

Lighting The Road To The Future

New Orleans

Data

News Weekly

"The People's Paper"

Join
Author
Robert
Jones Jr.



FREE
COPY

Data Zone
Page 4

June 4 - June 10, 2022 57th Year Volume 6 www.ladatanews.com

A Data News Weekly Exclusive

The Stigma Around Male Domestic Violence



How do we discuss this issue and what can we ultimately do to help?

Page 2



Newsmaker
Hurricane
Season Began
June 1st

Page 6

State & Local
Mayor Cantrell
Issues Strong
Statement on Guns



Page 7

The Stigma Around Male Domestic Violence

How do we discuss this issue and what can we ultimately do to help?

Brianna Patt
The Dallas Weekly

How Male Abuse is Minimized

In an op-ed by Neffer Kerr titled, “Strong & Silent: Breaking the Stigma of Abuse Because Black Men Are Victims, Too,” by Ebony Magazine, Kerr recalls learning that her male friend, who was over six feet tall and gave off a facade of confidence, was being abused. All of these issues entered the forefront of her mind when Yasmine Elder killed Darius Ellis in 2017, forcing him to drink bleach. Kerr went on to express the dichotomy that male victims face due to how we view Black men, as well as calling for the creation of safe spaces for them to seek the help they need.

“We need to make sure we are open to what someone is saying and not negating their experience by telling them they are allowing it to happen or laughing at them because of their gender. The most detrimental thing you can do to someone who is attempting to share their pain is to minimize, ridicule, or call them a name. We always claim we want the men in our lives to be honest with us, but that cannot happen in an emotionally hostile or dismissive environment. Abuse knows no color, race, age, ethnicity, socio-economic status, or gender,” Kerr said.

According to Analysis of Family Violence Fatalities in 2020 found that of the 228 Texans killed by their intimate partners, forty women killed their male partners, a 28% increase from 2018 and 2019, with 30% being Black.

The downplaying and ridicule male abuse victims face is something, according to Ryan Thomas, Community Education Program Manager at Hope’s Door New Beginning Center, linked to how children are socialized.

“From a young age, girls are taught to disregard their boundaries, or you have to let boys cross if it’s because of love or affection, and boys were told, “stiff upper lip, don’t cry, you play like a girl.” So, we are taught from a young age to devalue women. Society wants us to be in the “man box.” So, men are supposed to be dominant and aggressive and all this stuff. That sets up a hierarchy already where one gender has power and control over the other. Essentially one is dominant, one is submissive and that is the exact power and control dynamics of an



Cover Story, Continued on page 3. Abuse knows no color, race, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or gender.

INSIDE DATA	
Cover Story	2
Data Zone	4
Newsmaker	6
State & Local News . .	6
National News	7

DATA NEWS WEEKLY

P.O. Box 57347, New Orleans, LA 70157-7347 | Phone: (504) 821-7421 | Fax: (504) 821-7622
editorial: datanewseditor@bellsouth.net | advertising: datanewsad@bellsouth.net

Terry B. Jones	Contributors	Art Direction &
CEO/Publisher		Production
Edwin Buggage	Eric Connerly	Pubinator.com
Editor	DNW Staff Writer	Editorial and
Sharonda Green	Brianne Patt	Advertising Inquiries
Executive Assistant		datanewsweeklyad
June Hazeur	Stacy M. Brown	@gmail.com
Accounting	NOAA	Distribution
		by Terrence Lee

Please call 504-309-9913 for subscription information or to obtain a back issue of the paper ONLY.
Dated material two weeks in advance. Not responsible for publishing or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photos.

Cover Story, Continued from page 2.

abusive relationship. Society tells us that men should be dominant and women submissive. So, this does not line up with reality, that oftentimes men are abused. So, those gender stereotypes - we know that the more than someone adheres to them more strictly, the more likely they are to be accepting, abuse or violence in a relationship both as the abuser and as the victim as well," Thomas said.

In an article done by the World Economic Forum, Vanita Sundaram stated that among the young people she spoke to about whether or not violence was unacceptable provided a variety of responses, with them stating that men are innately violent. Women hitting men was seen as "unproblematic," with people arguing that women are physically weaker and frail (thus, their use of violence was less significant).

"This distinction between different forms of violence makes whole-sale prevention difficult. Given that gender appears to be a primary influence on young people's views on violence, schools should prioritize teaching about equality between the genders in order to effectively challenge the acceptance and justification of some forms of violent behavior," Sundaram said.

The Effects of Domestic Violence on Men

Thomas points out that while the physical scars of the abuse men face will inevitably dissipate the deeper wounds are emotional.

