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The Tipping Point: A Faith Perspective

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SPECIAL ISSUE – THE TIPPING POINT: A FAITH PERSPECTIVE

Dr. Osaro E. Airen, Co-Editor
Dr. Norvella P. Carter, Guest Editor
Dr. General C. Johnson, Guest Editor

Dr. Lakia M. Scott, Associate Editor
Dr. Patricia J. Larke, Guest Editor
Dr. Gwendolyn C. Webb, Guest Editor

The Journal of Faith Education, and Community's (JFEC) Special Issue entitled, "The Tipping Point: A Faith Perspective," features articles written from a first-person point of view and faith perspective. The articles focus on the authors' feelings, emotions, and/or experiences surrounding critical and impactful diversity-related events (i.e. the horrific death of George Floyd, protests for equity and the eradication of hate, etc.).

The death of George Floyd has been a tipping point in a country that was already teetering on the brink of unrest. Prior to his death, (a) over one hundred thousand people had succumbed to the devastating coronavirus, (b) our country had reached a record level of unemployment, (c) the economy had taken a major hit, and (d) political divisions remained vitriolic.

In addition, the injustices surrounding the deaths of George Floyd and others, having occurred at the hands of those with a sworn duty to protect and serve, has remained an open and painful wound. As a result, we witnessed national and international protests that focused on one goal, demanding change to a system where the disproportionate deaths of African Americans cannot continue. We watched people from different races, cultures, ethnicities, professions, including law enforcement, come together to demand change.

During that time, people experienced a range of emotions such as anger, fear, contempt, and sadness. Further, they addressed their emotions in a variety of ways which included turning to God for strength, hope, peace, and guidance.

As a society, we have been challenged personally, emotionally, and spiritually on a level that has not been witnessed since the Civil Rights Movement. Within that challenge, several layers emerged. The most prominent can be found in Ephesians 4:26 - 27: Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger; and do not give the devil an opportunity.

With the Special Issue, the Journal of Faith, Education, and Community sought to stimulate thinking, explore emerging ideas, probe various points of view, and trigger important dialogue.