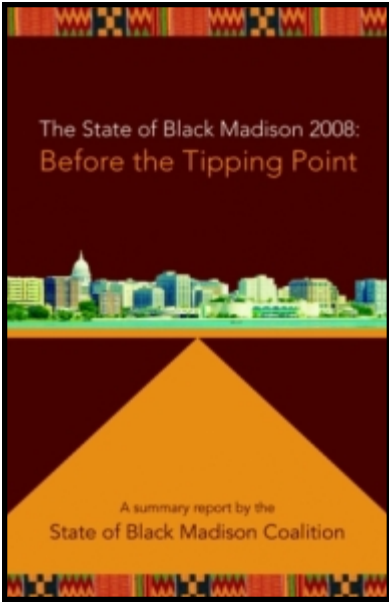


The State of Black Madison 2008: Before the Tipping Point

“In the 40 years since the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., Madison and Dane County have prospered. African American residents, however, do not fully share this prosperity,” said Scott Gray, president and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Madison and coalition member. In fact, they have fared significantly worse.



- Thirty-seven percent of Dane County Blacks live in poverty today, compared to 11 percent of the community as a whole.
- If the trends from 1990–2005 continue, it will take 265 years for the income gap between Blacks and rest of the Dane County community to disappear.
- If the decline continues at the rate experienced in the past 40 years, it will take more than a century to end poverty for Black children.

The study reports that racial disparity exists in the areas of criminal justice, education, health care and housing, as well. African Americans are incarcerated in Dane County at more than 13 times the rate for the community at large. In the Madison Metropolitan School District, fewer than 60 percent of Black eighth-grade students are proficient in reading; fewer than 45 percent are proficient in mathematics. Forty percent of Black students drop out before completing high school. Only two in 10 Black families own their homes, while the figure for the entire community is six in 10.

Books are just \$5 each plus \$3 shipping and handling

The disturbing disparity documented in *The State of Black Madison* report is a call to action, not only for the African American community, but for the Greater Madison community as a whole. That call includes recommendations for positive action by business, government, educators, health care providers, social agencies, community groups, and individuals. The coalition invites all people of goodwill to answer that call.

State of Black Madison Order Form

HOW TO ORDER

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League of Greater
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