move the Constituency forward.**



KERRYNE JAMES

Candidate for St. John

Kerryne James is from the town of Gouyave and is a graduate of St. George's University. In 2018, she became the youngest Senator in the Commonwealth of Nations.

Ms. James is the current Chairperson of the National Democratic Youth Movement (NDYM). **As the candidate for the Constituency of St. John she has declared her preparedness to serve her people to move the Constituency forward.**



CLAUDETTE JOSEPH

Candidate for Town of St. George

Claudette Joseph is an Attorney at Law, law lecturer, and senior martial arts instructor. She is NDC's candidate for the Town of St. George, where she was born and raised.

Claudette is one of the most dependable and experienced members of our team. She has been a leading voice nationally, advocating our principles and policies and on the issues that affect our people. **Claudette has reiterated her commitment and preparedness to continue to serve to move her Constituency forward.**



ARE MANIFESTOS MEANINGFUL AND BENEFICIAL TO THE AVERAGE GRENADIAN ?

[J. K. Roberts (Sound Public Policies Advocate); Circulated on Monday, 23 May 2022]

At a massive rally Saturday night, 14th May 2022, record-elections-winning leader of the ruling New National Party (NNP) and prime minister of Grenada, Dr. Keith Mitchell, announced that the next nationwide elections will be on 23 June 2022, and allowing a final one-day opportunity for qualified and desirous citizens to register so as to take part in the process. Within normal conditions, Mitchell had up to the end of April 2023 to call elections; but his ring was no surprise. Nomination Day for elections is June 1st to establish the name, symbol and constituency of each of the candidates; essentially to meet the requirements under section 39 of the Representation of the People Act. This occasion should also be taken by the candidates to show a mark of genuine respect and thoughtfulness for the electorate, with the vast distribution of the various manifestos for public scrutiny and debate, although the people have no serious 'authority, bearing and control' as regards the substance, practicality and veracity of what is contained.

It is agreed that the presentation of a manifesto is merely about a political ritual of appeasement and grandstanding which is aimed to capture the 'appreciation and acceptance' of voters, and thereby declaring that primarily a party of candidates (or an individual candidate) is ready, capable and knowledgeable for governance. Regrettably; this seller's document purportedly for assessing the intentions and policies of the candidates is generally full of ambiguities, rhetoric, disguises and exaggerations, and are disclosed at the climax of a silly season of confusion, fanfare and ecstasy. Moreover; most negative about manifestos, elections and governance is that the common people do not have 'detailed clues' about the inputs, intrigues and interests of the "behind the scenes" which often takes priority over their grievances, needs and expectations, and this results in the much disappointments, disturbances and dis-

comforts after they had voted.

The imperativeness for the soonest unveiling of the manifestos as a decent obligation of those who are aspiring to direct the socio-economic prosperity of the nation, without compromising its patrimony and sovereignty, is most applicable for the two mature parties. Both parties, the NNP and the National Democratic Congress (NDC), have had the experiences of leading the Government and in the current run to secure State power once again, they have been articulating on the areas and approaches to be addressed if victorious. Critical for the voters on the vital task of analyzing reasonably the worth of the manifestos to be offered by NNP and NDC, towards assisting in trusting confidently any of those parties for 'good governance', is the relevance and extent of performances regarding past manifestos. As pointed-out in previously circulated article "Why Vote In Grenada's Elections: Know Behind The Scenes (Part One)", it is unfortunate that the common man does not have the expert guidance of 'open arbiters' on such decisive event.

In the last elections, some light was shed with the electorate on choosing objectively whether or not to vote and which party deserves the vote, via the internet-circulated article "Grenada's 2018 Elections : The NNP And NDC Manifestos". The article raised that a manifesto essentially aims to form a 'patriotic contract of fiduciary responsibility' of the politicians with the people, but this is not 'legally and / or morally' binding; there is no sound guarantee for the meaningful fulfillment of the manifesto, neither is there an effective mechanism for the people to protest against any disappointment, misrepresentation and dishonorable conduct in Government, as well as to bring the culpable politicians to justice. Particularly; it is outrageous and devious for candidates to promise 'elaborate and glamorous' projects for his / her constituency, when the reality is that usually the manifestos do not specify

issues on the basis of the different constituencies, the fiscal budgets do not formulate development-programmes as line-items per constituency, the national affairs of strategic plannings and financial allocations is by Central Government, and that the Prime Minister takes control at pleasure of the 'collective good' about implementations.

Also review "Grenada's 2018 Elections : Beyond the Issues!". This related article highlights that despite the appeals, justifications and wooing by the politicians for the 'precious favour' of voters, the ordinary people are kept ignorant about the many prevalent factors affecting the fulfillment of manifestos and the practice of governance, as well as about the associates and financiers of the campaigns. Foreign policies, diplomatic ties, trade agreements and institutional obligations, as well as vexing and destructive issues such as the 'demands with enticements' for reforming constitutional provisions on human rights and social norms, for exploiting the natural resources and for engaging in debt swap, are hidden and diverged from the unsuspecting electorate. Particularly; the shaping of the National Sustainable Development Plan 2020-2035 with the integration of the United Nations Development Goals and the flavours of neo-colonialism, and how the party's manifestos reflect those happenings, are not surfacing on the political platforms.

The composition and contents of a manifesto are generic covering the values and visions of the party, aside from the typical headings of Government's undertakings; and the manner of the execution of the manifesto depends largely on the attribute and focus of the political leader. Some specifics and innovations based on external trends and imperatives, and / or on extraordinary projects would cause variations in the formulation of a manifesto, with entries such as Renewable Energy, Digital Technology and National Health Insurance.

Moreover; similar threads appear in the manifestos of different parties and in most cases, even with whatever different approaches are proposed, no solution or no substantial improvement can be had on the particular issues, due to external forces. For example; pronouncements and motivations toward Education and Skills become futile, virtually by the 'commercialization, monopolization and authorization' of the Caribbean Examinations Council on the core foundation for human resource development, entrepreneurial and economic diversification, and for up Gross Domestic Product.

