



## Atlanta's Monica & Kevin Gates

Undoubtedly the world knows Atlanta's born and bred R & B superstar known as Monica. The world and the streets also know Atlanta's adopted son Kevin Gates.

Although Monica and Kevin are not biological relatives together they share that one way family bond. Arguably they are more family or just as much family as their biological relatives.

As Monica will attest to she was raised with strength and stability in home, love, and faith.

Gates like me come from turmoil ignited by bad choices and the streets.

Coming from turmoil and the streets while we are chasing the illusion of stability and success we become lost in the pursuits of faith, home, and longevity.

Along our street journeys if fortunate some may enjoy the illusion of success a little more than others. However at best most participate in the pitfalls of addictions and recidivism numbers. The worst case is death.

During our street journeys no one really appears to care about our grinds as long as they can benefit.

That includes our biological relatives and family like relations that are built along the way.

Regardless our grinds when we are up everyone's around and down for our alleged crowns. However it's when we are down is when we actually see who's who.

Biological relatives and fake love will separate themselves while family will never leave our sides.

Too many times as family and alleged friends we are opinionated about something or someone that we are passionate about or love dearly.

However too many times as family or a community we are opinionated about something or someone that we have never actually put sufficient efforts beyond the gossip.

Although in our personal lives there are so many variables the fact of the matter is that perception and its realities must change.

If not if we want the same old same results we can simply just keep doing what most have been doing acting like relatives instead of family.

Far too many times our biological relatives talk entirely too much with very little to no efforts nor actions toward change or betterment. However family stands with you in the good times and times of adversities while seeking growth.





The dynamics of seeking growth and its processes is another conversation all of its own but far too many of us sets timetables and stipulations in this realm. However what's undeniable is none of us wants anyone to give up on us, our dreams, our children, or our families.

Throughout life with relatives the big me little you syndrome and the alleged tuff love disposition is so easily the choice, scapegoat, and or the alleged conclusion.

In many cases the tuff love stances may be a justified stance for those who've actually shown love participating in a growth process in action not just conversations.

However far too many especially our biological relatives, our neighbors, the double standards of society, and the community come to tuff love conclusions long before the possibilities of prison and or addictions when they have never actually participated in any processes of growth, direction, stability, and or adequate love.

Regardless of how you define your relations based on your lifestyles, loyalties, commitments, and or actions are you a relative or are you a family member?

Not only is that question something to think about, be it biological relations or family like relations built along the way individually and or collectively we must be careful of how we judge because none of us enjoy being judged.

As individuals and as a society please digest this statement made by Monica on VH1 Reality TV hit series T.I. & Tiny Friends & Family Grand Hustles when asked about her family Kevin Gates, "I may not agree with some of the things Kevin has done or the choices he has made, but turning my back on him or deserting him is never an option."

Although there are no biological ties between Kevin and Monica, Kevin confirms this is Monica the person and action not just conversation.

Concluding Kevin and Monica's relations has grown to a mother figure and son like relationship. In fact Kevin calls Monica mommy and both Kevin's and Monica's families embraces their relationship.

Relatives will continue to talk from afar with no points of action beyond opinions and no works. However Kevin's and Monica's like relationships is that of family.

Written (12/25/18) by Clifton A. Jackson

**Your Oyez22 activity, s/m likes, repost & hashtags are appreciated!**

