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THE COLOR LINE STILL EXISTS AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS

Author Marita Golden, Essence magazine fashion editor Michaela Angela Davis and conservative pundit, Star Parker discuss the "color complex" in Black America with host James Brown.

(Washington, D.C.) This week, *America's Black Forum* questions whether the color line still exists among African Americans. **Host James Brown** asks if music videos, movies and television show clear examples that light skin is preferable to dark skin. **Marita Golden, author of *Don't Play in the Sun***, believes that they do. "In our community, clearly it's the outgrowth of the color caste system that was imposed during slavery. We have continued for a variety of reasons to continue that belief system."

Star Parker, Executive director of the Coalition for Urban Renewal and Education, doesn't believe there is an issue. "I think any time you have a variety of anything you're going to have prejudice, but when you look at the mixtures of our families, you cannot say that it's holding people back because somebody light skinned got a job over somebody dark skinned." **Comedian and radio personality Alycia Cooper** says living in Los Angeles gave her a new perspective on the color complex. "Now we have a new syndrome...what I call the crinkly hair syndrome. If a girl isn't biracial and can't just wet her hair and have it curl up, it's harder for her to get a job." **Executive Fashion and Beauty Editor of *Essence* magazine Michaela Angela Davis** says, "We've moved forward to some extent, but we've done so much damage and not enough uplifting that of course it's still an issue." **NAACP Chairman Julian Bond** adds, "It would be wrong to think that we didn't absorb from the larger culture, this preference."

America's Black Forum is seen on over 100 television stations across the country and on the TV One cable network. **Juan Williams** of *Fox News Sunday* and **James Brown** of *Fox NFL Sunday* host the program. Commentators, including former White House correspondent **Deborah Mathis** and NAACP Chairman **Julian Bond**, join the hosts. Supervising producer is Byron Lewis, Jr. The program is produced by Jaci Clark. Please check local listings for exact air times and dates.

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