

Justice or Else, Moving Forward.

Local Neighborhood Drug Dealers, you are not my enemy.

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Dedication

To Kendal Fenwick, his family and friends

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Brothers and Sisters

To those of us who are posted up on the corners of Black American neighborhoods and communities, in conversations, I jokingly refer to you as “unlicensed pharmaceutical distributors”. However the conditions that have created the social environments in which you and I must co-exist are no joking matter. I see you every day, young men and women as well as older folks hugging the block as if you love what you do, I pray to almighty God Allah that you do not love dealing death to our people. As I would like to think that my empathy with you is verifiable.

The empathy that I speak of is knowing and understanding the pain of experiencing and realizing the reality of the inner city Black American condition, the empathy of feeling hopelessness, powerless, dispositional, unrepresented and unprotected in all systems that govern the environments in which we live. The empathy of knowing that some of us are unknowledgeable of external events and actions that have had and have an effect on our environments as well you and I. The empathy of understanding some people are unaware of the responsibility and repercussions that personal choices and decisions can have a tremendous adverse effect on themselves and thus our communities and neighborhoods. We are all connected and locked into this reality of living until we exit human existence. By acknowledge that fact, you verify my empathy with you. You are not my enemy. You are my brothers and sisters in the experience of life.

We live within environments that attempt to put you and I at odds with each other. At this time in my life, I understand this “play” and the potential beneficiaries of such wicked movements.

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Trap'n

I grew up and was raised in West Baltimore where I started selling crack cocaine at the age of 16. For roughly two years I struggled with an addiction to dealing death in exchange for quick cash. Even as I continued attending school and maintaining a part time job, the lure of fast cash, status among my peers and street credibility enticed me.

I would like to tell you that my parents and mentors were the sole reason how and why I realized that a life of dealing drugs, hustling in the streets or “trapping” would either be a short living experience or a long time in prison. However what really opened my mind to the most likely end game of an extended drug dealing career were deaths and incarcerations of my friends, family members and “business associates”.

A lot has changed in Baltimore in the last 25 years since I was posted up on the corners of Black American neighborhoods. However unfortunately so many things have also either stayed the same or gotten worse.

Brothers and sisters, as a community, we've been dealing with the many drug related issues that really have very deeply rooted social-economic and political origins. What we see and experience today in the streets of Baltimore particularly in Black American neighborhoods is not brand new.

As I began my drug career in 1987 there were 445 homicides in Baltimore city, 75 percent of those who lost their lives were Black. Today as we near the end of 2015 Baltimore city is poised to exceed 300 homicides before 2016.

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Kendal Fenwick

On Monday night November 9th 2015 a young man, 24-year-old Kendal Fenwick was gunned down. Community residents and police believe Mr. Fenwick was murdered because he was building a fence around his property to help keep his family and neighbor safe from violence particularly drug deals as we all know can very easily potentially go bad.

Mr. Fenwick was not a criminal, he wasn't in the game, not running the streets, and he wasn't trapping. In fact, Kendal Fenwick was a good family man, a working man, a thinking man and he was a leader in his community. Mr. Fenwick was setting an example on a personal level of how we as citizens can begin changing the culture of our communities. His death is tragic however it will not be in vain. We as citizens of Baltimore are charged with bringing Justice for Kendal Fenwick. Justice or else. The loss of Mr. Fenwick's life is call to consciousness for all of Baltimore and especially those of us living in inner city Black American communities. We are at war. Local neighborhood drug dealers, you are not my enemy. We are all in this together, we struggle together, and we live in these communities together.

The Time

Creating this article, I'm observing the people and events within this sphere of reality. It seems, the gears of this world's system are winding down. Strange things are happening. Like an old quartz battery operated watch or clock.