The NDC formed the Government in the 2008 elections with a manifesto entitled "The Heartbeat Of Change", and two of the pertinent components therein were on The High Cost of Living and Making Grenada Work For All. It was not able to continue in power from the 2013 elections, with the party's manifesto centered on "Action Transformation Agenda – Going For Growth"; whilst evaluating itself as Grenada's Best Choice and its tenure as Laying The Foundation With Solid Achievements. NDC's efforts to regain power at the 2018 elections also failed, despite producing a series of documents for governance including a 2017-2030 Policy Agenda on Investing In The Future, Today!!, along with its manifesto of "Putting People First" as The Opportunity Charter.

The NNP lost the Government on 8 July 2008 after three consecutive terms from 20 June 1995, with a manifesto captioned "Go Grenada – You First. Let The Progress Continue"; two of the featured components were Tried & Tested Today ready for tomorrow and Committed to the challenge. It was able to regain power on 19 February 2013 with the party's manifesto centered on "We Will Deliver !", promoting A New Economy with a Blueprint For Recovery, Growth and Transformation. NNP consecutively sealed NDC from the Parliament at the 13 March 2018 elections with the manifesto "Keep Moving". Its tag and / or slogan for

the 2022 elections seems to be "Tried, Tested and Delivering" which engages previous themes; but what is the likely luck?

Continuously claiming at every stage to be 'renewed, reenergized and ready', NDC has been boosting its chances for the upcoming elections with a Transformation momentum led by political newcomer, corporate lawyer Dickon Mitchell. Is there any signal of need for the voters, as well as for the NDC's team, to be mindful about its success and its capacity to nurture the rank-and-file supporters, to execute the manifesto, to sustain the Government and to be re-elected? The party had entrusted itself the huge task of attacking "The High Cost of Living" at the onset of the global financial recession in 2008. Eventually; it is said that the recession was the main reason for NDC's struggle and not able to survive in Government, including its challenge to fix thoroughly the issues surrounding public officers' pensions. NDC has again now declared its determination to beat this 'social scourge' amidst a likely global recession, the lingering global pandemic, the threatening ripple-effects of the Russia-Ukraine war dreadfully on the supply and cost of food and energy, the rising Climate Change panics, and local high public debt and economic woes.

The NDC has been campaigning thus far on eradicating poverty and stimulating the economy by establishing a marijuana industry, referencing the 2018 Caricom Report and the universal usage of the herb; by generating employment and increasing the minimum wages; by borrowing to honour the 2022 Glasgow Judgement for the payments of pensions-benefits to retiring public officers; by introducing a bimonthly salary system; and by reducing some Government's taxes. How substantial and sustainable are those measures, for the nation as a whole and for the poor working individual, when no mention is made of the 'big and weighty' issues? Is the private sector including foreign partners such as holders of Citizenship By Investment, also onboard especially for

the 'balancing requirements towards equity'? Is NDC willing to peruse business-deals, with a view to re-negotiate and to recover uncollected taxes? Is NDC prepared to tackle the other primary determinants for poverty and for degenerating the welfare of the poor and vulnerable including the youth and elderly? There is a large spread of an unregulated (or, poorly regulated) environment which includes the financial, insurance and telecommunication companies, placing unbearable, unjustifiable and unconscionable charges, services and treatments on the people.

Despite how attractive and convincing the statements on the various political platforms including elections-manifestos may be and whatever party gets the nod to govern the nation on Thursday June 23rd, the average Grenadian must prepare for the worst-case scenario to the future. Careful attention must be for the environmental and international shocks as well as about any 'devil in the details' of the intentions and policies of the politicians. Everyone needs to take personal commitment to navigate the socio-economic upheavals; also with the considerations to undergo 'austerities and sacrifices' under another round of Structural Adjustment Programme in whatever form or fashion. Are those cautionary realities in line with the glories offered on the platforms?

It would be instructive to refer also to the previous article "Why Vote In Grenada's Elections: Who Benefits? (Part One)". A noteworthy message is that the critical-thinking, non-partisan patriotic citizens may account for the bulk of non-voters at elections, and are poised for any outcome. They generally place a high value on their votes in the national interest and hence are dedicated in seeking clarity on the issues offered, credibility in those who are offering, and signals that there would be rewarding representation in the Government on behalf of the people.



GENESIS MAGAZINE
BABY OF THE MONTH
SOFIA SANDRA DERIGGS

We cannot force someone
to hear a message they
are not ready to receive.



But we must never
underestimate the power
of planting a seed.

I have great respect for the
past. If you don't know
where you've come from,
you don't know where
you're going. I have respect
for the past, but I'm a
person of the moment. I'm
here, and I do my best to be
completely centered at the
place I'm at, then I go
forward to the next place.

Maya Angelou

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WOMEN AND EMANCIPATION

By Pastor Daphne Gabriel



It's 2022 and Black History Month is celebrated in Canada annually in February. This topic explores a bit about the inclusion of women in all areas of society; through the lenses of emancipation.

Are we emancipated as women? Where have we seen progress among other concerns and questions. To begin I will say that are women's rights as well as human rights.

Women have been suppressed over centuries and today and are still striving to increase awareness of the amount of oppression from the systems of society; as our gender, from birth comes into focus.

The male partner has been the barrier of progress and emancipation. With the establishment of institutions and authority which rule out women as equal to men, but subjected to dominance. Discussions and statements of strength and fragility in the accomplishment of some job descriptions created a divide and what women can actually do. Generally, one can only think of biased administration and secretarial positions, where we look pretty or sex objects.

The idea of a weaker sex describing women, has given the male dominance and closed doors to reach goals in many positions of management. For women, in earli-

er years, pregnancy was an obstacle and a reason to fire a female employee without cause or remuneration.

Whilst we look at creation as always a male and female, and usually always together, it's not so with human beings. A helpmate was supposed to be that partnership, but it was not so and still is challenged by male authority; in the role as head of the home.

In more recent years post war many women who held the home whilst the men fought in two wars, on their post war return many family structures waned from the role women played. They started fighting for civil rights and gender equality from the traditional authority of control by the men. The women were quickly labeled liberal feminists. It did not deter their desire to seek ways to achieve their goals.

