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Jabar testimony

1 message

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To: county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov

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Giving honor and praise to the one true and living God. I am here both professionally and personally to speak on the Montgomery County social justice and Racial Equity policy proposal. I am the executive director of Racial Justice NOW! an 8 year old non profit organization started in Dayton Ohio, that works around the intersections of racial justice and education Justice.

Racial Justice NOW! hosted two community listening sessions to hear from the community about the proposed policy. The results were submitted to the Montgomery County website as instructed.

I am Hashim Ali Jabar and my cultural title and attribute is OdoKhan-EL. I was born in Prince George's county hospital on September 23 of 1978 and given the slave name, Quinn Ryan Foster. I have lived in Montgomery county since July 2017 as a renter and my father has lived in Takoma for many years as a renter.

In this brief time that I have, the thesis of my testimony is: if you don't atone and address the wrong doings of the past, you will not have a social justice and racial equity policy, you will have a social policy.

It is an honor to be present and to have this opportunity to go on the record as a descendant of enslaved Africans in the documented 400th year of our prophesied enslavement in the Bible in the same state of Maryland, where my great grandmother Fanny Riedoubt was kidnapped and enslaved around 1880.

Fanny Riedoubt was born a Free woman here in America and was kidnapped in this state and taken to west virginia. She later escaped after her second attempt bringing with her my great grandfather, originally named Benjamin Moore, later named John Jamison Moor. His name was changed, because Fanny carried a secret and the secret was that she was a Black Jew (as commonly known) but more properly said she was a Moorish Hebrew with family in New York that started the Moorish Zionst Temple of Moorish Jews in the 1890s. She kept her religion and judaic practices secret due to the religious oppression of the catholic church, the Jesuit missionaries and the Spanish inquisition.

John Jamison Moore became Bishop J.J. Moore in 1862 of the AME Zion denomination. He started the first "negro" school on the Pacific coast, the first AME Zion Church west of the Mississippi and later started the Zion Church for orphans and widows in 1875 in Philadelphia.

We are indigenus to this land and have been for hundreds of years. Columbus saw men and women that look like me and labeled us Indians, when we are Moors, Washitaw Moors, Asiatics.

Regarding the proposed policy, I could talk about the human trafficking of my people here in Maryland, or education and the fact that U.S. law forbid our people to read, I could address the racist disrespect of our burial sites, but I will focus on housing.

According to community members, there are many disagreements between renters and home owners and unfortunately Montgomery county practiced recial discrimination against GIs coming home from war and therefore many became homeowners while other veterans became impoverished and punished for their race or blackness of their skin.

So essentially todays homeowners sit on land that was denied to others based on injustice, racism, and anti-Blackness hate.

The thesis of my testimony is: if you dont atone and address the wrong doings of the past, you will not have a social justice and Racial equity policy, you will a social policy.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone