

The Links, Inc. Condemn Imus' Racist and Sexist Comments Targeting the Rutgers University Team and Demand His Firing

Washington, D.C. -- One of the nation's oldest and premier African-American women's organization, The Links, Inc., is calling for politicians, pundits and advertisers to refrain from appearing and advertising on "The Imus in the Morning Show." The organization of more than 12,000 women finds the remarks made on the nationally syndicated radio show both racist and sexist.

Dr. Gwendolyn B. Lee, National President of The Links, Inc. responded to the radio host's remarks about the young women on Rutgers University women's basketball team as "nappy headed hos." Dr. Lee said, "Don Imus has reached an all time low. His use of the public airwaves to denigrate and ridicule the young, talented and hard working African American women of the Rutgers University team was a cruel assault on the dignity of all African Americans and women.

The two-week suspension is an inadequate slap on the wrist. The members of The Links, Inc. call on WFAN-AM, CBS Radio and MSNBC to fire Don Imus and cancel his show, "Imus in the Morning."

The Links, Inc. believes that racism is learned. Racism is reinforced when it is delivered through media such as radio, television, the Internet and motion pictures. We must become a force of one and use all of our collective energy to remove Mr. Imus from the air permanently.

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Established in 1946, The Links, Inc., is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organization of women who linked in friendship are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African-Americans and persons of African decent. The Links, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization which consists of nearly 12,000 professional women of color in 273 chapters located in 42 states, the District of Columbia and three countries, including Germany, South Africa and the Bahamas.

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