Unfortunately, because of racism, the movement suffered because of segregation. They had not included non white women. This caused huge vacuums in the network to gain more woman power needed to pursue their goals. With weakened links of outreach, the plan failed. They became more of a radical entity than one with the teeth to beat down the barriers.

As ideas of emancipation having tasted the freedom of running

home and seeking ways of survival, the new challenge was to fight for women and human rights. With petitions and gatherings, gaining financial support, they were able to lobby public servants of the government to their cause as they gained sympathy.

Each human being has human rights from birth. There are also women's rights.

As we progress in our course of emancipation and freedoms as women, it is important to give due to our progress and abilities in this world. We have much to offer and are thinkers, in the moving forward of the many ways women can make meaningful input to society given the opportunities of education and development towards a better world and lessen the levels of poverty and exclusion just because we historically had been labeled, for domestic work. Every brain is valuable and can be achieved. Despite the recessions and loss of obs, we managed to keep the family fed and comfortable to the best of our capabilities. Looking at women whose sensitivity, caring and understanding is evident in her capacity to be a mother of humanity, and that is emancipation.

The Man at the Window.

By Anthony DeRiggs:

Several years ago, I was traveling to a city I had never been to before. I bought a map and drove to a number of places I had to visit. But there was one location I could not find on my map. The city was undergoing major growth and signs of construction were everywhere. New buildings, new streets. It was around noon so I stopped at a restaurant for lunch and spread out the map on my table next to a window.

I put my nose to the map and began to study the streets. Just then, the waitress walked up. "May I help you find something?" she asked.

"Sure," I said, and told her the name of the building I was looking for.

She smiled and said. "Don't look at the map. Look out the window. It's over there." I glanced out the window. The building was just across the street staring directly at the restaurant.

I thanked the waitress and we had a good laugh. But later I thought of the incident and realized a profound truth. Often we travel through life look-

ing for things with obsolete maps. But if we take the time to look out the window, the things we're looking for might just be staring us in the face.

What does all this have to do with Anthony DeRiggs, you ask? Glad you asked. You see, if you read DeRiggs, you realize he's always reminding us to look out the window. His writings encourage us to lift up our noses from many of the obsolete intellectual mapping we've grown up with and to take a closer look at our unique experiences in life, whether you're from Grenada or not. His writings are more accurate representations of our Grenadian reality than many of the foreign interpretations we so readily accept. Wherever you're from, he will inspire you to appreciate the richness of your roots.

I am not saying to ignore the great writers and philosophers of our times. They have provided great maps over the years. But the landscape of life is constantly changing, so when maps become obsolete it's time to look out the window to get a new sense of direction. Whenever I need an accurate fix on where I came from, so I'll know where I'm go-

ing, I read Anthony DeRiggs.

When you read DeRiggs, it's an all-encompassing experience, far greater than a flat lifeless map. His writings overcome obstacles of space or time. You can be in North America, and he can take you to Grenada in an instant, on a walk down the stone steps of Cooper Hill, up the steep St. John's street, or across the breezy Carenage. But it's only just begun. You hear the sweet steel band sounds of Angel Harps floating across the harbor, you feel the breeze, you smell and taste the spicy blood pudding, and you laugh with the people. He humanizes people and brings them to life. He transports you to an environment buzzing with amazing characters and incredible stories. It's the view from the window. So, whenever I feel a little lost, even with my map, I don't panic. I read Anthony DeRiggs. I hope you read him too. He's the man at the window.

Anthony DeRiggs:
The Man at the Window.



Everything Happens For A Reason

BY Portia Saraphina Trillions

Regardless of where you choose to stand or from what view-point ,always make sure your Fondation is strong,sure and has depth.You will go through some turbulence that might rock you.Gosh!it might even shake you,make you want to cry,hold your head and echo the loudest echo anyone has ever heard in the universe. It might make you feel like you want to throw in the towel. Quit,right there and there.You might be somehow tired with fighting.You might be looking for ways to say,"peace out!" But during those times, you must not give up.And sometimes, you have to decide to stand and stand couregous because you already know your foundation is strong.So whatever it is you might be going through....just stand...of course ,you'll have

to put in the work..but after you've put in the work..its time to see the rewards of your labour.Everything happens for a reason.You may not see it now...but it definitely comes. Stop doing the same thing though and expecting different results. There comes a time in one's life that you have to see things for what they are.You also need to see people for who they are.There are those who will say they love you.But the true ones will actually stand up for you, in times of need. Don't say the others weren't real.Just move on and embrace the wonderful people that you do have in your life.Those that actually care, and in some cases show empathy.Though we are all busy,people would make time for those they see MOST beneficial to them.Be a

good person at heart.Yourr not perfect and you'll make a ton of mistakes.Before you look to do good ,negativity will always be lurking somewhere. Regarless,you must operate from clean hands and a pure heart stand point.Do your part and the right people will eventually gravitate to you.Dont seek to please.Just be yourself ,Always ,.You can believe in yourself and still be humble. Dont ever, at anytime ,feel you have arrive. Or you're the most significant thing.Youre just dust!And like vapor,You and I are gone,instantly!...Poof!!!Enjoy life.There's so much to others,us and what we just see in our surroundings day to day. Above all, be couregous and always tell yourself you're going to make it...know matter what!



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Tex Manwarren

My Unique Prayer

I'm not responsible for your assumption about me. I'm not responsible for your negative attitude towards me. Your opinion does not define who I am because I have picked up a few points and adjusted my attitude. This means, only God defines me. I'm very confident in myself because I am a woman of integrity. God has brought me through too many valleys and circumstances so I will continue to stand and call on God for wisdom, knowledge and understanding.



