



LOVING DECISION CONFERENCE 2007

THE NEXT 40 YEARS OF MULTIRACIAL COMMUNITIES



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Over 10 Million Americans and Growing: The Multiracial Community Commemorates 40 Years of Legal Interracial Marriage

Loving Decision Conference 2007: The Next 40 Years of Multiracial Communities

CHICAGO, IL (November 16, 2006) - The 40th anniversary of Loving v. Virginia (1967), the US Supreme Court's decision to legalize interracial marriage, will be marked with an international conference on June 21 -24, 2007 in Chicago, Illinois. For the first time in U.S. history, this event wishes to bring together not only "interracial" couples, "multiracial/ethnic" individuals, and "transracial" adoptees, it also intends to unite policy makers, educators/students, celebrities, and advocacy organizations representing all communities on critical issues that continue to fragment our nation at the *Loving Decision Conference 2007: The Next 40 Years of Multiracial Communities*.

According to the 2000 US Census, there are now more than 3 million interracial marriages and nearly 7 million Americans who identify themselves with their multiple heritages. In addition, the number of transracial adoptions has grown significantly, receiving unprecedented attention with recent celebrity adoptions. Despite this rapid increase, there is still a marked lack of awareness and resources for these families and policy makers.

The Loving Decision Conference will also provide a forum to unite all of these diverse groups for the purpose of establishing cohesion among the "multiracial" community and other community organizations. Programs will focus on raising awareness and addressing some of the legal, medical, educational, and social issues faced by this unique population. "This conference is going to be a monumental event that seeks to educate, entertain, and bridge connections between all key players and communities in society toward bettering relations in the 21st century," said Jungmiwha Bullock, President of the Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA).

This inaugural gathering is for people from all backgrounds who recognize the complexity of "race" and want to end discrimination and inequality at every level. Participants will include the multiracial community as well as their advocates including: family members, friends, academics, diversity organizations, business professionals, students, celebrities, political leaders, and religious figures.

The event is being coordinated by the Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA) with organizing support from many of their affiliates, including: iPride (CA), MOHXCA (Canada), Interracial Family Circle (DC), HONEY Inc. (NJ), Oregon Council on Multiracial Affairs (OR), The Topaz Club (nationwide), Biracial Family Network (IL), Multiracial Americans of Southern California (CA), Multiethnic Education Program (CA), and many others. Bridge Communications Inc. and the Loving Day Project are also assisting with the conference organizing efforts, with additional organizations and volunteers joining daily.

The conference will be hosted at the *Mansfield Institute for Social Justice* on the campus of Roosevelt University in Chicago, IL. *Pre-registration* will begin in December and early fees will range from \$30 for adults, \$20 for students/seniors and free for attendees who are age 17 and under. For more information about the conference, including registration, please visit www.lovingconference.com.

About Association of MultiEthnic Americans (AMEA): AMEA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which serves as an international umbrella association dedicated to advocacy, education and collaboration on behalf the multiethnic, multiracial and transracial adoption community and allies. Donations for the conference can be mailed to: AMEA / P.O. Box 29223 / Los Angeles, CA 90029-0223. Website: www.ameasite.org

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