"The pain is temporary but being made to feel stupid, ugly, worthless, lazy. That lasts a whole lifetime. And so that is also minimized as men are not allowed to show emotions. So being made to feel stupid or to wear this and lazy, does not just show on the outside," Thomas said.

In a paper titled, "Black Men's Intimate Partner Violence Victimization, Help Seeking, and Barriers to Help-Seeking," Meagan A. Stewart explains that for Black men, there's pressure to maintain "hegemonic masculinity" (the masculine ideal that society tells men to aspire to and the standards against which men are compared). However, due to White supremacy, they cannot get these masculine ideals and are instead stereotyped. Stewart argues that this leads to an environment where Black men are less likely to be believed about their abuse.

"Men of Color are often unable to reach hegemonic masculine ideals due to White supremacy embedded within these ideals (Connell & Messerschmidt, 2005; Romero, 2017). Black men specifically have been stereotyped to be aggressive, hypersexual, routinely labeled as criminals (Collins, 2009; Roth,



According to Analysis of Family Violence Fatalities in 2020 found that of the 228 Texans killed by their intimate partners, 40 women killed their male partners, a 28% increase from 2018 and 2019, with 30% being Black.

2004), and have a history of police, legal system, and medical maltreatment (Griffith et al., 2011; Jaiswal & Halkitis, 2019). These contexts create an environment where Black men may not seek IPV-related help when needed, and if they do, they might experience disbelief by professionals and systems, and encounter police brutality as assumed perpetrators (Fugate et al., 2005; Graham et al., 2020; Jaiswal & Halkitis, 2019)," Stewart said.

According to Thomas, the effects of intimate partner violence on men range from physical issues like a shortened life expectancy to mental health issues.

"Devastating losses to life expectancy and health, all sorts of physical ailments like Alzheimer's, and of course, cortisol and adrenaline, pumping through a system that can have not only those physical effects

which could be stomach issues. It could be complex PTSD, anxiety, depression, and self-destructive behaviors. I think the emotional toll that it takes, often, the deepest and then the things that we can you know when we're young filter, you know, forever retained a kind of, you know, how we are going to react in future situations and so, the real tragedy of the year and so, that gets passed down generations," Thomas said.

As for what we can do both systemically and individually to help work against intimate partner violence, Thomas states we should work to stop using gendered reasons for how we treat others. He also states that when helping victims, we should focus on offering concern and validation.

"The goal for anybody should be to show concern and validate. Hey,

I see you, and I am concerned, I am worried about your safety. Then how can I help you explore options and resources? How can I support you in that endeavor, rather than saying, "you need to get out?" Because what makes somebody a victim of abuse is that somebody is constantly telling them what to do with that power and control. So even if we are trying to be helpful to a loved one, and say, "You need to get out, we're disempowering them." So really, it is about understanding that anybody can be a victim of abuse, it does not discriminate- grandson's abuse grandmother, males abuse males. We do not have to be experts in it. We just have to be compassionate human beings," he said.

The Mend Project refers to this as harmful, and backs Thomas' statement, arguing that it can be

beneficial to the well-being of the victim.

"On the other hand, providing much-needed emotional validation is easy to do and will go a long way in helping the victim. Emotional validation is the process of learning about, understanding and expressing acceptance of another person's emotional experience. You do not need to understand their emotional experience, agree with it, or know the facts behind it in order to validate it."

Thomas also states that women are not the main assailants, which leaves a gap in the abuse that women perpetuate against men, which goes unnoticed.

"It is more likely that for the women who do perpetrate violence against men, they are not the primary aggressors. That does leave, of course, this gaping hole of women who do use and are violent towards men, right. They will oftentimes that is not noticed, or it is overshadowed because of you know, the stigma. But I always just like to say, women do suffer disproportionately more," he said.

Hope for Change & Understanding

While Thomas hopes the recent Depp vs Heard defamation trial can shine a light on this issue, he still does not see much change on the horizon.

"I think if any positive that could happen is that the recognition that this- whether it did or not happen to whomever-it could happen to men, right? It can have just the same social, psychological, emotional, and social consequences. For the children, we cannot forget about the kids who are witnessing this are going to be much more likely to grow up to be abusive or victims themselves. But the short answer is no, I have not seen that stigma change much yet," he said.

Thomas states that we can better understand intimate partner violence than men are afflicted with, we must better understand abuse as a whole.

"I think understanding that domestic abuse is about power and control and that it is not about why you stay or reasons to stay. It is what are the barriers to leaving, right? Because only when we can understand the whole power control dynamic, can we then understand the barriers? And then can we find a pathway out of that forest," he said.

