

Press Release

February 15, 2023

MS Black Women's Roundtable Will Host Hair Discrimination Panel

Featuring Comedienne Rita Brent

JACKSON, Miss. – On Friday, February 17, in collaboration with L. Lashley and friends, will host a panel discussion on how hair discrimination affects the Black community at the Crown and Glory Beauty Expo. This discussion, hosted by comedienne Rita Brent features hair and beauty industry experts, community advocates, and state legislators.

Conversations like this one are powerful and can help to progress much-needed legislation like the CROWN Act, created to protect people from discrimination and bias against hair texture and protective styles, such as braids, locs, twists, etc., in the workplace and public schools. In Mississippi, legislators like Representative Orlando Paden have attempted to pass the CROWN act to no avail. Seven bills were introduced in this legislative session, and all died in committee.

Advocates like the MS Black Women's Roundtable champion these legislative efforts as this cause deeply affects black women and girls. According to the Dove CROWN study for Girls (2021), 53% of Black mothers say their daughters have experienced racial discrimination based on hairstyles as early as five years old. "How black girls see themselves is crucial to their development," said Cassandra Welchlin, Executive Director of the MS Black Women's Roundtable, "and when they are told their natural is wrong or should be changed, it completely affects their self-esteem."

The Crown and Glory Beauty Expo will begin at 6 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

Tickets can be purchased here.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/crown-glory-beauty-expo-2023-tickets-482098909817>

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For more information or to schedule interviews, contact:

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