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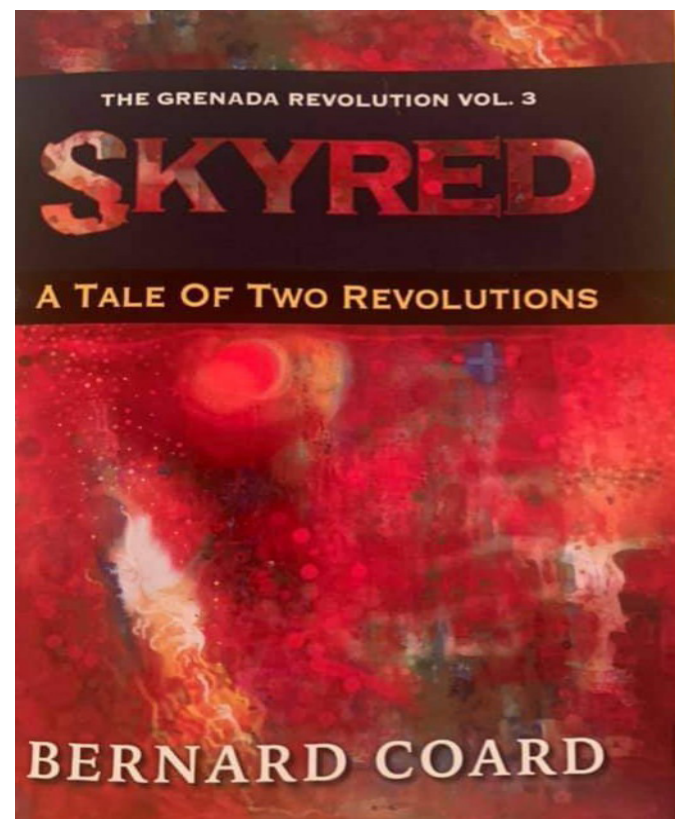
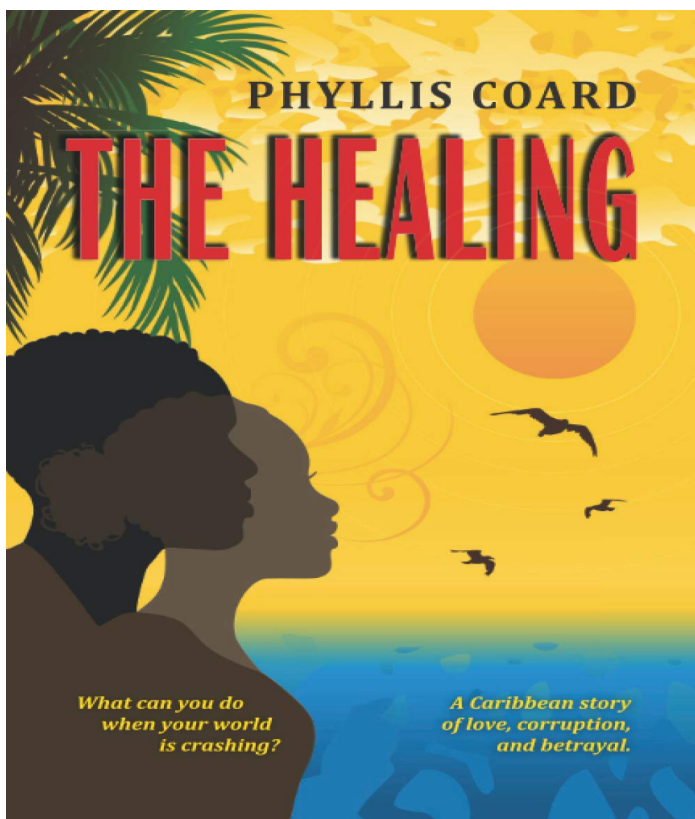
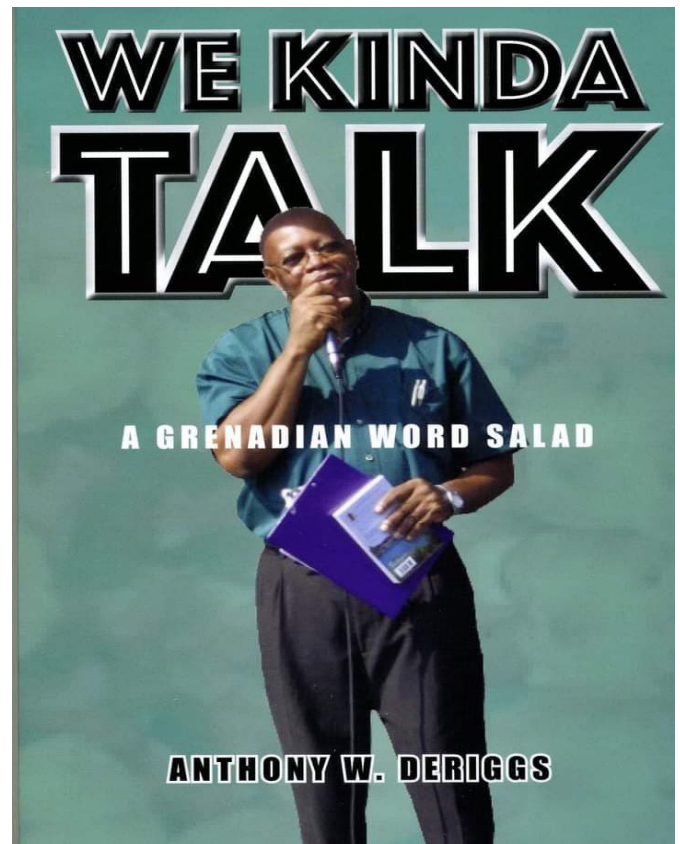
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Genesis' Books To Read!



The Heart of the Matter

Have you ever been so badly hurt that you find it hard to let go? Moving on becomes a task, almost like hiking without the proper hiking gears. This result, in you using these lines, "I tried to forgive but I just do not feel it". The memories of the hurt still trigger pain and fear. The sting of the pain is as if it just happened when it took place days, weeks or even months ago. So, if forgiveness is so easy, why the struggle?

For a few minutes, let's get to 'the heart of the matter'. Forgiveness is a heart matter with a practical intentional position. In my humble opinion, I believe that forgiveness has levels. What do I mean by this? It is almost like getting a bad injury, compared to a mild one. Bear with me for a moment, as I paint you the picture.

Do you need to visit a doctor or even get stitches when you get bruises due to minor injuries? What about a scratch or a bump? Getting the drift [point]? These are all minor, wouldn't you agree? However, if you get a deep cut/wound, it would require a visit to the Doctor or emergency room, right? Hence, in the same way forgiveness can be seen in these same levels.