As the battery dies, odd things begin to occur. In some instances, the hands of the watch or clock may move slower and cause ones who depend on this device for accuracy to be behind schedule or simply late. In other cases, the hands of the device may move more rapidly than they should, causing those who look to this time piece to be ahead of schedule. Sometimes being early is just as bad as or even worse than being late. As my comedian friends tell me, "Timing is everything". Yet still in some occurrences as the clock battery dies, the hands of the device exhibit unpredictable and spontaneous behavior. The clock hands may jump forward or backwards by seconds, minutes, or even hours causing those

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who use this time piece to lose time or be out of sync. We must also consider that unless those who are using a time piece which has a dying battery realize that the battery is dying or better yet actually witness strange hand movements of the device, those ones may be completely oblivious to the fact that they have no idea of the real or exact time.

There are a few levels of understanding and awareness as to what is actually occurring when these strange things begin to happen. For instance, when some people notice the watch battery is dying, they may discard the watch entirely and possibly toss the device into the garbage. Others may attempt to simply insert a new battery into the watch and expect that to fix the problem of the clock's strange hand movements.

However, some realize that beyond the face of the watch they are unseen electronic and mechanical workings that control the moving hands of the clock.

Some of us are aware that within the inner workings of the watch electronic signals are converted into mechanical power to drive the gears which move the hands of the watch.

Local neighborhood drug dealers I know that some of you know the time.

Goals

My personal and professional experience and background have helped me to build two goals in business and in life.

Build a successful business and brand to develop products and services that will benefit and improve the type of neighborhoods from which I was raised by bringing economic empowerment and wealth to these communities

Establish wealth as well as financial freedom and economic independence for myself and my family.

I would very much like to say that one of these goals is always primary over the other. However honestly I will confess the status of these two goals constantly flip

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flop between primary and secondary as I move forward in my mind, thoughts and actions

Usually when I converse with people; friends, family, colleagues, etc., I express my interest in building and developing businesses within Black American communities and neighborhoods. The response from folks is typically the same; “There’s no money in Black American communities and neighborhoods”. Well we know that’s completely not true however there is no Black American economy in these neighborhoods so the money flows directly and almost instantly out of the hands of the community residents and into the pockets of community merchants who have no vested interest in these communities. Or the money flows directly and almost instantly to shops and stores that are located outside of the communities all together. Of course there are other variables involved such “Illegal pharmaceutical distributors”.

Within the last three years I’ve been developing a business strategy that will accomplish three goals.

Working with community residents to produce goods and services that can be “exported” outside of the communities thereby generating revenue that will flow back into these communities

Establish a Black American economy within these communities

Create an avenue for legal employment and good income as a better option to illegal and criminal practices

Some of the initial ideas have been:

Organize friends and family members to “legally” sell dinners, snacks, sauces and baked goods. This involves properly preparing as well as packaging and labeling the products. A challenge of course is dealing within legal constraints and regulatory requirements regarding food preparation and packaging.

A printing business which would consist initially of a few high quality direct to garment printers, a few high end 3D printers and 1 enterprise level multi

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functional printer. The business would be located within a inner city Black American community while servicing customers via the internet as well as offering delivery service of products within a 20 mile radius.

Call to Action

Local neighborhood drug dealers, verify my empathy with you. In Baltimore we have a election happening in 2016 for our next mayor. Vote if you are eligible. **In Maryland, individuals convicted of a felony are ineligible to vote while incarcerated, on parole, or on probation. However Voting rights are automatically restored upon completion of all supervised release. Ex-offenders should re-register to vote.**

“Yeah, this album is dedicated to all the teachers that told me I'd never amount to nothing. To all the people that lived above the buildings that I was hustling in front of that called the police on me when I was just trying to make some money to feed my daughter” “You know what I'm saying. It's all good baby baby”

Christopher Wallace (The Notorious B.I.G)

28 years ago, as a neighborhood crack cocaine dealer I was hustling and “trapping” in front corner stores and sub shops. I understand that part of the game. Local neighborhood drug dealers, be mindful of other person’s space and property. We are all in these communities together. We can respect each other.

