



Monkey See Monkey Do

Inspired by a friend of mine – Cleveland's own James LeBron Boggan.

After birth a child instinctively mimics and follows the makeup from their parents.

A baby quickly learns heartbeats, breathing patterns, communication, tones, eating habits, instinctive behaviors, vibes, dangers and more.

Over the course of time a child grows and matures into various phases of life via a process of controlled and uncontrolled exposure to life realities.

Throughout this process good, bad and indifferent mentally and physically our growth and perceptions are influenced by lessons learned primarily from our parents and experiences.

This process is influenced by so many things not limited to school, the community, the streets, fashion, relations, TV, radio, the media, music, social media, sports and more.

The saying monkey see monkey do is a legend and a myth that means "One that mimics or follows." The saying or meaning has never been derogatory in any way.

Although my personal perspective will come from the alleged lower classes of life, every good or great leader in life achieve their processes by way of monkey see monkey do.

Growing up in urban communities there are only a few opportunities for us to make it out the hood. Many of us will make an attempt to exit the belly of beast. Few will succeed, unfortunately most will fail.

There are various methods of survival that one can choose to prosper. However most methods fall into two categories, (1) legal, or (2) illegal.

When you come of age and begin to understand the essence, importance and necessities of money you also begin to understand the difference between rich and poor.

You can also quickly distinguish which class fits you and your family. In any event after you realize that you are poor you begin to wonder what it would feel like to be rich.

Quickly you realize that you are not the only one that desires that lavish lifestyle. After a course of time it makes you think of ways to become rich and acquire the things you see the rich people have.

One of many questions arise. Primarily what are you going to do to make your money dreams come true.

It does not matter what neighborhood or city you come from. At the end of the day the specifics of hood struggles may vary but the core ingredients of our struggles mirror.





In the hood not limited to, we become exposed to people, places and things that will have an effect on us for the rest of our lives. The mentioned is partially the reasoning why many of us are defined products of our environment.

The hood and abroad [primarily supported by the number of single-parent homes and America's alarming divorce rate], there are too many families that are not whole.

A whole family in this instance means there is not a mother and a father present in the same household raising their child.

Today too many children are raised in single-parent homes. In addition to many children are being raised by their grandparents, etc. because of various dynamics not limited to kids having kids, addictions, incarcerations, or available parents choosing to runs the streets over parenting.

Although it's hard enough parenting in whole homes, however when the father is not there to teach his son how to be a man or a mother is not there to teach her daughter how to be a woman the lack of love can be the defining ingredient of the monkey see monkey do syndrome.

Children are a reflection of their parents. If the parents are not present the child reflects in ways of those who are present. Such as a grandparent, brothers or sisters, the streets, gangs, thieves, pimps, etc.

The mentioned and unmentioned may be suffering from their own issues not limited to an identity crisis, abandonment issues, and all the unmentioned.

Individually we all have stories as to why we choose our particular paths and methods of survival on a daily basis. I will not judge because I don't enjoy being judged.

However the individuals from the hood driving the best cars, wearing the best clothes and showcasing the finest woman are not lawyers or doctors. Most are individuals who fail victim to a poisoned formula of alleged success simply trying to survive and excel in today's cold streets.

The presence and power of religion and the word are hard to digest in the trenches for anyone selling drugs or the other mentioned or unmentioned pitfalls when it is the plugs that have blessed him or her and not god.

In America pretty much everything is illegal until the alleged becomes a commodity [like alcohol, tobacco, narcotics and soon marijuana], and our government can find its way to control and monetize.

The legend and myth of monkey see monkey do is very much alive and relevant on all levels, in all professions and the daily everyday walks of life.

So regardless if you are a trendsetter or following trends, simply remember wisdom supersedes wealth.

More importantly it is better to be hated for who you are than loved for what you are not.

Written (07/25/16) by Clifton A. Jackson

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