

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- Part way through the video Ms. Owens describes what it was like being raised by her grandparents, and shares with us that, “I didn’t like the Bible readings and I hated the chores. But I realize now that these small acts of discipline, although sometimes stifling, had a strong, positive impact on my character.” In what ways, specifically, do you think that the discipline Ms. Owens was compelled to comply with contributed to positively developing her character? How might the values that Ms. Owens’ grandparents passed on to her have equated to her maturation and wisdom?
- After sharing with us the bleak condition that she was left in after finishing college, Ms. Owens states that, “I could have given up. I could have dug deep into my history and declared myself a natural product of ancestral oppression. I could have played the black card and absolved myself of all responsibility for my own stupid decisions. Except I didn’t. Because it would have destroyed my grandfather’s legacy.” What do you think Ms. Owens means when she states that she would have destroyed her grandfather’s legacy? Why do you think that others in similar circumstances to Ms. Owens choose to play the Black Card rather than to honor their own family legacies? Explain.
- Ms. Owens goes on to note that, “My attitude comes with a price, however. Because if you are born black and you don’t accept your natural status as a victim, then the validity of your blackness is immediately called into question.” What do you think Ms. Owens means by ‘natural status as a victim?’ Why do you think that this is the case? What factors do you think have contributed to this mentality still being so prevalent in the black community?
- Towards the end of the video, Ms. Owens explains that, “I also don’t want Cornel West, Al Sharpton or insert-anyone-else who uses their skin color to game the system as a role model. I already have my grandfather. If there is one thing I that my family history has taught me, it’s that I do not need a black card or an imaginary anything to make something of myself.” Why was her grandfather a much better role model for success for Ms. Owens than anyone who has used the Black Card? How might others, who don’t have a grandfather like Ms. Owens,’ learn the valuable lesson of not needing the Black Card in order to be successful?
- At the end of the video, Ms. Owens gives us an update on her grandfather and concludes that, “His story is unique. His story is beautiful. Because it’s American. And that’s the only card I’ve ever been interested in playing.” Why do you think that Ms. Owens values her ‘American Card’ over her ‘Black Card?’ Do you think that Ms. Owens should value her American Card more? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Maxine Waters

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the articles “After Heated Floor Debate, MLK’s Niece Says Maxine Waters Is ‘Playing the Race Card Again’” and “That’s about enough of Maxine Waters’s race-baiting nonsense,” then answer the questions that follow.

- What was Dr. Alveda King’s criticism of Maxine Waters? What was Maxine Waters debating when getting into a tiff with Representative Kelly? What did Congressman Kelly admonish Maxine Waters to do? What was Maxine Waters’ response? What does Mr. Cain accuse Maxine Waters of doing when lacking any credible evidence of racism? How many years had Maxine Waters been a politician? What does Mr. Cain claim in regards to Maxine Waters using the Black Card, in terms of her success?
- In what ways does Maxine Waters play the Black Card? Why do you think that other prominent black figures denounce Maxine Waters’ use of the Black Card? Do you think that Maxine Waters would ever value the American Card over the Black Card? Why or why not? Do you think that Maxine Waters would be a good role model for young black women? Why or why not? Who might be a better role model than Maxine Waters for young black women and why?
- Do any parts of either article support what the presenter in the video was stating? If not, why not? If so, which parts of which articles support which of Ms. Owens’ points?



QUIZ

PLAYING THE BLACK CARD

1. How can a person get the “black card” Ms. Owens references?
 - a. You have to have an excellent credit score.
 - b. You have to be born with black skin.
 - c. You have to own a home.
 - d. You have to be part of the middle class.

2. What can you do with a “black card”?
 - a. Shake down multinational corporations.
 - b. Torch your own neighborhood.
 - c. Sell books full of indecipherable prose.
 - d. All of the above.

