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“The Look of Change: Reparations, Separation, and Nation Formation”

The murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many other Black American men and women recently have produced protests that are purposed to create change. What should that change look like? You hear that question posed often by the media to young and old Black Americans. Unfortunately, most Black Americans do not have a comprehensive vision concerning the look of change. BLM pundits and the old Civil Rights cadre see change as the fulfillment of unfulfilled requests from the 1960s. But we are now in the 21st century. Should not Black Americans have a new vision for change? This is supposed to be [*A Third Freedom*](#)—a final freedom with the promise of resolving all of Black America’s problems. What is the root of Black America’s problems? White Supremacy!

In deciding on the look of change, we must realize first that Black Americans represent a nation within the broader US nation. The larger nation continues to flourish parasitically from our essence. We all know from the Covid-19 Lockdown that Black Americans comprise a sizeable portion of the essential work force. Also, many key industries that make America a thriving and vibrant economy on a day-to-day basis (especially entertainment, sports, hospitality, etc.) suffered tremendously due to our forced absence under the lockdown. Reverse psychology is at the seat of a fundamental American lie, the truth of which is that Black Americans continue to be an essential life blood of the American economy—although economists and historians say that our importance has diminished due to automation and technology. On the contrary, we are at the center of the marginal production—either as producers or as consumers—that makes America a profitable enterprise. For this reason alone, White America does not want to see Black America disappear, and will do all within its power to hold Black America hostage to this parasitic relationship.

The second important realization for Black America when considering the look of change is that we seem to be under an illusion that we can con White America into sharing equally its economic, political, and other powers. Down through history, White America has used its brains and brawn to shape America (exploiting Black America in the process) to fulfill its needs as a world power. White America knows the dastardly deeds that it has done to us and to other non-White people of the world. That is why White America has every intention of ensuring that Black America and the non-White world never rise. White America cannot be certain that it has trained non-White people of the world sufficiently so that when the latter rise, they will not seek justice—that is, revenge. This is a logical White American fear.

A third critical realization must be that earnest change should be quick and transparent on the part of those who have done wrong: White America. Black Americans are the victims here, not the culprits. If White America truly wants change, then it is time to ante up. We see young and old White Americans in the streets protesting with Black Americans. But which White Americans want genuine change? Not many. For change to occur and for equality to be had, all that White America has to do is to transfer to Black Americans some of the wealth that the former is hoarding. Thus far, this is not an acceptable variable in the change equation for White America.

The fourth crucial realization is that “[All it Takes is One.](#)” That is, even if Black and White America were able to reconcile peaceably today, both groups would live perpetually under the dark shadow of history. Because of history, at any time, a White or a Black individual could recall history and plot to restore White Supremacy or to seek justice for the injustices that were endured during slavery, Jim Crow, and the post-Civil Rights Movement eras, respectively. Consequently, the potential for crises of this nature makes Whites and Blacks living together in America in a “free” and “equal” state an untenable, nondurable, and unstable equilibrium.

Given these realizations, what should change look like? The answer is “reparations, separation, and nation formation for Black America.” The current push toward change should motivate Black America to assemble a strategy for this type of meaningful change.¹ This is the type of change that we have never tried—although it has been, and is being, called for by great Black leaders.²

There is a balm in America, and it is the Federal land that can support Black American nation formation. The Trump Administration has taken to divesting of sizeable portions of Federally owned land. Black America, with the blessings of Native American people, should seek to halt those sales, and rush to claim some of the land for nation building. If the land has to be purchased, then Reparations for Black America represents a route for sealing the deal. And if this does not come to pass, then sizeable contingents of Black Americans should move to occupy states that are sparsely populated by White Americans, thereby generating a *defacto* Black American nation.³

All indications are that it is time for change. Black America must be clear about what the change should look like. We should be careful to not permit the media or any other force to reroute, elongate, or peter out the change. Instead, we should assemble quickly and formulate a wise strategy for change that produces true freedom in a new nation. After over 400 years in America, do not we deserve our own nation? Should not we want something for ourselves that we can call our own? No doubt, our destiny is change, and it looks like reparations, separation, and nation formation.

B. B. Robinson
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¹As a starting point for formulating a strategy, consider “Point Zero Nation Formation,” which is Chapter 3 of *Chosen: Black America’s Calling*; <https://www.amazon.com/CHOSEN-Americas-Brooks-Robinson-Ph-D/dp/1450548210>.

² Marcus Garvey, Elijah Muhammad, and Malcolm X are historical examples of those calling for Black American separation and nation formation.

³ In connection with this strategy, see “[More Than a Conqueror: One Black American Strategy.](#)”