

Gentleman:

I greet you here on the bank of the James River, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twelve. First, I shall thank you, the gentleman of the colony of Virginia, for bringing me here. I am here to help you solve some of your problems with slaves. Your invitation reached me on my modest plantation in the West Indies where I have experimented with some of the newest, and still the oldest, methods of control of slaves. Ancient Rome would envy us if my program is implemented. As our boat sailed south on the James River, named for our illustrious King whose version of the Bible we cherish, I saw enough to know that your problem is not unique. While Rome used cords of wood crosses for standing human bodies along its old highways in great numbers, you are using the tree and the rope on occasion.

I caught the whiff of a dead slave hanging from a tree a couple of miles back. You are only losing valuable stock by hanging. You are having uprisings, slaves are running away, your crop are sometime left in the field too long for maximum profit, you suffer occasional fires, and your animals are killed. Gentleman, you know what your problems are I do not need to elaborate. I am not here to enumerate your problems, I am here to introduce you to a method of solving your problems.

In my bag here, I have a fool-proof method for controlling your black slaves. I guarantee every one of you that, if installed correctly, it will control the slaves for at least 300 years. My method is simple, any member of your family or any overseer can use it.

I have outlined a number of differences among the slaves and I take these differences and make them bigger. I use **FEAR, DISTRUST, and ENVY** for control purposes. These methods have worked on my modest plantation in the West Indies and it will work through out the South. Take this simple little list of differences and think about them. On the top of my list is "Age", but it is there only because it starts with an "A" the second is "Color" or shade, then there is intelligence, size, sex, size of plantation, status on plantation; attitude of owners, whether the slaves live in the valley, on a hill, East, West, North, South, have fine or course hair, or, is tall or short. Now that you have a list of differences, I shall give you an outline, but before that I shall assure you that distrust is stronger than trust and envy is stronger than adulation, respect, or admiration.

The black slave, after receiving this indoctrination, shall carry on and will become self-refueling and self-generation for hundreds of years, maybe thousands.

Don't forget you must pitch the old black male vs the young black male, and young black male against the old black male. You must use the dark skin slaves vs the light skin slaves, and the light skin slaves against the dark skin slaves. You must use the female vs the male, and the male vs the female. You must also have your white servants and overseers distrust all blacks, but it is necessary that your slaves trust and depend on us. They must love, respect, and trust only us.

Gentlemen these kits are your key to control, use them. Have your wives and children use them, never miss an opportunity. My plan is guaranteed, and the good thing about this plan is that if used intensely for one year, the slaves themselves will remain perpetually distrustful.

Willie Lynch, 1712