

Kenya T. Parham

POLITICAL STRATEGIST, FUNDRAISING SPECIALIST & THOUGHT LEADER



Recognized by national media outlets as “an emerging millennial leader to watch,” Kenya T. Parham – bi-coastal Principal of political affairs firm KP & Associates, Partner of Washington D.C. based D. Morgan & Partners and Creator of Parlay: An Urban Think Tank on Civic Engagement – is the epitome of a modern day renaissance woman. With considerable experience working at every post from grassroots organizing, campaign management and financing, and in-house strategy with elected officials, to fusing the worlds of entertainment and politics for influencer brands, and educating historically disenfranchised constituencies on what’s next in a post-Obama America – Parham delivers a fierce combination of government affairs and fundraising expertise complimented by unique perspective that sets her apart as one of few African American women dominating the consultancy and commenting landscape across the country.

As a servant leader, Parham has flexed her talent by raising nearly 20 million in funds, and registering an 87% win rate with initiatives and electoral campaigns leading local, state, and national candidates, elected officials, PACS, and non-profits. Over the past decade, more than 60 major entities have tapped her expertise to leverage financial, social and political capital. During the 2016 presidential election cycle, Parham not only worked behind the scenes to raise money and educate voters but was often called upon to share insights and analysis about the impact of the ever-changing political landscape on demographics of color. Further diversifying her background, Parham helped fund national leadership pipelines for Black women with the support of distinguished leaders in the Congressional Black Caucus, led strategy on the unanimously passed Raise the Wage campaign for the City of Los Angeles, played a central role in the year-long dialogue on the future of policing through The Institute for Nonviolence, and accepted special projects such as covert civic engagement training in Ferguson, MO following the nationally publicized social unrest in that region. Such vast experience has ultimately allowed her to be equally comfortable navigating the terrain of high stakes strategy and socially conscious fundraising as well as grassroots civic and community engagement. Parham’s distinctive approach in developing revolutionary platforms, effective impact strategies, and purposeful donor relationships distinguishes her as a Millennial actively working to advance the interests of key stakeholders from coast to coast.

From her start as a student organizer, then Fellow for (then Speaker of the CA Assembly) Hon. Karen Bass, to being appointed in 2015 by State Senator Holly J. Mitchell of California’s 30th District to serve as a Delegate to California’s State Democratic Central Committee (SDCC) through 2019, Parham has dedicated her life’s work to empowering underserved and underrepresented communities nationwide through civic engagement and donor activism. Acknowledged as a Founding Ambassador of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, honored by the Los Angeles Urban League Young Professionals and as one of The Empowerment Congresses “40 under 40” 2016 change-makers to watch, along with a completed tenure as the first National Vice Chair of the Black Caucus of the Young Democrats of America and membership in the American Association of Political Consultants (AAPC) and the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), she currently serves as a founding board member of the Black Cooperative Investment Fund (BCIF). An often outspoken proponent on topics ranging from the resistance movement to quantifying & leveraging Black capital, civil rights, womanism, millennial electoral participation, and identity politics, Parham prominently shares her passion and perspective as a monthly featured pundit on NPR and through a number of socio-political channels. Her writings have been published in several academic journals and online publications including The Huffington Post, The Grio, Rolling Out, Global Grind, FWD Nation, and The Psychology of Blacks: IV Edition; and her political commentary has been shared by local and national media outlets like NPR, BET Networks, The Hollywood Reporter, NBCBLK, PBS, SiriusXM, OWN, EURWeb, and more.

The daughter of internationally renowned educators, Psychologist Dr. Thomas A. Parham and Davida Hopkins-Parham, Kenya T. Parham was born and raised in Orange County, CA and currently resides in Los Angeles while often splitting time in Washington, DC.



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