



## Third Strongest Force

*T*hird only to God himself and survival, black women would be second if they did not have to use survival in many situations of their lives themselves.

I had always believe that God's best tool in his arsenal was the tool of time. And the strongest force in the universe was survival. I can say black women knew this before I was even born and I would not be where I am to this day if it was not for them. Of all my time on this earth, I will never forget when my grandmother was arguing with the mortgage man in the front of the house, while my grandfather was drunk off his ass in the back of the house after

spending that mortgage money. That event affected me to this day as I did not want anything like this to happen to my queen.

Black women have had to deal with all the racism and segregation while raising a family, finding a piss poor labor intensive job and becoming a lover



and fighting with her man in many cases, all in the same day. Their strength had to come from God as this ordeal made them stronger. Whether disagree or agree black women provided the support that a black man disparately needed and could not get

anywhere else.

The sad part is in many cases, a black man did not recognize the support even if he tripped over it. Much of the disagreement was compounded with the pressures of society. Yes, an argument could be made of the weakness however, if anyone realizes the issue and makes its course correction, it is the black woman. Whether self-evaluation or guidance from another the correction is immediate and swift. It only took time to see the results.

If there was a person whom never had the luxury of time and had to deal with what was dealt, it is the black woman. With the immaturity of men, many come to realize the error of their ways years later after their black women has tried to educate to a question of vain. When a black women reaches that level of a conclusion, she has come to the decision that her man will not do what is right and it is time to move on. She has grabbed a part of the second strongest force not only for herself, but her family as well.

When many black women became single parents, what few understood was even though it would have been nice to have a black man's legitimate support, being a single parent meant you had an element of peace. Yes, the bills are due and she could deal with it in her own time with few arguments or fights.

Besides, black women had the enormous task of raising their children, working long hours and the tons of worrying, just about the next day.

History has clearly shown many black women of the past were leaders of their group or tribe. We

have more black women doctors, lawyer and other specialties than ever before.

With few exceptions, many children owe not only their very existence, but their



maturity, righteous and support to their black mothers whom many had to repeat the process as grandmothers. I was raised by my black grandmother. She was a strict woman and that is what I needed at the time. To this day I do not smoke, drink and have had a very unique life as a black man acquiring a military career of over 20 years and two degrees. In addition, as a system engineer practitioner (over twelve years) for a fortune 500 company, I am humbly appreciative based upon black people's opportunity history in this country, lucky indeed.

It seems that when there is a crisis within the black community, black women lead and are on the front lines time and time again. The covid crisis is no exception as they did the things few have done in support when none was available elsewhere.



### These Black women are on the frontlines of the fight against Covid-19

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They have administered Covid-19 vaccines on college campuses, provided testing at churches and spent long hours in labs developing an effective vaccine. Some have given up their regular jobs and personal free time to do this work. Black women have been at the helm

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/03/02/us/black-women-covid19-leaders/index.html>

My wife of over 25 years (and have known for over 45 years) has been my rock in many cases. When I was upset about something that did not go my way, she provided the guidance towards a more mature understanding. Our relationship is strange to others but it works for us. We have had few if any arguments and our decisions normally when talked out, come to a resolution that equals the conclusion. By no means am I an expert when it come to black women. What I will say that from what I have experience and learned from them if nothing else, to pass it on.

*Bill Somerville*

