

Drs. KENNETH b. & Mamie Phipps **CLARK PLACE**

Street Co-Naming Resolution

Whereas: Kenneth Bancroft Clark (July 24, 1914–May 1, 2005) and Mamie Phipps Clark (1917-1983), were a husband-and-wife team of African American psychologists who founded the Northside Center for Child Development in Harlem and the organization Harlem Youth Opportunities Unlimited (HARYOU). ***They were known for their 1940s experiments using dolls to study children's attitudes about race, which grew out of Mamie Clark's master's degree thesis.***

Whereas: Mamie Phipps Clark was the first African American woman (and only second African American after her husband) to receive a Ph.D. in psychology from Columbia University in 1943.

Whereas: In 1940, Clark became the first African American to receive a Ph.D. in psychology from Columbia University; Kenneth Clark became the first African American tenured full professor at the City College of New York in 1960, and later was the first African American on the New York State Board of Regents and the first African American to be President of the American Psychological Association.

Whereas: In 1947, they established the **Northside Children's Center** in the basement of the Dunbar apartment complex, thereby saving the future lives of thousands of black children of the community from being labelled retarded by the Public Education system.

Whereas: The Clarks testified as expert witnesses in *Briggs v. Elliott*, one of the cases that were later combined into the famous *Brown v. Board of Education*, the case in which the U.S. Supreme Court officially overturned racial segregation in public education. According to scholars this utilization of Social Science Studies as hard evidence by the Supreme Court was critical in persuading the Justices to overturn *Plessy vs Ferguson*.

They viewed this as evidence of internalized racism caused by stigmatization.

Whereas: Dr. Kenneth B. Clark advocated several different methods of improving schools in black ghettos, and in 1964 persuaded the Johnson administration to back his ideas with \$110 million in federal funding for the establishment of HARYOU.

Resolved: A beloved, brilliant, and committed couple whose work has affected all of our lives, they were also fine neighbors and members of our Community as well as Great Harlemites. Therefore we wish to honor their Legacy, and the location where they saved the futures of so many children of the Community by resolving to Co-Name 150St between 7th & 8th Avenues,

Drs. KENNETH b. & Mamie Phipps CLARK PLACE