You would get over a friend making a slightly harsh comment that hurts

your feelings way quicker, than a friend who has betrayed your trust, right? Is this becoming clearer? Yes, Jesus says that we are to forgive seventy times seven daily, so, I am not ignoring nor dismissing this truth. The point at hand is that sometimes, forgiveness is a process and letting go takes time. It is after all 'the heart of the matter'; meaning, it is a heart thing. So, how do you forgive when deep down you are still hurting from this deep wound? Firstly, stop beating yourself up. Secondly, remember that forgiving someone is very similar to the process of receiving salvation; all you did was believed, right? You believed in your heart and with your whole heart.

So, why not apply the same method to forgiveness. Be genuine, allow the process/ stage to run its course. Whenever the hurt/pain resurfaces it will until you are completely healed from it], remind yourself that, 'yes, it happened, yes, it still hurts', but one day it will eventually go away. Do not force yourself to 'feel' the forgiveness or it will come across as being ingenuine. Remember, it is a heart matter. Do you believe in your heart, and are you being sincere?

Finally, I will leave you with these nuggets from; Fasting from Wrong Thinking: Gregory Dickow.

☐ Forgiveness is not a feeling; it is

a decision.

☐ Forgive by faith.

☐ Do not entertain thoughts that makes you think you did not forgive.

☐ Focus on what God has done for you and not what people have done to you.

So, even if you do not feel it, that is okay. Believe it and allow yourself to be healed by God, through the process of time.



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By
John Calliste

MANAGEMENT IS ONE OF MAN'S GREATEST FAILURES.

Greed is the mismanagement of God's resources for personal benefits. A greedy spirit will manipulate others for personal gain. That kind of spirit can catch you unaware. A man's life should not only consist of material position but of being of service to others.

Management is one of man's greatest failures., God's purpose for man was to manage the earth. In the book of Genesis God said that he would not allow anything to grow because there was no man to work the ground.

Everything rises and falls on management. Where there is poor management there is no growth.

A lot of people get it twisted especially in

Church almost everyone in church wants to be a pastor and fails to manage what they are charged with. The church is the biggest failure of God's resources. God will not allow growth to take place under bad management. Too often people think that if they become a preacher they can perform miracles for people and not manage the resources that they are charged with. Most People look for miracles. Jesus said that only a wicked and adulterous nation seeks miracles.

Management is the effective, efficient, correct and timely use of another person's resources for the purpose for which they are designed, with the view to producing the expected added value. That being said, if you are not adding value to other people's resources that include people

which is a human resource.

If you fail to manage other people's resources God will never give you your own until you learn to manage other people's property, effectively, efficiently, correctly and promptly.

God will never give you what you ask for but what you can manage. Being a good preacher, mechanic, cook, or driver does not make you a manager. This is the reason why so many people fail in business, it is because they believe that they are skilled in what qualifies them as a manager. Manage your skills and you will be successful. What is success? Success is the progressive, realization of a worthwhile dream. Remember that everything rises and falls on management. Be a good manager and you will be successful.

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SPORTS

(Coach Paul Phillip on Kirani & Preparing Anderson Peters)

Peters home-trained at La Sagesse ahead of Doha victory
By Lincoln DePradine

On back-to-back days in mid-May, two Grenadian superstar sportsmen returned spectacular performances at overseas track and field competitions. First, it was Kirani James cruising to victory at a 400-meter race in Puerto Rico; and, on May 13, Anderson Peters established new marks in the javelin in competition in Doha, the capital of Qatar.

Many Grenadians, including well-known local coach Paul Phillip, celebrated the feats of James and Peters. James, according to one report, easily dominated the Puerto Rico race, winning in 44.70 seconds. And, Phillip doesn't rule out the possibility that James's victory was an inspiration to Peters, who threw a winning distance of 93.07 meters in Doha. In the process, Peters obliterated his own Grenada national record. It also was the fifth-best throw ever in Javelin in the world.

"I'm pretty sure that Anderson would have seen Kirani's race – or the results of the race – and be inspired by it," Phillip said in an interview. "It's good when we have more than one athlete doing well. It could only help us to get better as a nation."

James, a three-time Olympic medalist and also a World Champion, was present when Peters won the men's javelin title at the 2019 World Champions, which also was held in Doha.

"Kirani was the first person down the stairs to witness Anderson become the World Champion. He always had a good encouraging word. And, there is a relationship between our athletes nationally. They speak and they follow one another," Phillip said.

In the lead-up to the Diamond league meet in May at the Qatar Sports Club in Doha, Peters trained for several months in Grenada, with Phillip coaching and guiding him. It was the longest stay at home for Peters, since leaving in 2017 on a student-athlete scholarship at Mississippi State University.

"Once he came back from the Diamond league circuit last September, he stayed in Grenada. He Left for one competition in March and then he returned," Phillip revealed. "We trained in La Sagesse on the grass." The year 2021 was "challenging" for Peters, who was coming off an injury that included having surgery, said Phillip. "But, we learnt a lot," Phillip said. "I took my experience and reprogrammed the training, so that he can at least get out there and do a personal best this year." Phillip expected an outstanding throw by Peters in Doha. However, he admitted that Peters exceeded his expectation.

"There were many times on training days that he would have a series of throws that were longer than 80 meters; and, that was a good indication he was ready to throw far," Phillip said.

"But, to say that I expected a 90-meter throw in Doha, was nowhere there. I was really expecting him to throw somewhere in the region of 87 meters."

Peters' training will continue with a specific goal in mind, Phillip said. "Our preparation is geared to the defence of the World title. The plan is simple; it's to try to leave a legacy in javelin that could stay for a long time. And

that would be to win as many as four World Championships." The 2022 World Athletics Championships are scheduled for July 15-24 in Oregon in the United States.

In addition, this year's Commonwealth Games are July 28-August 8 in Birmingham, England. Phillip will join Peters at month to continue preparations for the World Championships and the Commonwealth Games. "We're going to work hard and try to stay fit and to make sure that the World title comes back to him," said Phillip, who praised Peters for his strong competitive spirit.

