

For Immediate Release:

14 July 2010

Mid South TEA Party Responds to NAACP Resolution Labeling TEA Party Activists as “Racist”.

The Organizers of the Mid South TEA Party unanimously denounce the NAACP’s resolution meant to “repudiate the racism of the TEA Parties”. We will not be intimidated. We will not fall in line to a political correctness dictated by their organization that has repeatedly worked to dictate the speech of others yet regularly overlooking the “plank” in their own eye.

The Mid South TEA Party cites their own efforts to reach out to the black community as far back as twelve months ago. This effort was not reciprocated in any manner and the hypocrisy of the NAACP resolution is blatantly clear when all the facts are considered.

During July of 2009, several attempts via phone were made to contact Dr. LaSimba Gray, pastor of New Sardis Baptist Church and president of the local chapter of the Rainbow Coalition. We encountered a MoveOn.org Memphis representative, “Pastor J.,” at the Memphis office of Senator Corker. In both cases, there was an attempt on our part to parlay a meeting in an effort to find common ground within our communities. We asked for a meeting with each of these men to articulate our motivations. Both men promised a meeting for this purpose. Neither meeting took place. Nevertheless, we have always remained open to individuals of any race.

When the majority of Americans embraced and elected a black candidate name Barack Obama for President of The United States, many people from all sectors of our society thought that a nefariously held barrier had fallen. Unfortunately, the barrier has only grown due to the over use of the “race card”.

We challenge the NAACP to clean up messes within the community they purport to represent before criticizing others. They should reverse their position and denounce the DOJ dismissal of the New Black Panthers voter intimidation case. They should admonish those that practice race baiting political opportunism while claiming to be leaders in the black community.

Furthermore, we challenge the black leaders in Memphis or on the national scene to meet with us in good faith. We are willing to work together to better understand one another to find common ground and to bridge the divides that exist among us. If these leaders refuse to meet, then it should be clear to all onlookers in which group racism flourishes and continues to undermine our community and nation.

Contact: info@midsouthteaparty.org

