

Honoring The Rev Dr.
Martin Luther King Jr

Jan. 17 - Jan. 20

Peace March/Rally
Jan. 20 - 10am

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THE MINORITY VOICE

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2000 Census Proved Inaccurate

2000 Census Missed Some
1 Million Black, Latino
Children

Washington (AP).....
Black and Hispanic children,
particularly those in urban areas,
make up a disproportionately
high percentage of the 1.1
million kids missed by the 2000
census, according to newly re-
leased government estimates.

Those children account for about
half the undercount, but made up
only about one-third of all US
children. Los Angeles County
and Cook County, Ill., which
includes Chicago, were among
the places with the highest
minority undercounts of children
and adults. Sparsely populated
rural counties across the West
and Midwest also had some of
the highest rates of people
missed.

The data, released by the Census
Bureau under court order,
showed that about 3.3 million
people were missed nationwide,
or about 1.2% of the entire
population.

California, the most populous
state, had the largest "under-
count", 509,012, while Alaska
had the highest percentage of
people missed, 2.4% or 15,136
residents. Rep. William Lacy
Clay, who supported the data
release, said Americans "deserve
to have the most accurate census
data available."

"It was unfortunate that we had
to fight so hard to get this
information, but now that we
have, I hope we can use it to its

fullest advantage," said Clay,
D-Mo. The newly released data
was based on bureau research
done through March 2001.
Preston Jay Waite, an associate
census director, said more study
done since then shows the
national net undercount may
be reduced to less than one-
tenth of 1%. Waite said they
have not completed their addi-
tional research, though it may be
released in the future.

"The fact that the census was so
accurate and the adjusted data
had serious flaws" make the
adjusted data useless, Waite said.
"We envision no official use of
this file."

The government takes a census
every 10 years. The bureau
sends census takers and ques-
tionnaires to every U.S. house-
hold, though not every one
responds.

The bureau tabulates the results
and sends them to federal social
service agencies, which use them
to determine how to allocate
billions of federal dollars to each
state for Medicaid, foster care
and other social service pro-
grams.

The census also reallocates U.S.
House seats based on population
changes. After the 2000 count,
the Census Bureau used mathe-
matical formulas to estimate
how people were missed, a
population termed the "under-
count". A 1999 US Supreme
Court ruling bars the use of
those adjusted numbers for re-
apportioning congressional seats.
Typically, census-takers follow-

ing up with people who did not
return a form encounter more
difficulty getting into locked city
apartment buildings, where
more minorities tend to live.
People who live in apartments
tend also to be younger, have
young children and move more
often. Rural households get
missed because it may be diffi-
cult to find the home. Some
undocumented immigrants may
choose not to fill out their form,
even though the census does not
ask about legal status.

People who are counted twice
include college students and
people with two homes. Demo-
crats, big-city politicians and
civil rights groups have
charged that many communities
are being shortchanged govern-
ment funding because of large
numbers of their residents were
missed in the original count.

