Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Social Development and Family Services

MEDIA RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Priority: <u>HIGH</u>

Minister Cox lauds book 'Letters to the Editor' that boldly tackles social issues Advocates for NGOs, FBOs and CBOs in fight against crime

Senator the Honourable Donna Cox, Minister of Social Development earlier today, January 16, 2023 was pleased to attend the official book launch of 'Letters to the Editor', held at the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS), Port of Spain. The thought provoking book, written by Apostle Terrance Honoré comprises a compilation of sixty (60) selected editorials spanning more than two decades; and focuses on key social issues within Trinidad and Tobago including crime, injustice, impartiality and child protection.

Delivering remarks, Minister Cox told those in attendance that Apostle Honoré's writings provide a historic overview of life in Trinidad and Tobago and demonstrates his passion for social issues, particularly, in the areas of proposing solutions for crime and prioritizing care for the vulnerable.

According to Minister Cox, "Apostle Honore' had made several recommendations to protect our children from what he deemed as "invasive negative elements of North American culture". Such recommendations are not uncommon to his letters, which also address issues that reflect the portfolio that I now hold as Minister of Social Development and Family Services."

Quoting an excerpt from the letter "*The Church needs to do more for the poor and ill*", and the need for increased relevance and visibility of the church to the concerns of society, Minister Cox stated that his appeal echoes similar sentiments with regards to services rendered to the vulnerable in society by NGOs, Community and Faith-Based Organisations. She further noted that the Ministry will work with all religious organizations and the like to ensure that the vulnerable in society is in receipt of programmes and services, which will not only impact significantly on their daily lives, but ultimately move them to a place of empowerment and self-sufficiency. In closing, Minister Cox extended congratulations to Apostle Honoré, wishing him success as he seeks to positively impact this and future generations.

Apostle Honoré in his remarks stated that the book was born out of a passion he has for Trinidad and Tobago and the situation now being faced, noting that he is not inclined to give up on his contributions to the country. He further implored the attendees including students of the Belmont Secondary School that they too should collectively and individually make decisions that result in the advancement of the country. Also in attendance was Calypso Monarch winner and Hummingbird Medal Silver awardee, Mr. Franz Delamo Lambkin who delivered a powerful rendition on the importance of parenting.

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For more information:

Communications Unit Ministry of Social Development and Family Services (868) 623-2608; Ext 5400-5411 E: cceu@social.gov.tt



Apostle Honoré sings a copy of his book "Letters to the Editor" for Minister Cox.



Minister Cox formally receives the signed copy of the Book "Letters to the Editor from author Apostle Terrance Honoré.



Minister Cox imparts some words of advice to students of the Belmont Secondary School following the launch.