

## HOPE

By: Jacoby Johnson

I look into their eyes and I see hope for a new day, when my sons won't be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. I see Strength, Pride, Integrity, and Intelligence, yet most of all I see the will to succeed.

As I look away from my sons and into the world that we live in, I see the pestilence of society today—Drugs, Violence, Crime, Prejudice, and Poverty. These are the same things that my father before me fought against to make a better life for me. Yet just as my father fought against these things, I too must continue his struggle so that my sons will have a better life.

I wonder if life will ever be better for the African American male as a whole. Or will we pass on to our children the legacy of failing to be fathers, of failing to take charge of our communities and families and failing to educate our children about their own history.

The hope I see in my son's eyes is the same hope many black men have for their children. We hope that the legacy of failure ends and a new legacy of success begins.