Resources for Black Men Facing Domestic Violence: Hotline Resource: thehotline.org/what-to-expect-when-you-contact-us Shelters for Male Victims: FamilyPlace.org

Join Author Robert Jones Jr. for a Virtual Discussion with the Historic New Orleans Collection's Fine Print Book Club

Recognized as 2021 book of the year by NPR, USA Today, BuzzFeed, Library Journal.

The Historic New Orleans Collection's Fine Print Book Club's summer reading selection is *The Prophets*, a critically acclaimed, award-winning debut novel by Robert Jones Jr., who will join participants for a virtual discussion on Wednesday, June 1st, at 7 p.m.

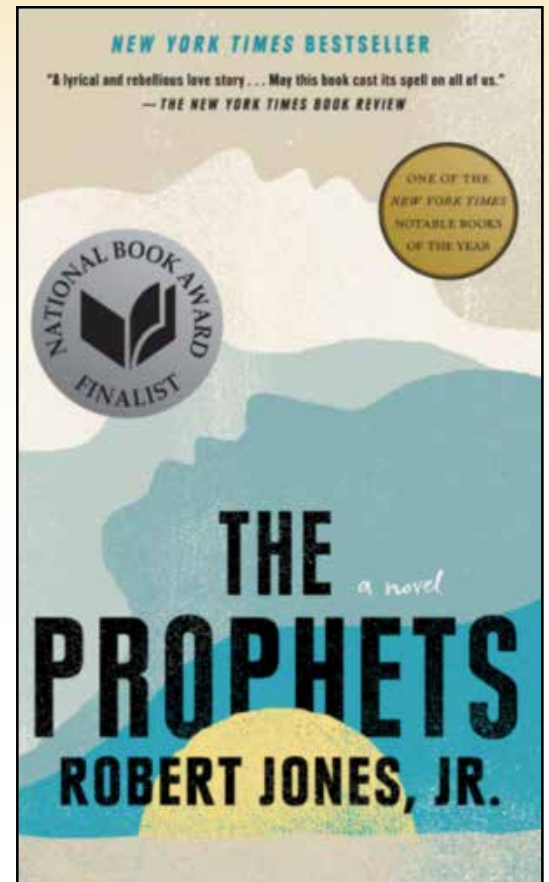
Set in the antebellum South, *The Prophets* recounts the forbidden love between two enslaved men, Samuel and Isaiah, and a betrayal that has the potential to destroy them. As readers follow the journey of Samuel and Isaiah, they encounter a wide range of characters who, together, give voice to the centuries-old history of the Black queer experience.

The Prophets was a finalist for the 2021 National Book Award and was chosen as a best book of the year by numerous outlets, including NPR, USA Today, BuzzFeed and Library Journal. The paperback edition is available at The Shop at The Collection for \$18. It can also be found at local independent bookstores, major retailers, and the New Orleans Public Library. The title is also available as an audio book.

Click here to register for the virtual discussion on *The Prophets* on Wednesday, June 1st, at 7 p.m. This title deals with content related to slavery, racism, homophobia, violence, suicide, and sexual assault.



Author Robert Jones Jr.



About The Fine Print Book Club

The Fine Print Book Club is an informal learning program intended to promote dialogue and connections within our community through shared reading. Books and topics vary from popular to

academic, and each reading will center upon building and reevaluating our knowledge of history and culture.

Participation in the Fine Print Book Club is free, and attendees are expected to obtain their own copy of each title.

Registration is required. Sessions will be conducted on Zoom, and the meeting link will be distributed to registrants via email the day prior.

To learn more about the Fine Print Book Club, email BookClub@hnoc.org.

AM I OKAY TO DRIVE?

**BUZZED DRIVING
IS DRUNK DRIVING**



la
data
news
.com

Gun Violence Awareness Day Planned for June 3, 2022

When Is Gun Violence National Awareness Day?

It falls on the first Friday of June, this year it is on June 3, 2022. This is also known as the Wear Orange Day and was founded to honor survivors and victims of gun violence.

What Is the Origin of Gun Violence National Awareness Day?

It originally began on June 2, 2015, on what would have been the 18th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton.

Pendleton was shot and killed on a playground in Chicago, on January 29, 2013, she was barely 15 and just a week earlier she had performed at Obama's second presidential inauguration.

Since 2015, the movement has significantly expanded, and it is now a period of three days a year: National Gun Violence Awareness Day (the first Friday in June) and Wear Orange Weekend (the following weekend).



Gun Violence Awareness Day to honor survivors and victims of gun violence.



SUMMER

2022

ANTHONY BEAN THEATER

PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER CAMP

WHEN THEY NEED TO ACT OUT!