"He's a competitor. He knows how to compete; he likes the big stage and competition just brings out the best in him. I know very well the person I'm dealing with," said Phillip. At the recent competition in Doha, Phillip said, Peters "would have wanted to send a message very early; that he is ready. And, I think the message is out; he's not in a play mood this year".





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The Clown that ran away

by Liz Margaret Regis



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Signs of Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse can be difficult to identify because of the subtle and varied forms it can take, and things that are emotionally abusive are sometimes explained away as loving behaviour. Think of the times you may have heard people say things like, “I act like this because I’m so in love”. People may use different terms for emotional abuse, such as psychological abuse or mental abuse. At times, emotionally-abusive behaviour may be connected to psychological terms that may describe an abuser’s mental state (e.g. “narcissistic abuse”). All these terms and issues can be confusing. But the signs and effects of the abuse can be clearer. According to the Department of Justice, emotional abuse happens when a person uses words or actions to control, frighten, or isolate someone or take away their self-respect.” Emotional abuse is a very common element of gender-based violence and it can go hand in hand with physical forms of abuse. But it doesn’t only occur in romantic relationships; like other forms of abuse, emotional abuse can occur in platonic, familial, or any other relationship structure. In any context, it’s often connected to power imbalances in our society that put some people at higher risk of experiencing abuse. Below are some of the signs of an emotionally-abusive relationship. This list is not meant to be exhaustive as individuals can have different experiences of emotional abuse.

Humiliation and derision

Healthy relationships involve both parties feeling safe, respected, and free to express their thoughts, pursue their interests, and change their appearance without fear of being embarrassed. Emotional abuse can include humiliation in order to dismiss and minimize your own feelings and worth. This could take the form of: Calling you names Making patronizing comments Publicly embarrassing

you (including online) Making “jokes” at your expense; which may also include dismissing any hurt feelings you incur as being “unable to take a joke” Belittling your accomplishments Making insults about your appearance Putting down your interests Insulting or trying to control your clothing, hairstyle, or any physical changes Infantilizing you or acting as though they know what’s best for you Deliberately putting you in physically- or emotionally-uncomfortable positions (such as locking you out of your home or making a scene in a social situation)

Gaslighting and manipulation

In a healthy relationship, your feelings, thoughts, and perceptions of reality will be validated. While disagreements arise in all relationships – including healthy ones – your feelings should always be validated regardless of what the other party intended. An emotional abuser may try to erode your faith in your own perceptions and feelings in the following ways: Gaslighting Defining and trying to exert how they think you should feel Dismissal of your feelings as “crazy,” “dramatic,” “overreacting,” or “emotional” (sometimes, abusers will use others to validate their point of view and invalidate your belief in yourself: such as, “everyone thinks you’re crazy”) Refusing to take responsibility for their actions or how they made you feel (they may try to frame everything, including your pain, as “your fault”)

Isolation and control

Healthy relationships involve both parties supporting one another in their respective interests, relationships, and goals outside of the relationship. Emotional abusers will often work to make the relationship the most important thing in your life in order to isolate you from things that might threaten their control. This might include: Demanding to know your whereabouts and who you are with all the time Monitoring your

communication channels such as text messages or email Using technology or other methods to track your movements Making uni-lateral decisions for all parties such as changing plans or creating joint bank accounts (more broadly, abusers may seek to control the finances as a form of dominance and to restrict your freedom) Withholding affection as a form of punishment Coercing or intimidating you to spend all your time with them (emotional abusers can often be jealous and try to disguise jealousy or insecurity as love and passion, when it is used as a mechanism to guilt you into spending all your time with them) Isolating you from family, friends, and/or coworkers (emotional abusers often try to ensure they are the main or the only influence in your life)

Erratic or chaotic behavior

You should never fear for the safety of yourself, your loved ones, or the other person in the relationship – even if you leave them. You should never feel as though you must walk on eggshells around the other person in order to protect yourself or those around you; in healthy relationships, both parties feel physically as well as emotionally safe and don’t feel coerced or guilted into remaining in the relationship. Emotional abuse may involve: Threats about your safety, your loved one’s safety, or the safety of the other person should you leave them (emotional abusers may attempt to guilt the other person into staying with them through feigned helplessness, threatening what may happen if you leave, or acting as though you owe them your affection) Blackmail Mood swings or unexpected outbursts Deliberately picking fights Destroying or hiding your belongings (especially those which allow for mobility and independence, such as your car keys, wallet, and phone)

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Andrey Sushentsov: Ukraine could be just the starting point of a bigger crisis.

There are several scenarios facing Moscow, Kiev and the West.

By Andrey Sushentsov, Valdai Club program director

Why do Russian-Ukrainian relations concern every Russian and Ukrainian? To some extent, what is happening is a delayed civil war, which could have happened in the early 1990s with the collapse of the USSR, when the first generation of Russian and Ukrainian leaders boasted that they had avoided a bloody divorce like the one in Yugoslavia. In Russia, every other person has relatives in the neighboring country, and what is happening there is more a matter of domestic politics. For example, if the Ukrainian government closes Russian Orthodox churches or bans a pro-Russian opposition political party, the story gets immediate coverage on state TV and Russian politicians issue statements. All post-Soviet countries gained independence on the same day, and each of these states is in some way an experiment in state-building; in establishing foreign and domestic political strategies.

The peculiarity of the Ukrainian state experiment is underscored by the following dilemma: How is it possible to reconcile the two pillars of Ukrainian statehood – Galician Ukraine and the eastern Russian community? At some point, people representing the western regions had a stick in their hands, and they began to use it in their dialogue with representatives of the east — that is why the last Maidan won. The path along which the Ukrainian experiment has developed reflects a gradual curtailment of the presence and interests of Russian identity. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, when trying to enlist support in the east of the country during the elections, promised that he would never ban the teaching of Russian in schools, that he would ensure the status of Russian as a language when communicating with government agencies, and that he would protect the memory of the Great Patriotic War. As soon as he came to power, it became clear that his intentions were to do the exact opposite. Andrey Sushentsov: There is still room for compromise between Russia and the West.

