



BlackEconomics.org®

WVON

Atiba Buchanan Show

December 16, 2025

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM CST

Hosts: Atiba Buchanan and LaDonna Raeh

Guest: Dr. Brooks Robinson, Founder & Chief Contributor
BlackEconomics.org; www.BlackEconomics.org
BlackEconomics@BlackEconomics.org

*Rapporteur, Long-Term Strategic Plan for Black America
(LTSPFBA) Implementation Team (IT)*

Program Topic: “Reasons for Black American (Afrodescendants) Leadership Failures”

[\https://www.BlackEconomics.org/BELit/fmobaalf121325.pdf, 337 KB].

Overview

This Analysis Brief discusses Black American leadership in historical and contemporary contexts, notes our unparalleled progress and leadership successes, but highlights selected reasons why our leadership has failed from time-to-time in big ways at critical junctures. It is a hardcore look at what could have been, while recognizing that our leadership often confronted a severe dearth of resources that contributed to leadership failures. It also discusses changing conditions in our changing world that will change leadership outcomes. Finally, it reveals what existing leaders would rather deny: That technology can enable the best forms of leadership—leadership where each person has a say in decision-making as opposed to relying on “representatives” to make favorable decisions on their behalf. It is common knowledge that, too often, those “representatives” do not have their constituents’ best interest uppermost in mind.

Detailed Talking Points

- Many Black and non-Black American scholars and laypersons have noted that *our post* bellum rise is unparalleled the world over. However, it is safe to say that most of us and other racial and ethnic groups believe that much progress has been left on the table during the period by Black Americans due to poor decision-making by our "leadership."
- There are innumerable individual cases of highly successful Black American leadership. However, the qualifier "individual" serves as a death knell to aggregate Black American leadership. The fragmenting power of recognizing "individuals" versus "the group," ensures against the arising of Black American "leadership" that can achieve a "critical mass" of physical support and resources to sweep all of Black America to self-identified finish line as victors.
- We have billionaire and non-billionaire entrepreneur successful leaders in the private sectors. At the same time we have many successful non-entrepreneurial public and private sectors leaders. However, these all constitute individual success.
- Classic Black Americans leadership failures include:
 - Our failure to take up arms against the our opposers immediately following the Civil War when the ratio of Slave State Whites-to-Blacks was about 2-to-1. At the national level it was about 6-to-1. Whites were tired after the war, we were the most valiant of fighters during the war, we had great incentive to fight for our freedom, and we could have controlled the most important and productive part of the nation had we gained control of the former slave states.
 - We rejected Abraham Lincolns offer to arrange for Black Americans to have our own nation state in what is now Central America after the Civil War. Black Elite Leadership rejected the idea out of hand with little-to-no discussions or negotiations.
 - We swallowed hook, line, and sinker the offer for "Integration" after the "Burn Baby Burn" period of the 1960s Civil Rights Movement. Integration has mainly been, and still is, a destructive exercise for Black Americans.
 - Before the mid-term elections of the Josphe Biden Presidency when Democrats controlled (held a majority) in the US Congress, our elite Black American leadership (Congressional Black Caucus) side- with the Democratic Party and opted to withhold efforts to push through Reparations-related legislation because the Democratic Party argued that doing so would jeopardize its chances of retaining control of the Congress.
- Why Ineffective Black American Leadership?
 - A dearth of resources (financial and nonfinancial, education and training, expertise, communications, commercial, etc.).

- One glaring dearth of resources is in the area of financial contributions for our political representatives who favor our opposers who can provide more financial benefits.
 - Elite capture (nepotism)
 - Colorism.
 - Leadership selection bias (light skin and higher than average income and wealth on an *a prior* or *expost* basis).
 - Materialism/Greed and the humiliation of falling.
- An Arriving New Black American Leadership Paradigm
 - More resources than before (better education and training)
 - More access and use of technology
 - More income and wealth
 - A more level playing field between Blacks and non-Blacks.
 - The use of technology is expected to render representative leadership obsolete or nearly so. A “purer democracy” stands to make our current definition of leadership obsolete, and to reduce substantially our use of traditional leadership models.

Conclusion

We are facing a new world that has already dawned. We do not have a moment to spare as we dash to lodge ourselves in place to help save ourselves and our world. Earth has been degraded mainly due to greed and an overemphasis on uninterrupted development and materialism. If we awaken to fight everyday using our innate knowledges, skills, and abilities along with the best available technologies, then we may have a chance to regain our rightful place under the warmth of the sun and on our unbelievably beautiful Earth home. Fortunately, our efforts to produce these outcomes should not be countervailed by failures from our leaders because we will all participate jointly in producing our desired outcomes.

BBR:121625