Children 7 – 17 years of age

Cost: \$450

DON'T CAUSE YOUR KID TO BE LEFT OUT!

ENROLL YOUR CHILD TODAY IN ABCT PERFORMING ARTS CAMP

ABCT IS MORE THAN A CAMP...IT'S CULTURE!

ABCT 6-Week Summer Camp will be held at

Southern University at New Orleans

6400 Press Dr. New Orleans, LA 70126

Summer Camp begins June 6th - July 15th 8:30am to 3pm.

Each child must audition! Call the theater at 862-PLAY for enrollment

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

<http://anthonybeantheater.com>

Hurricane Season Began June 1st

Eric Connerly
Data News Weekly
Contributor

Hurricane season is upon us again. It is important to begin preparing to keep yourself and your family safe.

It starts on Wednesday, June 1st and lasts through Nov. 30th. Forecasters with the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are expecting a busy hurricane season with above-normal activity. This will mark seven consecutive years of above-average hurricane activity. Roughly 14 to 22 named storms are expected; the average is 14.

At least six to 10 of those storms may become hurricanes; the average is seven. As far as major hurricanes, which are category 3 and above, hurricane experts are calling for

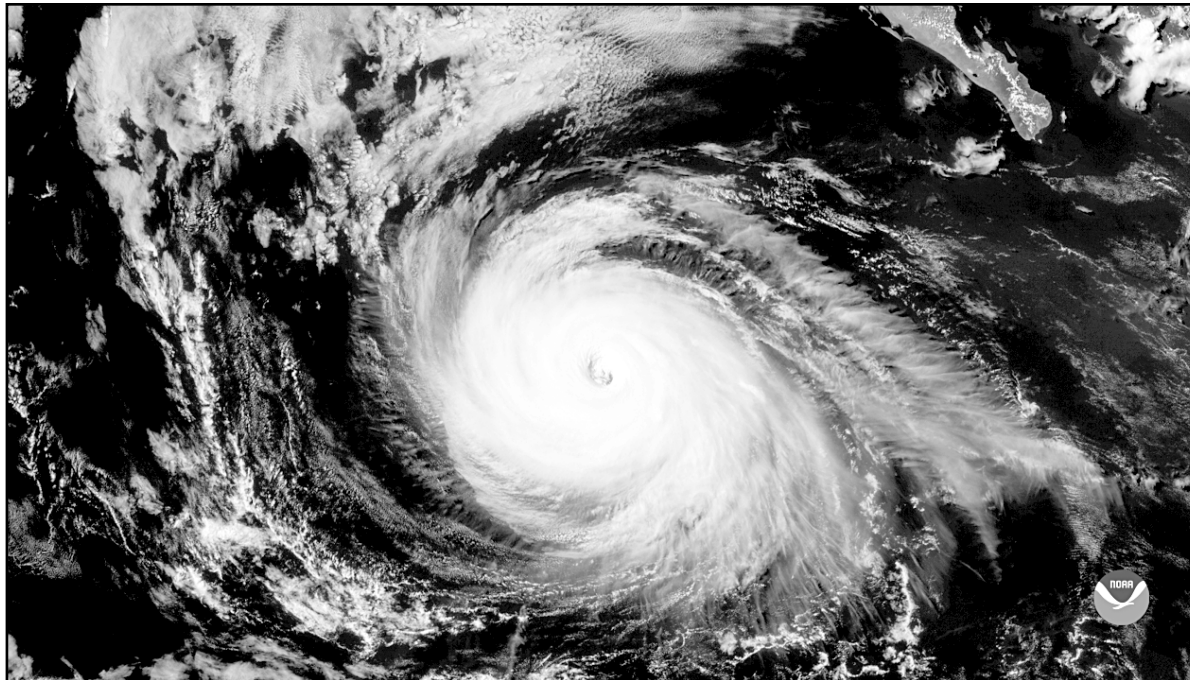


Photo: NOAA

three to six major hurricanes; the average is three.

So, in the name of getting prepared we have a checklist of things

to consider if you need to weather a hurricane or evacuate.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS SUPPLY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Water and Food
- ☐ Flashlights
- ☐ Battery-powered radio
- ☐ Extra batteries
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Medications (7-day supply) + medical items
- ☐ Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- ☐ Copies of personal documents (medical records, proof of address, deed/lease to home, passports, birth certificates, insurance)
- ☐ List of emergency contacts
- ☐ Mobile phones with chargers
- ☐ Extra cash
- ☐ Emergency blanket
- ☐ Baby supplies (bottles, formula/food, diapers)
- ☐ Pet supplies (collar, leash, ID, food, bowl)
- ☐ Tools/supplies for securing your home
- ☐ Extra clothing and shoes
- ☐ Rain gear
- ☐ Insect repellent and sunscreen
- ☐ Printed recent photos of family + pets

SafeSmartLiving.com/hurricane-preparedness

Our Shero

"In retirement, I want to stay fit... financially and physically."

