

“Epic Fail”: Fraser’s Facebook Folly over Farrakhan

George C. Fraser’s moment of candor in social media, a clear misstep, an unfortunate error

Demetric Muhammad

It was very disappointing to read professional networking guru, George C. Fraser’s baseless and ill-informed comments about the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan via Mr. Fraser’s Facebook page.



It was disappointing because I have always had great respect for Mr. Fraser’s work to raise the business acumen and overall economic position of the Black community. But despite my respect for him as an otherwise positive brother and champion for a noble cause, I can’t allow his comments about Minister Farrakhan to go unanswered.

Mr. Fraser took issue with the fact that Minister Farrakhan boldly and forthrightly spoke the truth that many in the Black community feel, but may be afraid to say publicly. That truth is **that President Barak Obama, despite being the first Black president of America, has a legacy that will involve the worsening of conditions within the Black community under his administration.** The Minister’s analysis that was recently delivered from the hallowed pulpit of Union Temple Church in Washington, D.C. was actually quite measured, balanced and optimistic especially when compared to many of the Barber shop, water cooler and pillow talk conversations about President Obama that take place every day.

Popular Black scholars and academics like professors Dr. Michael Eric Dyson and Dr. Julienne Malveaux have also borne witness to President Obama’s lack of a positive legacy where the Black community is concerned. According to professor Dyson, President Obama’s lack of a positive legacy in the Black community is a direct result of that fact that **“He didn’t see race as [the] broader American issue that it is.”**

Dr. Malveaux told TV One Reporter Roland Martin:

President Obama “didn’t push us forward, but he didn’t move us backward – he missed an opportunity...He has targeted certain communities, but he’s never targeted the African-American community...I would have liked to have seen the kind of passion when he talked about transgender issues that he had to talk about African-American issues – he never said to any school, ‘I will withhold your civil rights money if you discriminate...He (President Barack

Obama) simply has not been a champion of African-Americans in the same way that he's been a champion of others."

The Final Call Newspaper recorded the Minister's words on President Obama's legacy as the following:

"I just want to tell you Mr. President. You're from Chicago, and so am I. I go out in the street with the people. I visited the worst neighborhoods. I talked to the gangs. While I was out there talking to them, they said: 'You know Farrakhan, the president ain't never come. Could you get him to come and look after us?'"

"There's your legacy Mr. President. It's in the street with your suffering people, Mr. President, and if you can't go and see about them, then don't worry about your legacy, if you didn't earn your legacy with us.

"We put you there. You fought the rights of gay people. You fought for the rights of this people and that people. You fight for Israel. Your people are suffering and dying in the streets, and you failed to do what should have been done,"

"But it's never too late. Come on back to the 'hood, and start organizing like you did, and with your influence all over the world, let's make a new and better people, and from us, if it's Allah's will, we can build a new and better America,"

There is nothing in the Minister's words about President Obama's legacy that is factually inaccurate. **It is all true and emphatically true!**



The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan shared
Minister Louis Farrakhan's video.
September 20 at 12:21pm · 🌐



3,507,554 Views

Mr. Fraser exclaimed in a Facebook rant that he was tired of people sharing the video clip of the Minister making these statements. And he proceeded to spew surprisingly harsh comments about Minister Farrakhan. He even mentioned in a disdainful way Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. Mr. Fraser literally claimed that Minister Farrakhan was not doing anything about the crime



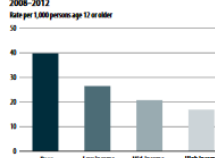
Household Poverty and Nonfatal Violent Victimization, 2008–2012

Erika Harrell, Ph.D., and Lynn Langford, Ph.D., BJS Statisticians; Marcus Berzofsky, DrPH, Lance Couzens, and Hope Smiley-McDonald, PhD, RTI International

For the period 2008–12, persons living in poor households at or below the federal poverty level (FPL) (39.8 per 1,000) had more than double the rate of violent victimization as persons in high-income households (16.9 per 1,000) (figure 1). The percentage of persons reporting violence to police was also higher among households at or below the FPL. More than half of victims of violence from poor households (51%) reported the victimization to police, compared to 45% of victims from high-income households.