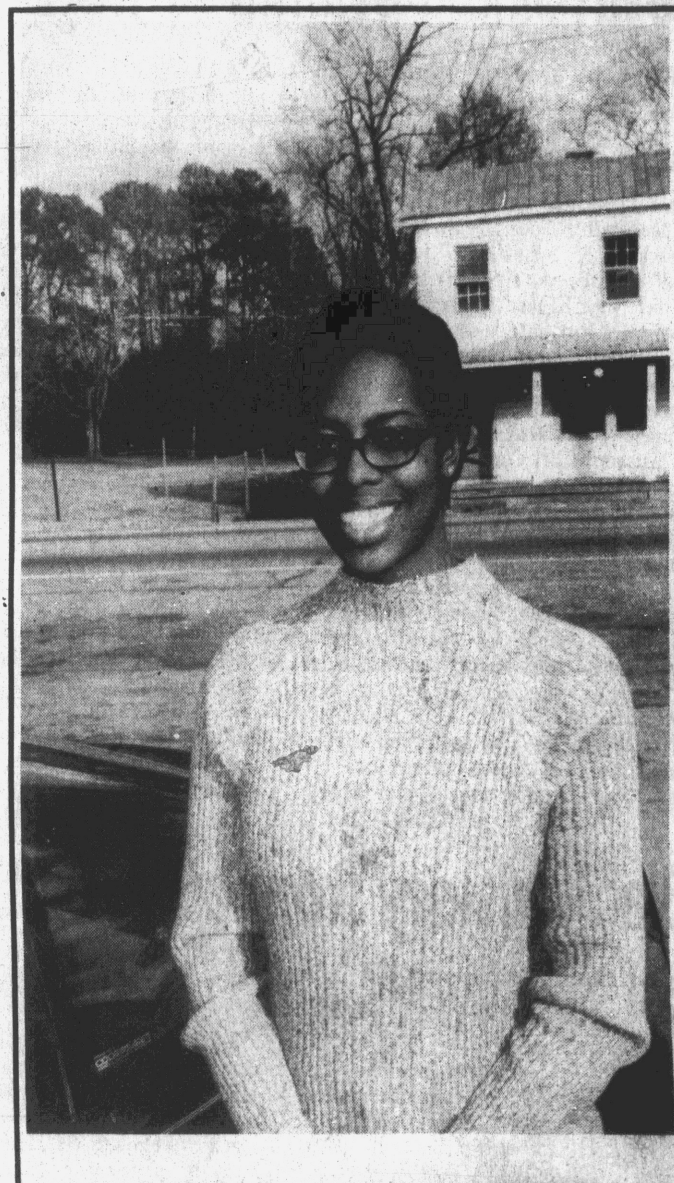
Larry Jones, assistant executive
director of the US Conference of
Mayors, had not seen all the data
but said he was not surprised
that urban areas had the biggest
undercounts. "We will see if
this is a valid, good assessment
of the undercount and take into
account what the bureau said
about its flaws," Jones said.

Opponents of adjusted data,
mainly Republicans, have said
the complicated statistical meth-
ods used to determine the under-
count would add more error into
a census that the bureau deemed
to have one of the lowest
national undercount rates ever.
Critics also have said that while
adjustment counts may not allo-

cate people to the proper neigh-
borhoods because the formula is
less accurate on the local level.

"Any estimates of population or
funding will be useless and as
fatally flawed as the numbers are
themselves," said Rep. Dave
Weldon, R-Fla., chairman of the
House Government Reform
Committee's census panel.
Nearly 29% of the children
missed were black, a dispro-
portionately high figure since blacks
make up only 15% of all kids.
Hispanics were about 20% of
the child undercount, slightly
higher than the 17% of the
overall child population that
they constitute.

Nationally, about 45% of those
children missed were white, less
than their 60% share the total
population of children. There
was also a slight overcount of
Asian children. State and local
lawmakers may--if their laws
allow--use the adjusted data to
redraw municipal political dis-
tricts or to reallocate billions in
government dollars controlled by
states for things such as school
construction and social services.
The Census Bureau in March
2001 estimated there was a net-
undercount of about 1.2% of the
total population. It also said
then that undercounts were more
prevalent among blacks,
Hispanics, Native American and
Pacific Islanders, than among
whites and Asians.



ECU graduate Yolanda Thigpen is all smiles on the day. This beautiful black woman received her degree and now its on to her masters degree. Yolanda, who is from Princeville, North Carolina, where the black folks own their land and homes, where it was created for black folks to live in their own communities. Rise Up Black Sisters
Staff Photo: J. Rouse

I came to see for the first time that
the Christian doctrine of love, op-
erating through the Gandhian
method of nonviolence, is one of
the most potent weapons avail-
able to an oppressed people in
their struggle for freedom.
Martin Luther King Jr.