Visit **AceYourRetirement.org** for:

- 3-minute online chat with a digital retirement coach
- Free personalized roadmap based on your retirement goals
- Free tips to start boosting your retirement savings now

State & Local News

Mayor Cantrell Issues Strong Statement on Proposed Gun Legislation in the Louisiana State Senate

Data News Staff Edited Report

Recently, Mayor LaToya Cantrell issued a strong statement on proposed gun legislation in the Louisiana State Senate:

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families in our neighboring State of Texas that were impacted by the senseless and avoidable gun violence that has become synonymous with our nation," said Mayor Cantrell. "In the next week, the Louisiana Legislature will have the opportunity to stand up, reject the politics of fear and vote against gun legislation that will make our communities less safe and secure. Our gun laws need to emphasize safety, registration, and licensing. Unfortunately, HB37 does the diametrical opposite by allowing individuals to carry concealed firearms in public.

The City of New Orleans stands



Mayor LaToya Cantrell

in strong opposition to this permitless concealed carry bill, and we implore our State Senators to vote against this dangerous legislation when it reaches the Senate floor. As the eyes of the nation are watching the actions in Baton Rouge, the time has come to act in the best interest of the people of our great state."

President Biden Prepares to Issue Executive Order on Police Reform

Stacy M. Brown
NNPA Newswire Senior
National Correspondent

On May 25, 2021, the first anniversary of the killing of George Floyd by then Minneapolis Officer Derek Chauvin, President Joe Biden invited his family to the White House.

At the time, Biden expressed optimism that the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act would become law.

That didn't happen.

On the second anniversary of Floyd's death, Biden plans to issue an executive order on police reform, which administration officials say will establish new rules for the use of force by federal law enforcement officers.

"It's an effort to be responsive," administration officials stated. The order likely would mimic California's police reform law, which requires that any new police officer in the Golden State be at least 21-year-old.

The law also allows for the discipline of officers who fail to inter-



President Joe Biden

vene when another law enforcement member uses excessive force.

The California statute also places firm limits on when officers are allowed to use deadly force, noting

that such actions are only permitted when necessary to defend human life.

Previously in California, an officer could use deadly force as long

as they personally deemed it "reasonable."

Following the murder conviction of Chauvin, three other cops were found guilty in federal court of violating Floyd's civil rights. Then officer Thomas Lane recently agreed to a plea deal to avoid state prosecution and serve two years in federal prison. The other two officers involved, J. Alexander Kueng and Tou Thao, face a state trial this summer.

Prosecutors said the trio stood by while Chauvin pressed his knee into the unarmed 46-year-old Floyd's neck for more than nine minutes.

"I am pleased Thomas Lane has accepted responsibility for his role in Floyd's death," Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison stated.

"His acknowledgment that he did something wrong is an important step toward healing the wounds of the Floyd family, our community, and the nation," Ellison continued. "While accountability is not justice, this is a significant moment in this case and a necessary resolution on our continued journey to justice."

DATA CLASSIFIED

Call 504-821-7421 to
place your classified ad.

Job Opportunity

Freelance Writers Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for freelance writers to join our team print and digital team. We need writers who can cover New Orleans news stories, ranging from local high school sports, community events, City Hall and entertainment.

Experience in print is necessary, experience in digital and social media are encouraged.

Compensation is competitive and great story ideas will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume and 3 writing samples to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net and datanewseditor@bellsouth.net.

We can't wait to
hear from you!

follow us on

twitter

@DataNewsWeek

This space can be yours for only \$80

CALL NOW!!!

504-821-7421

ladatanews.com

The People's Website



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

f KMEZ 102.9 @mykmez1029

@kmez1029

www.kmez1029.com

Job Opportunity

Administrative Assistant Wanted

Data News Weekly, "The People's Paper," is looking for an administrative assistant.

Compensation is competitive and detail orientation will be appreciated.

If you are interested, please email your resume to: terrybjones@bellsouth.net

This space can be
yours for only \$80

Call Now!

504-821-7421

Veterans,
when you're struggling,
soon becomes
later becomes
someday becomes
...when?

Don't wait. **Reach out.**

Whatever you're going through,
you don't have to do it alone.

Find resources at **VA.GOV/REACH**



VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs