

National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.®

1925 Adam C Powell Jr. Blvd., Suite 1L • New York, New York 10026 • 212-222-5660 • fax 212-222-5675 • nc100bw@aol.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Ayanna Najuma, Media Relations
National Coalition of 100 Black Women**

Phone: 212-222-5660

Fax: 212-222-5675

nc100bwan@aol.com

<http://www.ncbw.org>

NATIONAL COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN OUTRAGED AT IMUS'S REMARKS

New York, NY – April 10, 2007 – The National Coalition of 100 Black Women is deeply disturbed by the racist and gender-based comments made by Don Imus on his syndicated radio show that airs on WFAN, MSNBC and CBS. In addition, the executive producer of the show, Bernard McGuirk, should be accountable. Imus's characterization of the Rutgers women's basketball team reaches beyond a single basketball program in that it devalues African American women in general.

"We cannot enable him to remain on the air," said Marva Smith Battle-Bey, NCBW president. She also points out that "there is a standard on public air waves; Imus crossed the line and he and CBS and MSNBC must be held accountable. An apology is not enough. This level of irresponsibility requires severe consequences. A two-week suspension is a mere slap on the wrist."

Imus now says that his statement was "stupid." NCBW is therefore calling on the FCC to conduct hearings into the misuse of the public air waves.

NCBW is a 25-year-old advocacy organization that consists of 62 chapters in 26 states and the District of Columbia. It is an organization of progressive women whose voice and force for gender equity and sociopolitical advancement drive meaningful change to benefit women of color.

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