
We Exist Series 3: Quotes

We Exist Series 3: The Black Church, Maine's
Black Residents and the Wider Community

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The Black Family

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The Black Family

**WE
EXIST**

The Black Church, Maine's Black Residents and the Wider Community

Ms. Odessa Barret



"Life for me as a child was bitter sweet. I was between the youngest boy and girl so I was never alone. Church was the focal point of our lives."

Ms. Odessa Barret (age 53; born 1948 in Port Arthur, Texas; born in a middle-class, blue collar family; moved to Maine in October 1979)

Keywords: family demography, Black Families, Maine

Full Length Interview: [Home is Where I Make It: Barret, Odessa](#)

Ms. Rose Jackson



"I'll never forget my number three son asking me what color God was; I'll never forget it. 'Mom, what color is God?' I said, 'Baby, what color do you want Him to be?' He says, 'I think I want Him the color of me.' I says, 'Okay, draw Him that color then.' And he drew a Black Jesus and a minister and his wife gave him three hundred dollars for it."

Mrs. Rose Jackson (age 66; born in Louisville, Mississippi; lives in South Portland for 39 years; married 34 years; has six children; had five children with her first husband; he died and she remarried and had a child with the current husband)

Keywords: parenting attitudes and behaviors, Black Families, Maine

Full Length Interview: [Home is Where I Make It: Jackson, Rose](#)