

National Black Church Initiative

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For Immediate Release

The National Black Church Initiative Condemns President Trump, Don Lemon of CNN, Rep. Frederica Wilson, And Gen John F. Kelly For the Morally Insensitive Political Mockery That They Made Of Sgt. La David Johnson's Death

Death is the business of the Church

Washington DC – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, like most of America watched in horror how the President of the United States bumbled the condolences expression to the widow of Sgt. La David Johnson, Mrs. Myeshia Johnson at her most vulnerable state. Death is the business of the Church because Christ overcame death, therefore the Church has the most effective message concerning death and has over 2,000 years of relaying human death to their loved ones.

It is unforgivable for a President, who has enormous access to any major Church leaders, to bumble such a sensitive expression of condolences to anyone. He could have chosen any method in doing so. He could have even chosen the time, giving himself enough time to rehearse, pray and deliver a very clear and thoughtful heartfelt message of condolences to Sgt. Johnson's vulnerable widow, Myeshia.

Rev. Anthony Evans, President of the National Black Church Initiative says, “Like all clergy I was horrified to witness such a horrendous display of men and women, who possessed no grace in dignifying the sacrifice of Sgt. Johnson and the dignity of death. We want to express our sincere condolences in Christ to his widow and his entire family and pledge to all that the Black Church will do everything in its power to bring some dignity and sacredness to the expression of death. A charge which God has given only to the Church. Howard Thurman, who is a philosophical theologian of the Black Church, says that there is dignity and honor in death and it also counts on how you died. Sgt. Johnson died honorably and with dignity.”

The Church also condemns Representative Frederica Wilson who utilized that sacred moment that she was privy to, as a political opportunity to condemn the President for his bumbling of the expression of condolences. The world had no right to peep in, in that moment because of the depth of grieving and vulnerable state of the widow. Representative Wilson sought to exploit that moment of grief to her political gain. The Black Church will not allow anyone, even a Black Congresswoman to exploit the widow and bash the President over the memory of that young man who gave his life for his country.

Don Lemon on the other hand, a reporter from CNN, where both he and his network has it out for the President, was all too happy to showcase his sanctimonious moral tenure on the mistake of President Trump in expressing his condolences to the widow in such a fashion. Mr. Lemon is a confessing homosexual who wants to tell the world that he is the moral barometer of our society. The Black Church says no, he is not.

General Kelly who sought to clarify the procedures of the army when it comes to expressing condolences to a loved one, took a grand opportunity to attack Representative Wilson because he felt that the sacredness of the army was at stake. He was wrong on two ends. The army is not the organization to define the decency of notification and death, it is the Church. Secondly, he sought to utilize a teachable moment by trying to justify the abhorrent behavior of President Trump and he failed.

About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino Churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI’s mission is to provide critical wellness information to all its members, congregants, Churches and the public. Our methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science.

NBCI’s purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-

box and cutting-edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at www.naltBlackChurch.com.