This report uses data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) to describe the nature of nonfatal violence against persons age 12 or older living in households, defined by their percentage above, at, or below the FPL, as measured by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (see Methodology). The report shows how race and Hispanic origin, location of residence, and poverty are related to violent victimization and the reporting of violent victimization to police. Throughout the report, the terms at or below the FPL, poor, low income, mid-income, and high income are used to describe household poverty levels. At or below the FPL, or poor refers to persons in households at 0% to 100% of the FPL. Low income refers to persons

FIGURE 1
Rate of violent victimization, by household poverty level, 2008–2012



Note: Poor refers to households at 0% to 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL); low income refers to households at 10% to 20% of the FPL; mid income refers to households at 20% to 40% of the FPL; high income refers to households at 40% or higher than the FPL. See table 1 for estimates and appendix table 1 for standard errors.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2008–2012.

HIGHLIGHTS

This report describes the relationship between nonfatal violent victimization and household poverty level as measured by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Data are from the National Crime Victimization Survey in 2008–12.

- Persons in poor households at or below the federal poverty level (FPL) (39.8 per 1,000) had more than double the rate of violent victimization as persons in high-income households (16.9 per 1,000).
- Persons in poor households had a higher rate of violence involving a firearm (15.5 per 1,000) compared to persons above the FPL (8.8 per 1,000).
- The overall pattern of poor persons having the highest rates of violent victimization was consistent for both whites and blacks. However, the rate of violent victimization for Hispanics did not vary across poverty levels.

- Poor Hispanics (25.3 per 1,000) had lower rates of violence compared to poor whites (46.4 per 1,000) and poor blacks (43.4 per 1,000).
- Poor persons living in urban areas (43.9 per 1,000) had violent victimization rates similar to poor persons living in rural areas (38.8 per 1,000).
- Poor urban blacks (51.3 per 1,000) had rates of violence similar to poor urban whites (56.4 per 1,000).
- Violence against persons in poor (51%) and low income (50%) households was more likely to be reported to police than violence against persons in mid- (41%) and high-income (40%) households.

problem in the city of Chicago. And he sought to characterize the Minister as petty, immature and non-productive.

Dear Mr. Fraser, as a constitutional law professor President Obama would tell you that crime reduction and providing a safe environment for the citizens of any nation rests not on the shoulders of individual citizens and groups; but is a function of and the responsibility of the government.

In an article written for the Duke Law Journal, author Steven J. Heyman describes the right to protection and safety as “**the first duty of government.**” Heyman’s article brilliantly discusses the origins of the duty of protection as it goes back to 18th Century English Constitutional Theory, wherein the citizen was

expected to pledge his allegiance to his government and in exchange enjoy the protection of the government. This relationship was considered reciprocal; “*obedience in exchange for protection.*”

Heyman goes onto describe the government’s first duty by citing the *Commentaries on the Laws of England* published by Sir William Blackstone between 1765 and 1769. From Blackstone’s work Heyman concludes “*The state’s duty of protection requires not only the enactment of laws by the legislature, but also their **enforcement by the executive (the president) and the courts. Under the English constitution, the executive power was vested in the king. The function of the king as supreme executive was “to protect the community, and each individual therein, from every degree of injurious violence, by executing those laws which the people themselves... have consented to.***”

Heyman’s conclusion further drives home the point that the first and most critical duty of government as conceived in America and her mother country Great Britain is the protection of the individual citizen from crime, loss of life and property.

The right of protection was thus a well-established concept in antebellum legal thought. In addition to the right of self-defense, it included civil remedies and criminal protection, as well as the process of requiring security for the peace. By the middle of the nineteenth century, the concept of protection had developed to include the state’s responsibility to take reasonable measures to prevent violence, such as the creation of a police force to so that the protection of the life and property of its citizens could be secured.

Dear Mr. Fraser, crime in the Black community whether it be Chicago or your home town of Cleveland, Ohio is largely the result of generations upon generations of poverty. According to a Bureau of Justice Statistics Report entitled **Household Poverty and Nonfatal Violent Victimization, 2008–2012**:

In 2008–2012, persons in poor households had a higher rate of violent victimization involving a weapon (9.6 per 1,000) and a higher rate of violence involving a firearm (3.5 per 1,000) compared to persons above the Federal Poverty Level(FPL). The rate of violence involving a weapon decreased as households moved away from the FPL. For example, persons in high-income households had the lowest rates of weapon (2.8 per 1,000) and firearm (0.8 per 1,000) violence among all poverty levels. At each poverty level, the percentage of violence in which the offender had a weapon was lower than the percentage not involving a weapon. However, for persons in poor households, a greater percentage of violent victimizations involved a weapon (24%) compared to the percentage for persons in high-income households (16%).

