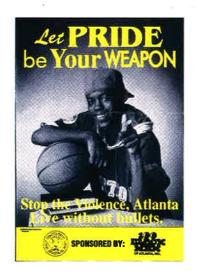
100 Black Men Wage Campaign To Stop Violence

Stop The Violence! The message is clear. Yet the violent crime rate among our African American youth is multiplying by the second. 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc. has taken heed to the need for violence prevention and has initiated Stop The Violence, a program designed to create awareness, demonstrate alternative solutions and increase conflict resolution skills, as well as advocate policies, legislation, regulations, and actions that lead to achieving non-violence in the African American community. "It's an issue that's taken too much of a toll on our students and young people. Our focus in the past has been educational, but violence has become so pervasive an issue we thought we would expand our efforts to include Violence Prevention as a part of our investment in our youth, "says Curley Dossman Jr., president-elect of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc.

Richard Bryd, co-chairman of the Stop The Violence campaign was quoted in an article in May of 1993 for the Chicago Tribune as saying, "In the last five years I looked at data and saw what violence is doing to our nation and particularly to black people. Like all urban areas in the U.S., Atlanta has been stricken by soaring violence and murder rates in the six years since the arrival of crack cocaine. The violence has hit the black community the hardest."





Standing in front of the first "Stop The Violence" billboard are Richard Byrd (1) and Curley Dossman (r).

"Our focus in the past has been educational, but violence has become so pervasive an issue we thought we would expand our efforts to include Violence Prevention as a part of our investment in our youth."

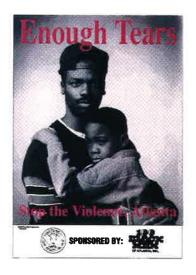
100 Promote Violence Awareness Through Outdoor Advertising Campaign

he awareness campaign was conceived in 1992 when Byrd, an executive of the U.S. Public Health Service, encountered Dr. John May. May like Bryd had an interest in antiviolence. May formed a company called Rise High Projects to create awareness and curb violence. Their meeting led to the use of promotional materials produced by May's company to create awareness for the Violence campaign for 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc. "It's just the right message, " Byrd said of the Rise High effort.

The kick-off of the Stop The Violence campaign took place in May of 1993. "Enough Tears, Stop the Violence" billboards were unveiled along Interstate 20 and in downtown Atlanta. The billboards featured 31-year old William Anderson, Jr. holding his 6-year old son William III. In addition to the billboard campaign, public service announcements ran on television using the "Enough Tears" image.

On July 20, 1993 the Stop The Violence committee made a video presentation entitled "Safety Nets for Children" for Women's Week at Providence Baptist Church. The video focused attention on the plight of children exposed to violence in their communities, and offers a resource for individuals dedicated to helping children survive these circumstances.

Currently, new billboards downtown and along the interstate, in addition to posters in Marta bus shelters have been unveiled. The message on the posters is "Let Pride Be Your Weapon, Live Without Bullets." Pictured is a young African American male smiling and leaning on a basketball balanced on three textbooks.



100 Sponsor Conflict Resolution And Peer Mediation Seminar

he 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc. launched the second phase of the Stop the Violence campaign with a Violence Prevention/Violence Resolution (peer mediation) information seminar on November 22,1993. Held at the Georgia Dome, attendees of the seminar included school officials from Atlanta, Clayton, Cobb, Dekalb, and Fulton County School Systems. Dr. Barbara Carey, Assistant Superintendent of Dade County School System and Director of Peacefully Resolving Our Unsettled Differences (PROUD), a violence reduction program, was the featured presenter at the seminar.

Attorney George Henderson of the Office of Technical Assistance of the Community Relations Service, U.S. Department of Justice also addressed what is occurring in violence prevention and conflict resolution around the nation. Henderson is a member of U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno's task force on violence.

"The seminar information session is a start down the road to finding permanent solutions for violence," stated Ozell Sutton, Chairman of Violence Prevention/Resolution Task Force of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Inc.