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Michael Jacoby Brown
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Organizer's Edge ▶

Introduction : Dr. Bernard Reese's thoughts remind me of the organizing principle of the [Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers](#) : *"Treat everyone with dignity and respect."*

A Different Worldview of Reality

-- Dr. Bernard Reese



Marcus Aurelius said, "Everything we hear is an opinion, and not a fact. And, everything we see is a perspective, and not the truth."

However, I believe almost everything we hear is an opinion, and not a fact. The late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan from New York said, "You are entitled to your own opinion. But you are not entitled to your own facts."

I often tell people that my wife and I can tiptoe through the tulips together, holding hand and hand, touching nose-to-nose, cheek-to-cheek, kissing lip-to-lip and don't see eye-to-eye. Yet, we continue to this day to be in love with each other after all these years together!

We as a people must learn how to disagree admirably without demoralizing, demonizing or dehumanizing someone who holds different opinions, beliefs, and truths than our own.

In addition, I believe almost everything we see is a perspective and not the absolute truth. In fact, our perspectives, opinions, truths and beliefs are predicated on what we hear and see in our own house, our lived experiences,

within our sphere of influence, and within our own house of worship or spiritual experiences.

All of the aforementioned elements shape our perspectives, opinions, beliefs and truths. And ultimately our perspectives, opinions, beliefs and truths are expressed in story, indeed are embodied in story.

Story is the chronicle of people coming together in a collective exertion to shape life in respect to values that they share together. The Jewish story is about the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob found in the Torah, the writings, the books of the prophets and the Rabbinic traditions. The Christian story is a story about Jesus Christ who was concealed in the Old Testament and revealed in the New Testament to reconcile humanity back to God. The white American story is recorded in the history of Europeans and their offspring colonizing the Americans for God, glory and gold. The black American story is the struggle of survival through blood, sweat, tears and dead echoed in songs, folklores, and the oral transmissions of an enslaved people and their descendants as they attempted to be human in the absence of humanity in American Society. No people in history is devoid of a story to tell, something to exclaim to self, their family, friends and foes alike, and to humanity about their lived experiences as they seek to discover their purpose for being. The story expresses our perspectives, opinions, beliefs and truths within our connective community to affirm our existence to the global community that because I am, therefore, we are or because we are, therefore, I am.

In conclusion, I believe that our perspectives, opinions, beliefs and truths are only our interpretation of our reality. And our reality becomes our story, but it is not absolute truth. Nobody can claim absolute truth because no one has infinite knowledge. Therefore, let us be respectful of other people's perspectives, opinions, beliefs and truths in order to make this world a better place for all of humanity!

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Reese

"Love Yourself & Let The World Watch!"

Dr. Bernard Reese is a native of New York City, New York. He is married to Mrs. Sandra D. Reese of Worcester, Massachusetts and is the father of five grown children; two sons and three daughters.

Dr. Reese is a retired assistant principal and teacher of mathematics in middle and high schools in North Carolina, New York City and Massachusetts. Dr. Reese serves as Senior Pastor of Framingham Church of God in Christ in Framingham, MA. He also is an adjunct professor at Worcester State University in Worcester, MA.

In addition, Dr. Reese is a dynamic, impassioned, and gifted professional speaker and educator; Dr. Reese is committed to empowering individuals as they undergo personal transformations through discovery of their authentic selves. A champion for equity and social justice, Dr. Reese promotes diversity and inclusion. Through keynotes, workshops, seminar, organizational, consulting and customized programs. Dr. Reese guides your educational, corporate, and religious organizations through a metamorphosis, increasing collegiality, productivity and profitability.

“Many people fixate on obtaining knowledge to gain information, but one’s ultimate goal for acquiring knowledge should be to become a catalyst for spiritual and social transformation.” --Dr. Reese

Dr. Reese is a graduate of the following schools:

University of Massachusetts Amherst, MA., Ed. D. in Educational Administration, Research and Policy. (Dissertation: Afrocentric Education in Urban Schools)

Westfield State University Westfield, MA., CAGS (Certificate of Advance Graduate Studies) in Education Administration.

Lehman College Bronx N. Y., M.Ed. Mathematics Education.

Shaw University Raleigh N.C. B. A. Mathematics Education.

Shaw Divinity School Raleigh, N.C., B. Th., (Bachelor of Theology).

Halifax Community College Weldon, N.C., A. A. in Secondary Education.
Champion International Paper Company, Roanoke Rapids, N.C.. Certificate,
First Class
“A” Journeyman

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Feedback Welcome

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Michael Jacoby Brown's story



Who else you will hear from... ..

We are just starting, but so far you can expect to hear what the following people are thinking:

Jessica Tang: Boston Teachers Union, AFT

George Luse of the Mass Teachers Assn,

Scott Reed with the PICO Network, ,

Cathy Howell, in Oregon and El Salvador, formerly with the AFL-CIO,

Caesar McDowell of the Interaction Institute for Social Justice,

Diana Bell of Community and Labor United,

David Hernandez of the California Education Assn,

Attica Scott, State Rep Louisville, Kentucky

Bob Van Meter with the Local Initiative Support Corporation in Boston,

Walter Davis, of the Tennessee, Health Care Coalition.

Debra Askenase, of Community Organizing 2.0,

Deb Fastino, of the Coalition for Social Justice in New Bedford, MA,

Rebecca Gutman, with SEIU-1199,

Tim Dean, of SEIU-1199,

Mary Ochs, long time organizer in Los Angeles

and others, hopefully, including YOU

Other Useful Links

<http://michaeljacobybrown.com/>

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