Get legal. Local neighborhood drug dealers you are intelligent enterprising hustlers. Exercise your mind and create. I realize not everybody who is trapping wants to to stop however for those of us who are dealing and are looking for legal pathways to acquiring money and living in general, we are sometimes challenged to create those pathways ourselves.

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A Warriors Prayer

Local neighborhood drug dealers, we are all contained in this reality of living, together. You and I are in a war. You are not my enemy. Our enemy has propped and positioned us against each other and hopes that we destroy one another. You are not my enemy. You are my brothers and sisters in this existence of life.

I like any other human being would like to live a long life. As Dr. King said, "Longevity has its place". However in this war of life there have always been casualties along way.

Within in Black American communities we must begin to change the culture of Black Americans.

Black ancestral genes have not crossed oceans of time to give up and live as slaves to systems of dependency and death. No our ancestors brought fourth you and I so we could fight and die if necessary to create freedom, equality and justice for ourselves, our families and our people.

I have had conversations with folks who are wondering, who will tackle the immense issues Black folks are facing in our communities and neighborhoods, in our country as well all around the planet. My answer when conversing with Black people can usually be summed up in two words, "We are".

There exists a common belief that many of us who believe in a great creator rely solely on religion and God to somehow solve all the issues and problems facing Black people. This is a fundamental misunderstanding between those of us who practice or study a particular faith and others who have not been presented with enough scientific or actual evidence to support the acknowledgment or substantiate the idea of a supreme omnipotent deity vis-à-vis God.

"Faith without works is dead"

Sometime ago I asked myself the question, "What is faith"? After researching, studying, thinking and conversing with many different people I arrived to the conclusion that faith is the opposite of fact. I stand by that conclusion.

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Faith is defined by Wikipedia as:

A complete confidence or trust in a person or thing; or a belief not based on proof.

Those of us who believe in an almighty God i.e. a creator and maker of the original universe and master of “multiverses” do not expect for some magical, mystical or mythical being to pop into the existence of this reality and solve all the issues of Black people.

We know and understand that faith without works is dead. We in Black American communities must put forth the work to change the culture of Black Americans to a positive condition of being wealthy, healthy and happy.

My deepest condolences to the family of Kendal Fenwick.

I challenge us all to think.

Thank you,

William Danney

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Notes

WilliamDanney.com

The goal of WilliamDanney.com is to reposition, redesign and reengineer society for the betterment and advancement of human beings. This goal is being accomplished through processes properly educating people with accurate information.

The goal is based upon two fundamental beliefs.

1. One person can change the world. Through thought and action as well as feelings and emotions conveyed via power of personal awareness and self-expression a person can influence another. This power manifests in many different ways; through speech, writing, art, athleticism, and teaching, just to name very few. Through positive influence, we encourage, motivate and advance each other. Utilizing the idea of likeminded thinking and pooling our personal resources, we can accomplish great things well beyond our current (Farrakhan, -Hon. Minister)imagination.

2. The power of change begins within the individual. Personal change is completely a participatory self-engagement activity. The initial requirements are to conduct a self inventory of one's personal resources, the acknowledgement of one's strengths and weaknesses and the self understanding of what one believes in i.e. faith, God the future and the power of change.

Through awareness of one's self, creativity and expression we can reshape and redesign a better environment for ourselves, our children and families, our communities and the Human family.

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How you can be involved:

- Checkout the blog and spread the word.
- Check out our sister and brother sites and spread the word.
- The WilliamDanney.com project is currently completely self-funded. We have decided to monetize the blog utilizing ad campaigns. We ask that you please click an ad from the site. This small gesture will help us to continue creating and providing meaningful and good content.

We've added a "Take Action" button to the web site. You can also use this tool to show your financial support for the project and our goals.

Thank you so much,

Sincerely,

William Danney

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