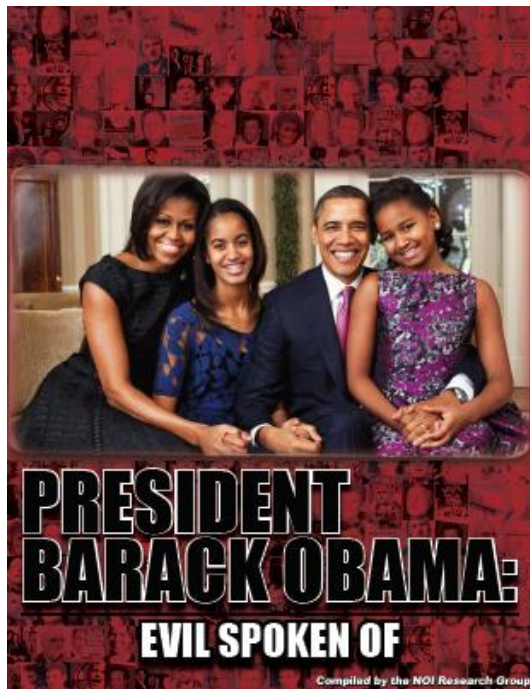
Mr. Fraser these facts present an important problem for your critique against Minister Farrakhan. Based upon your fallacious criticism of Minister Farrakhan and Chicago Black leadership, their work should have eradicated crime in Chicago. Yet you are an economist and businessman, yet **your work hasn't closed the wealth gap, nor has it eliminated the conditions of poverty that lie at the root of violent crime in Chicago and throughout America.**

But the truth of the matter Mr. Fraser is that Black men like yourself and others who work to bring about an improvement in the Black community are needed, precisely because of the failure of the government to adequately meet the needs of the Black community. So your work and the work of Minister Farrakhan is not intended or purposed to let the U.S. government "off the hook" in its duty and responsibility to the more than 40 million Blacks in America. This is the reason why we don't have "**white leaders**" because the white communities of America benefit from those in elected positions, thusly making those officials de facto "**white leaders.**" Whether Black or White, elected officials preside within and over systems that have been designed to benefit the whites of this nation, hence the frequently referenced concept of "white privilege". And it is the 8-year presidency of President Barack Obama that proves this point better than any other example.

For he, being the head of the executive branch of government, presided over a season of quite possibly the worst police misconduct and judicial failings ever witnessed this side of Reconstruction. And sir you cannot attribute his failure to Minister Farrakhan or any other Black leader -all of whom work against tremendous opposition, threats and financial constraints.

Dear Mr. Fraser, you act as if Minister Farrakhan has not been one of the foremost defenders and advocates of President Obama over the course of his presidency. Mr. Fraser, sir you were

on the stage as a participant of the **State of the Black World Conference** in New Orleans in 2008. You sat behind Minister Farrakhan when he said this to the thousands of conference participants invited by Dr. Ron Daniels



Barack is our blessing. Barack is America's blessing. Barack could be the world's blessing. He's the most popular Black man to ever arise among us, take it or leave it. I've never seen anything like this, have you? This is a phenomenon. It's God's hand there. Then if his hand is there, where's your hand? Where's my hand? Where's our hand?

If Barack opens up two and a half million jobs, his goal by 2011, over 10 million Americans are already unemployed, according to the latest statistics. Where will you be if he opens up two and a half million jobs, with us dropping out of school, not pre-pared? Can we take advantage of any opportunity that he opens? No. If he produces five million jobs in making a green economy, how many of us will be qualified to take advantage of what that young man can produce.

Don't knock this man, I'm telling you. He's not you. He's not me. He's not us. God made him special for a special reason and a special mission.

He was maneuvering through a minefield. Evidently, he maneuvered correctly.

He's gathered around him people we may not like them. What do we know? Good judgment is needed everywhere. Leave him alone. Watch him. Don't be an impediment. Watch him.

Not only did the Minister encourage this august body of elected officials; Black nationalists and activists to look favorably upon President-Elect Obama, but the Minister's Research Team published an E-book defending the president against the flood of racist and bigoted propaganda that Republicans and conservative groups spread throughout the country. The e-book entitled **Barack Obama: Evil Spoken of** sought to catalog the epic and never before seen disrespect of America's president by Americans.