"Bountiful Christian Gift Shop, Tarboro."
Shown above is Sister Rogers, who owns the Bountiful Christian
Gift Shop in Tarboro, North Carolina. Sister Rogers gave the M'Voice
Newspaper a tour of her lovely shop, where you can get all your gift
and church supplies. Bountiful Christian Gift Shop is located on Main
Street in the downtown area of Tarboro. Sister Rogers and staff
invites all her friends from the community to stop by and visit. They
have everything from bibles, Gospel CDs, cassettes, and videos.
Staff Photo: J. Rouse



"C.M. Eppes Alumni Gathering....."
Shown above are members of the C. M. Eppes Alumni; which was
the all black high school here in Greenville, NC. If you can name the
above members, you could win a CD compliments of WOOW Joy
1340 & YOU MIGHT !! Win a trip to the Bahamas.....(ha ha ha).
Staff Photo: J. Rouse

NO RIDERS TODAY

There comes a time when
people get tired of being
trampled by the iron
feet of oppression.

Martin Luther King Jr.

The Pitt County Chapter of the SCLC will be hosting its annual
celebration honoring the life and accomplishments of Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr., Sunday, January 19, 2003 and Monday January
20, 2003 at Philippi Church of Christ, 1610 Farmville Blvd.,
Greenville, NC. The celebration will begin with the Theme
Address on Sunday at 6 pm and conclude on Monday with a Peace
March/Rally at 10 am, the Youth Talent Showcases at 1 pm, and
the MLK Feast at 4 pm. Youths do not need to pre-register for the
Talent Showcases, just come prepared to perform. All events are
free and open to the public. For more information contact the Pitt
County Chapter of the SCLC at 905 Cherry Street, Greenville or
call them at 252.757.1599.

ECU Plans Events to Recognize Work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A civil rights activist who led sit-ins at a lunch counter in a
Greensboro department store in 1960 will be among the speakers
participating in programs at ECU on Jan. 15 & 20 to
recognize the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Franklin E. McCain of Charlotte was among the original four
black students from North Carolina A & T College who were
refused service at a Woolworth's department store lunch counter on
Feb. 1, 1960. The store's lunch counter provided food service only
to white customers and not to blacks.

McCain, a retired textile chemist, will discuss his experiences
with civil rights on Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 7 pm, in Mendenhall
Student Center's Hendrix Theatre. The program is free and the
public is invited.

Dr. Lawrence M. Clark will give the second Martin Luther King
presentation on Jan. 20 at 7 pm, in the Great Room in Mendenhall
Student Center. Clark is a former associate provost and
mathematics professor at North Carolina State University. He
helped to establish NCSU's West Africa Initiative that promotes
collaborative research and study between NC State and three
universities in Ghana.

Dr. David Dennard, an ECU history professor and the chairman
of the ECU MLK Committee, said the speakers will offer their
perspectives on milestones in civil rights during the 1950's and
'60's and on developments that have taken place since.

A candlelight vigil in remembrance of King will be held before
the Jan. 20 presentation. The vigil will start at 6pm at the top of
College Hill Drive on the ECU campus. Participants will march
from College Hill to the student center for the MLK Day address
by Clark.

The sit-in at the Greensboro department store lunch counter is
considered one of the most important events in civil rights history
because it spawned a national movement that ultimately brought
down segregation in the South. McCain, along with Joseph
McNeil, David Richmond and Ezell Blair, Jr., were students at NC
A & T and lived in the same residence hall when they defied the
whites-only policy at Woolworth's. Other downtown restaurants in
Greensboro had similar policies.

McCain emerged as the organizer of the demonstration. He
was quoted in the Greensboro News and Record on the first day of
the sit-in as saying, "We like to spend our money here, but we
want to spend it at the lunch counter as well as the counter next to
it."

After six months of protests, the store integrated its lunch
counter on July 25. The original faded Formica lunch counter and
four '50s-era stools went on display in the Smithsonian in 1995.

ECU holds programs annually in observance of the birthday of
Martin Luther King Jr.
An MLK Observance Committee, the Ledonia Wright Cultural
Center, the Office of Intercultural Student Affairs, the Student
Union Cultural Awareness Committee and the Alpha Phi Alpha
fraternity sponsor the programs.