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Tragic train derailment affects the Human Race

by Robert L. Woodard
The Wynnefield Barber

Imagine what those innocent world travelers must have felt the moment they realized the train was derailing in Port Richmond. Even though you may not directly know anyone on that train, you knew everybody aboard. As Human Beings, when these things happen, we as a "Human Family" come together to understand that we are all of one family on this planet. Yes, as Human Beings, we are related at birth. My heart goes out to all who have lost loved ones on that train and my thoughts and emotions join our Human Race in prayer so that the survivors of this tragedy will be healed despite this disastrous ordeal.

There were young people on that Amtrak train who came from all over the world. In every direction from which they have come – to all parts of the globe – we send our condolences. I thank President Barack Obama and his wife Michelle Obama for their understanding of how we feel as a "Human Race" in regards to our fellow men and women aboard that train.

We have a built-in connection with each other as one Human Family. My question is this: *Why then can't we understand this before there is a disaster?* I believe that practice makes perfect, but if we don't practice being one Human Race, we will continue to go back to our normal way of thinking in everyday life – that there is more than "One Race." After hearing the important message from President Barack Obama and family, I realize how much we as a Human Race need each other.

On April 4, 1968, our beloved Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassi-

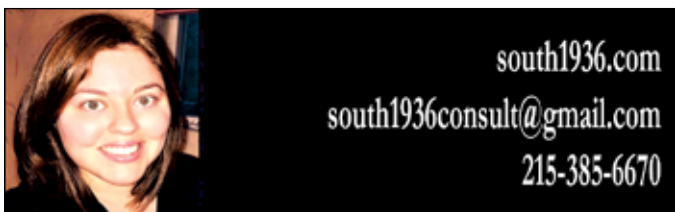
nated by hateful people who did not want to see individuals come together as "One Race." Dr. King's mission touched the lives of millions of people around the world. He also changed the way many people feel about the word "Race." My question to people all over the world is this: *How do you, as a Human Being, view the word "Race?"* Is "Race" a singular or plural word to you? The answer to this question will help to describe and open the door to one's mind in showing you how one thinks and feels about the word "Race." How we feel about the word "Race" can be a healing force in an ailing society. In my shop and Barbershops all around the world, the question of "Race" always comes up.

Taking the "RACE Test" is something that I'd ask of all political servants of the people – from President Barack Obama to Governor Chris Christie – and to all citizens and public servants in every country on Planet Earth.

The train derailment that took place here in Philadelphia has made world news. Let's take this time to understand that *positive energy* is a *negative energy deterrent*. What we do to deter negative energy in this case is to realize that Human Life is the most valuable natural resource on Earth.

In September, Pope Francis will visit Philadelphia. I look forward to his comment on the railroad derailment and how it affected people all over the world. It is my prayer that the Pope and every person on Earth take the "RACE Test." It should not take a disaster for Human Beings to practice healing in this ailing society.

Take the "RACE Test" today at www.BarbershopTalkHFD.org. PRH



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