Throughout President Obama's 2 terms Minister Farrakhan has offered to the President encouragement, guidance and stern rebuke and critique when it was warranted. Such are the actions of a mature man; such are the actions of a real brother; such are the actions of a true patriot.

Dear Mr. Fraser, if you want more of Minister Farrakhan's involvement in the reduction of crime in Chicago and other cities throughout America I can't blame you. So do I. But the way

to do it is to figure out a way to ensure that Minister Farrakhan's ministry is ear-marked a definite portion of the budget each year that is devoted to policing the city of Chicago.

The 2016 Budget for Police in Chicago is nearly 1.5 billion dollars. And at that spectacular amount, crime and violence continue at a brisk clip within America's 3rd largest city.

HOW FARRAKHAN SOLVED THE CRIME & DRUG PROBLEM...



Currently the Minister leads a volunteer corps of his devoted and committed male followers into the worst crime infested areas of Chicago. And the work done by the Minister and the FOI (Fruit of Islam) in Chicago is replicated all across the country. But Mr. Fraser, you are a businessman and you know that Minister Farrakhan's volunteer corps cannot be expected to do what the well-funded Chicago police are paid to do.

And yet there is a history of Minister Farrakhan's brothers of the FOI virtually eliminating crime and violence in high crime areas in communities where they establish a presence. And their effective crusade to eliminate crime and violence by presenting themselves as a moral force of men who courageously challenge violence on sight, while simultaneously serving as instructors, ministers, mentors and big-brothers to young men in the 'hood caught the attention of the national media.

During this time period this group of fearless brothers were known as the **Dopebusters**. Their fame spread and a mutually beneficial arrangement was met and the Muslim men were offered federal contracts to provide security on a full-time basis. An extensive history and analysis of the Dopebusters may be found here at the NOI-Research Group website: <http://noirg.org/articles/how-farrakhan-solved-the-crime-drug-problem/>. Unfortunately, Mr. Fraser, powerful and influential forces within the Jewish community have falsely labeled Minister Farrakhan an anti-Semite. Their influence and hatred of Minister Farrakhan resulted in Congressional hearings to end the Dopebusters ability to receive federal contracts to secure public housing complexes.

If you want to know what they have and what they continue to achieve by labeling our beloved Minister as such, just read the words of a memorandum entitled the **Legitimation of Louis Farrakhan**, produced by the Anti-Defamation League of B’Nai B’rith (ADL)

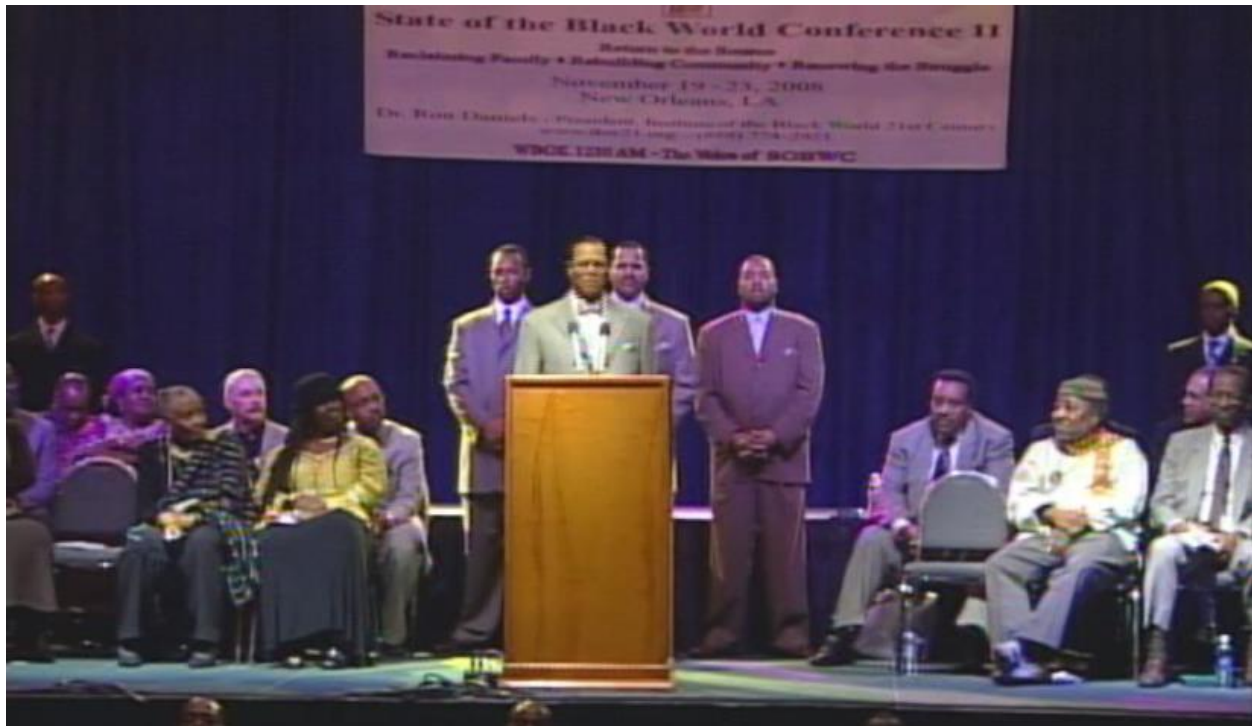
In 1994 the ADL drafted a briefing paper called Mainstreaming Anti-Semitism:

The Legitimation of Louis Farrakhan wherein they lamented that “mainstream” Black leaders and organizations were embracing their own Black brother-the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. Written by Steven Freeman in January of 1994, the document begins by noting that “Minister Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI) and long a voice of religious intolerance and racial divisiveness in this country, has recently attained a new level of acceptance among certain mainstream Black organizations and leaders. His “legitimation” has been reflected most notably by his participation last summer in the Parliament of the World’s Religions, his obtaining federal funds for NOI’s anti-AIDS efforts and the security services it has been providing at several federal housing projects, and his warm reception at the annual legislative meeting of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) last fall.... the black community in this country is wrestling with a desperate crisis situation in our inner cities--and when Farrakhan’s NOI is arguably filling a void for that community...”

And in an amazing flourish of arrogance and evil they prove they don’t give a damn about what is good for and beneficial to the Black community. Yes, after acknowledging Minister Farrakhan’s value in filling a void in the Black community, the ADL leadership discuss punishing any and all public figures who partner with or give a platform to the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan’s “void filling message.” In coded language Freeman writes: *“What we can and should do is impose an obligation on those who deal with him, or, as in the case of universities, give him a platform.”*

So just like the “Godfather” or any other mafia or gangster boss who says *“I am going to make you an offer you can’t refuse,”* the ADL leadership speak to one another in a coded language what is equivalent to a threat against the reputation and livelihood of anyone who will work with Minister Farrakhan.

Dear Mr. Fraser, this is the kind of sabotage and wicked interference that Minister Farrakhan is challenged to make progress in spite of. And by the grace and power of Allah(God), he makes tremendous progress. Add to this the 2007 revelation that the Homeland Security Department had essentially re-instituted J. Edgar Hoover’s COINTELPRO program against the Nation of Islam. So in addition to Jewish efforts to sabotage the Minister, one of the mightiest law enforcement agencies in the world had determined to spy on and infiltrate his movement.



Lastly, Mr. Fraser your words of folly against Minister Farrakhan are all the more egregious because during that State of the Black World Conference in 2008, Minister Farrakhan called upon you by name. It was in the closing portion of his message where he was giving guidance to all who follow him that we should not '*act like we know everything*', but that we should work with others, even those who disagree with us. He said 'on this stage are those whom we can't even lace up their shoes.' Pointing in your direction he said, "for economic development here is Mr. George Fraser [that we should work with]."

So before thousands of attendees who had come to receive guidance from the Minister, he endorses your work and directs the people to work with you and to support your initiatives. **In addition to that The Final Call Newspaper, which is published by Minister Farrakhan, has published 16 stories that contain positive mentions of your work and initiatives.** The point of citing this history is to show you Mr. Fraser that Minister Farrakhan has been a big brother to you. He has encouraged you and directed people to you and your products. For you to return the Minister's kindness, respect and brotherhood with insults and baseless criticisms is a great blow to your own integrity.

Mr. Fraser, sir, you owe Minister Farrakhan a sincere public apology. The failure to apologize to Minister Farrakhan may result in the further erosion on your own integrity and threatens to further damage your connection to the millions of young Blacks who have been magnetized around the Minister's message. Mr. Fraser, think about it and do the right thing.