Now, watching what is happening in the Western media, we can see everything portrayed as if big, strong Russia attacked small Ukraine. From the point of view of the strategic balance of power, however, the situation is not so obvious. Ukraine is the second-largest nation in Europe in terms of physical size after Russia. The population of Ukraine is about 40 million people – large by European standards. The army of Ukraine is the third-largest in Europe after those of Russia and Turkey – between 220,000 and 240,000 people. Military spending as a share of Ukraine's GDP was almost 6% (at the level of Israel), the armed forces have been modernized, and Kiev

purchased modern armed systems from the West. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg directly pointed out that Western instructors had trained tens of thousands of Ukrainian soldiers. By pumping Ukraine with weapons, the West sought to create a counterbalance to Russia, facing off against it in a way that would completely absorb its attention and resources – akin to Pakistan's confrontation with India. A few weeks ago, Russian pranksters called the UK secretary of defense and, on behalf of the Prime Minister of Ukraine, asked how Britain would react if they were planning to create nuclear weapons in Ukraine. The defense minister replied that the UK would always support their Ukrainian friends. It seems to many that the West would never allow Ukraine to obtain its nuclear weapons, but it is quite possible that the West would react in the same way as in the case of Israel: Formally, the country does not have WMDs, but, as one Israeli leader said, "If necessary, then we will use it." Metaphorically speaking, we can say that the Americans put a bulletproof vest on the Ukrainians, giving them a helmet and pushing them towards Russia: "Success, buddy."

Ultimately, all this led to a relationship of one-sided dependence. Ukraine is highly dependent on the West, but the latter does not plan to systematically support it forever. How would the Americans behave if Russia responded with a comparable threat? At one of the hearings in the US Senate, US Admiral Kurt W. Tidd stated that "Russia is expanding its presence in the region directly competing with the US for influence in our hemisphere." Imagine if Russia started interacting with Mexico in the same way the West is now behaving with Ukraine: Unexpectedly for the Americans, Mexico begins to rapidly militarize itself, thinks about its own missile program, about nuclear weapons. Mexicans recall grievances from the 19th century, when Texas was not yet part of the United States. What would the United States do, given the very recent leaks about the desire of former President Donald Trump to invade Venezuela "because of a threat to regional security?"

Does NATO really pose a threat to Russia?

We are probably at the starting point of an unfolding crisis, and not close to its end. The first diplomatic proposal that Russia made at the beginning of the crisis was that Ukraine remain neutral, that Crimea be recognized as Russian territory, and that the Donbass republics be recognized as independent. In response to these demands, Ukraine put forward its own: The complete repatriation of its pre-2014 territory and no steps towards Russia. The maximization of Ukrainian demands means that a point of balance has not yet been found in the ongoing military campaign. However, it has its own options for development. In the first scenario, the current Ukrainian government and Russia enter into an agreement that takes into account Russian demands, and these agreements are

recognized by the West as part of a European security package deal. The Russian-Ukrainian crisis would give way to a Russian-Western military-political confrontation, akin to the Cold War. The second scenario assumes the development of events under the influence of the military situation on the ground. As a result, either a balance is inevitably found, or one of the parties prevails. In this case, there are risks that the West will not recognize the results of the deal, and a new Ukrainian government will arise, and be opposed by the government in exile. From the West, there will be a system of support for the Ukrainian underground, similar to the one that existed in the west of Ukraine in the 1950s. The third scenario involves a sharp escalation of tension between Russia and the West. It is possible that the crisis will spread to the NATO countries or the escalation of the sanctions war against Russia follows in the hope of shaking the foundations of Russian statehood. In this case, the risks of a nuclear collision will increase. However, so far, we see that Western leaders are distancing themselves from such plans and saying they will not send NATO forces to this conflict. Nevertheless, we have repeatedly seen how the West crosses its own "red lines" – it can really happen again.

The statements, views and opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of RT AND GM



THE DICKON STORY

- By Raphael Paul - Pablo



In The Beginning:

This time last year NDC had difficulty making the news, but nowadays NDC is the News, and the centre of attention for all and sundry. This all began after Dickon Mitchell became the Leader of the National Democratic Congress on Sunday, October 31, 2021 – just over seven months ago. His personality, presence, and narrative, have been resonating with the vast majority of Grenadians, here at home and in the Diaspora.

Although speaking to party faithful, his “victory” speech set the tone for his ongoing narrative of people coming together in the interest of country, and holding politicians accountable for their handling of the People’s Business. Here are some of his first words.

“I believe for the first time in Grenada’s modern history, this - NDC -convention has opened the eyes of every Grenadian, to the importance of our democracy; to the importance of our political process, and so I expect that as part of that transformation, we will continue educating our population, so that our citizens are aware that it is important to be a member of a political party.....and it is important to offer yourself to sit in the House of Parliament. It is through that

process we will be able to influence and enact the kind of policies we wish to see enacted in our tri-island state. It is only through engagement, and active participation that we will be able to control and hold our politicians accountable.”

He said to his delegates – and essentially his countrymen and women – “My pledge to you Team Members - *of the National Democratic Congress* - is to be answerable to you. I represent you. To represent you, I must be available. I must be prepared to listen and listen well, and then I must be able to enact and do that which is important to you.because that is what representative democracy is about.” This is about the Representation of the People.

The Political Leader had laid down his marker for the political discourse, under his leadership. Although he was essentially reinforcing the long held values and perspective of the NDC – as it relates to the governance of our country – his youth, energy, passion, calm, humble and endearing personality, has given new meaning to the words, as more and more Grenadians see in him the qualities, values, and capabilities to be Prime Minister of our country.

In that same presentation he said, “when you see me, you should feel free to speak with and to me; when you see me, you should feel free to ask questions; when you see me, you should be free to offer your council; when you see me, you should be able to criticize me, if you are not happy with something that I had done.” In other words, I’m accountable to you.

Our people have been requesting more youthful and innovative

leadership; more conversation about a sustainable development agenda; greater input in the discussion and decision making processes; and a willingness to listen to their views and aspirations. NDC is fulfilling all of these requests, with Dickon Mitchell as Political Leader, as is evidenced by many town hall meetings, and the turnout and participation of the public. Through this page you will be able to conclude for yourself, that his offer of service is about Putting People First.

