

# National Black Church Initiative

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## NBCI Applauds the Banning of Donald Sterling from the NBA for Life

*The Church Asks the Public to Resist Hate Towards Sterling*

**Washington, DC** – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), a faith-based coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, applauds NBA Commissioner Adam Silver for his courageous action of banning Mr. Donald Sterling from the NBA for life and fining him \$2.5 million in connection with an audio recording in which he allegedly made racially-charged comments. Although this may only be a temporary solution, we hope it will draw attention to the larger problem of white supremacy plaguing America, which must be broken down and destroyed.

Rev. Anthony Evans, NBCI President says, “I call on everyone to reject hatred, but strongly condemn Mr. Sterling’s words of interposition and nullification. We believe in the Black Church that we have the power to change his heart and win him to Christ Jesus. Even now, we refuse to hate him as a person.”

While the league did the politically correct move, NBA leadership missed an important moral opportunity to improve race relations in America, which may ultimately play out as a long drama in the American court system. So, the ultimate winner of this moment in history may again be the lawyers. God never intended to leave the lawyers as the moral referee of our humanity.

The courts must provide equal protection under the law to Mr. Sterling as well. The Black Church would have taken another course of action. As a child of God regardless of his actions or words, we would have sat down with Sterling, listen to the root cause of his feelings, and try desperately in Christ to change his heart.

To ban Sterling is a political and legal temporary solution but to change him is righteous and Godly. Our task in the church is to take on the evil of the world and change their hatred into love. But this was not the route chosen by NBA leadership. Their decision was to do what was easy and politically correct, and we another poignant teaching moment has been lost to the annals of history.

### **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science. The National Black Church Initiative's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work. Visit our website at [www.naltblackchurch.com](http://www.naltblackchurch.com).

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