3. Candace Owens’ grandfather frequently played his “black card,” because of the racism he experienced in North Carolina.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. If you are born black and you don’t accept your natural status as a victim,
_____.
 - a. you can still keep your black card
 - b. then the validity of your blackness is immediately called into question
 - c. you are heralded as trailblazer
 - d. opportunities for success in life multiply exponentially

5. Who does Ms. Owens want as a role model?
 - a. Al Sharpton
 - b. Cornel West
 - c. Oprah Winfrey
 - d. Her grandfather



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<https://ijr.com/2018/05/1095168-alveda-king-maxine-waters/>

After Heated Floor Debate, MLK's Niece Says Maxine Waters Is 'Playing the Race Card Again'

JENNI FINK | MAY 15, 2018 | 11:57 AM



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s niece, Dr. Alveda King, said Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) was “playing the race card” during a heated floor debate with Rep. Mike Kelly (R-Pa.) over perceived racism with lending in the auto industry.

King told host Neil Cavuto during an interview on Fox Business' “Cavuto: Coast-to-Coast” that Waters is on “the wrong frequency” and agreed with Kelly.

She said Kelly was correct in arguing that the whole nation “needs help” and is “in trouble,” and she added that Waters is “playing the race card again.”

King quoted her uncle, who said, “We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools,” and explained the only way to do that is to get past the “skin color argument.”

“Our blood is red,” she told Cavuto. “We are made of one blood. Of one blood God made all people to live together on the face of the earth.”

She contended that “skin color does not the person make” and reiterated that instead of calling for unity, Waters is playing the race card.

While in Washington, D.C., King told Cavuto that she's had people of varying skin hues compliment President Donald Trump's administration for the job it's doing.

“I can get a mortgage now, my mother can move in with me,” she shared people have told her. “More people are really working across the board regardless of skin color.”



Gage Skidmore/[Flickr](#)

During the floor debate about perceived racism in the auto industry in regard to lending, Kelly told Waters to “stop talking about discrimination” and start focusing on the nation as a whole.

“Don't you dare talk to me like that,” she said, and Fox Business reported she added that she was “offended as an African-American woman” by his comments.

King didn't dispell the possibility that racism still exists in lending but encouraged people to educate one another and ensure measures are enforced to prevent minorities from being given higher rates just because of their skin color.

“It's the hostility, it's the ugliness, it's the vitriol that I don't agree with,” she explained. “Stop dividing the country with the race card, that's my problem.”

<https://canadafreepress.com/article/thats-about-enough-of-maxine-waterss-race-baiting-nonsense>

That's about enough of Maxine Waters's race-baiting nonsense



By Herman Cain — — Bio and Archives--*May 15, 2018*



Whenever black Democrats do not have a factual or credible argument to claim racism, they just go ahead and claim it anyway. This happened recently on the floor of the House of Representatives, during an exchange between U.S. Rep. Mike Kelly (R-Pennsylvania), and U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-California).

Kelly was defending the automobile industry, of which he is a part through his family business ties. Waters was claiming his industry was guilty of racist practices. This is typical of black Democrats who have no credible information. They know they are unlikely to be challenged because white people find it uncomfortable to disagree with blacks claiming racism.

Well! I'm not white, and I'm not uncomfortable!

When she realized she had no credible evidence, she does what liberals do. She shifted the subject to attack President Trump. Remember, she has repeatedly called for the impeachment of President Trump, without

offering any shred of evidence to back up her call, apart from the simple fact that she does not like him being president.

Maxine! Get over it! No matter how much you and other liberals talk about the popular vote that Hillary supposedly won, the Constitution doesn't provide for that to make her president. Oh, I forgot! You and your ilk do not care about the Constitution. You just want to have it your way, even if it has no constitutional or factual basis.

Maxine Waters is in her 28th year as a congresswoman for the 43rd District of California, after serving 14 years in California's state assembly. I think a total of 42 years in politics would classify her as a career politician. This means she is skilled at political messaging, even if it is not true. And if that doesn't work, then she and others play the race card.

Rep. Kelly, you are just the latest to be attacked by her divisive racist rhetoric. This is a tactic she has used to lull her constituents to sleep, and away from substantive issues and facts, while she uses it to get media attention and get re-elected.

Not all black people believe Maxine Waters's divisive racist crap, and I'm one who does not. So Rep. Kelly, be strong and keep speaking out!