Views on Leadership:

On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, while on a morning radio programme, Political Leader of the National Democratic Congress (NDC) Dickon Mitchell had this to say: ***“If you’re elected Prime Minister of the country, you’re a Servant Leader...and it requires - not just at election time - a systematic approach to engaging with the citizens, to having feedback.... and to ensure that the policy decisions, and the direction that you take the country in, has buy-in from the citizens. Sometimes as a Leader...you have to make difficult decisions, but you have to subject yourself to the public to explain, to educate, to justify and defend your decisions, if you are convinced....that these decisions are in the best interest of the country. Leadership means...addressing the issues that are of concern to the nation, and ensuring that we take steps to continuously build our nation.*”**

At a Cocktail event in South Florida, in early April, he reiterated that position by saying: “Part of the mission is to recreate in the Caribbean, leaders who put the public and the citizens first. Coming

out of the Independence Movement in the Caribbean - for all their flaws - our leaders genuinely strove to improve the collective well-being of all citizens, and regrettably we have regressed to...transaction politics, where the citizens are viewed no more than as a transaction, and is essentially purchasing your vote. For the next four and a half, or five years, the citizens are forgotten until that time comes around again, the transaction takes place and your vote is purchased."

During his short presentation at that Cocktail event, he also said, *"We must recognise that to build our Civilisation, our governance and our politics must be about public service. Part of the movement is to create within the Caribbean, Leaders who believe in the ambition, the talent and the capabilities of our people, and who provide the enabling environment to ensure that we are successful."*

Judging from his consistent rhetoric of what he considers to be the obligations of a Leader - Prime Minister - our Grenadian voters now appear eager for that quality of leadership, and to finally having the right to hold elected officials accountable for the decisions they make on the people's behalf. Dickon Mitchell is advocating a *"transformation agenda" not experienced since the period of the Grenada Revolution*. Unlike the revolutionary era though, our ongoing political experiences with the present ruling administration, and their preferential agenda of coercion, intimidation and victimization, we can anticipate a new dispensation, where our citizens will be able to say "the government is wrong" without the fear of not having access to the facilities of our social services programme, as punishment.

We have developed a culture of equating *"Coercion with Leadership"*

but they are two totally different things, and it is time our voters appreciate that fact. Coercion includes: Manipulating rewards and punishments in the environment; Threatening termination; Utilizing force; and Influencing individuals. Those who use coercion do so for their own benefit, and such leaders have very little regard for their followers, whom they take for granted.

According to America's sixth President, John Quincy Adams, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." And as Nelson Mandela said: "A leader...is like a shepherd. He stays behind the flock, letting the most nimble go out ahead, whereupon the others follow, not realizing that all along they are being directed from behind." **Dickon Mitchell is Endeavouring to be such a Leader, and needs the support of the Grenadian voter to make it happen.**

The Dickon Factor:

"I had no choice than to simply have this post called "Dickon Said" for obvious reasons," Neil Ferguson wrote on Facebook recently. Here's a synopsis of his two part Facebook post.

He wrote "Dickon said he would have the IMANIS permanent once they would have served two years....up comes Keith promising the new batch of IMANIS that upon their completion of their training they would become workers."

Just imagine that the Imani has been in existence for such a long time, and has been their **Flagship Propaganda Tool**, why has it taken so long for that kind of attention, while the Prime Minister had deliberately made himself the Youngest Youth Minister of all times over a year and a half ago? **Why now? Is it the Dickon Factor?**

Here are some more quotes from the "Dickon Said" rendition.

"Dickon said, pay the workers their half month in December, promptly the money the fiscal space didn't have was magically found. Dickon said, temporary workers cannot access loans. Well, like a cat after a lizard you didn't just run, you heaved and made special conditions in GDB for loans that up to now many cannot access." **Is The Dickon Factor your new Financial Advisor?**

"Dickson said, the education system should be revamped to include things such as coding and robotics. Boom, the Minister of Education whose biggest word in her vocabulary till then was EMPOWERMENT starts taking about including coding and robotics in the curriculum." **Well now, The Dickon Factor is the new Education Director.**

"Dickon said, St. Mark's will get a jetty. Out of nowhere Madam Chicken Farm jumps and sees the need for one. Just like that the cataract she had for 20 years disappeared like Emmalin's brain tumor."

"Dickon said, the State of Emergency was illegal, just so State of Emergency evaporated like the mist over Grand E'Tang on a sunny day."

Attorney for the Workers had reported, "Government's lawyers had indicated they would appeal the pension ruling. Dickon said that should not happen. Right on cue we heard the Ministry who "does" mistake hot sun for snow saying Government will meet with the unions to discuss the pension and that they never said they would appeal. Identical statement to what Dickon made." **Just so The Dickon Factor has become the Legal Advisor.**

Here's the writer's final words:

"Well since all that Dickon said you want to implement then who is best to implement his own plans than Dickon himself.....Dickon should send you his bill for being your advisor.

However, here is one other thing Dickon said. Time for you all to go. Soon I expect to see you take your exit, because **Dickon Said So**. I appreciate the fact that you and your gang recognize *the good ideas DICKON has* and for trying to hurriedly implement them."

It is interesting to note that after labeling Dickon Mitchell's plans to pay pension and gratuity as "pie in the sky," and having announced the setting up of an advisory committee, to determine how to proceed on the matter, he is suddenly promising to pay pension, because Dickon said so. This promise had also been made in during the 2018 election campaign.

The track record of the NDC shows that its Leadership and Administration always give greater consideration to the overall well-being of Grenadians, with significant focus on matters that provide a more long lasting benefit, for the people of the country.

NDC also shows a greater appreciation for the rules that govern the function of government, ***because those who disregard the regulations and make it the Standard Mode of Operation, become Role Model Lawbreakers.***

When you compare the two leaders, the evidence is clear that *"The People's Business" would be in "Safer Hands" if its Planning and Development is guided by the Transformational Agenda of "Dickon Said."*

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