

From: OnPoint! with Cynthia Hardy <info@onpointwithcynthia.com>
To: Mayer, DougDougMayer@gov.sc.gov
Date: 1/15/2015 3:58:14 PM
Subject: South Carolina's Troubled Foster Care System

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This week on the TV show

OnPoint! on WACH

South Carolina's Troubled Foster Care Program Faces New Challenges

Child-welfare activists have filed a lawsuit in federal court claiming that widespread problems in South Carolina's Foster Care system have endangered thousands of children.

Eleven foster care children were listed as plaintiffs in the lawsuit, filed in Federal court in Charleston. The lawsuit cited three "specific unaddressed deficiencies" in the SC foster care network: overwhelming caseloads for employees, poor health care services for some foster wards and a scarcity of foster homes. According to the lawsuit, "South Carolina is victimizing the very children it is charged to protect."

In a prepared statement, the Department of Social Services has said it would "fully address the claims and respond in an appropriate forum." It also said the agency's employees are "completely dedicated and work hard every day to ensure that children in foster care receive the care that meets their individual needs."

This week on the TV show we'll hear from a group involved in the suit and we will look at what's behind big increases in the number of children who end up in foster care.

Tune in this Sunday morning, January 18, from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. to [WACH Fox 32](#)

This week on the Radio show

[OnPoint! with Cynthia Hardy](#)

A Black Woman's Great Debate: Relaxed or Natural Hair?

As more and more Black women discover the beauty of their naturally kinky hair, the debate between relaxed and natural women of Color is growing. Imagine that.

While some natural ladies feel as if women who choose to relax their hair are betraying their African roots, some relaxed ladies feel that they are constantly under attack by the women who choose to process their hair. In some instances, women who prefer natural hair are sometimes frowned upon by relaxed women who sometimes jeer at their hair texture as nappy or rough and too ethnic.

No one can argue the fact that natural hair is very popular right now. Many Black women are putting the perms and hot combs down, getting rid of their weaves and going natural with cropped hair, curly fros, & kinky twists.

This week on the radio show, we'll take a trip down memory lane as we look at Black hair over the years and why so many are going back to their roots.

Tune in this Sunday evening, January 18, at 6:00 p.m. to [TheBigDM](#).



The University of South Carolina MLK Celebration 2015

The University of South Carolina celebrations commemorating the Life and Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. are running January 14, 2015 through January 18, 2015.

The 2015 celebration will mark the thirty-second (32) year the University of South Carolina commemorated the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King Jr. Law Forum
Thursday, January 15, 2015
6:00 p.m., USC Law School Auditorium

Martin Luther King Jr. Gospel Fest
Sunday, January 18, 2015
6:00 p.m., Koger Center for the Arts
Admission \$10 Adults, \$5 Students

The 2015 MLK Celebration will continue with other events hosted on campus and will conclude Sunday, January 18, 2015 with the Annual MLK Gospel Fest that will be held at the Koger Center for the Arts at 6:00 pm. This event will feature three (3) outstanding Gospel Groups:

Men of Praise

Rev. Matthew Mickens and the Highway Travelers Flossie Boyd Johnson and Favor

*These outstanding Gospel groups have performed around the country and abroad
the very best in gospel music to this marque event.*

Profile in Leadership

Bobby Gist is a leader who really makes a difference in the community. As the Executive Assistant to the President at USC, Gist oversees the university's Affirmative Action programs. In that role, he is the architect of the university's annual Martin Luther King Jr. event. Over the years, he's brought national and international leaders and featured speakers of the 5-day event.

In addition to his work at the University of South Carolina, Gist is the cohost of a popular Sports Hotline-- a popular weekday radio show for sports enthusiasts.

His volunteer and community contributions are too numerous to list, but his work as Chair of the Columbia Housing Authority is especially worthy of note. It puts him directly in touch with the needs of the community.



Coming



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