

## Parents

### **(Ambience-Footsteps)**

Everson Ladson gives tours to perspective students and their families on the campus of Howard University...

### **(Ambience) [Duration:0'03"]**

His group today has about 14 or so parents and students...During the tour, Everson answers questions...most of which come from the parents in the group:

### **(Ambience) [Duration:0'03"]**

Though the college admissions process can be stressful for students, Jim Boyle, President of College Parents of America says it can be just as nerve-wracking for parents.

**(Boyle)** It is one of the most important transition of their child's life...great anxiety and apprehension for parents... **[Duration:0'08"]**

Following the tour, I sat down with three families...the Guerres' {GEARS}, the Jones', and the Washingtons'. They talked about their concerns on the admissions process and college in general.

Tiffany Guerre is the first child in her family applying to college. Her mother, Laurie expresses her fears as Tiffany becomes an adult:

**(Guerre)** Her safety...that's a big concern, as far as something happening to her while she's away. **[Duration:0'07"]**

Niles Jones is the oldest child in his family too. His mother, Dolores, says that she will continue to be involved in her son's life...

**(Jones)** Whatever school Niles chooses to go to, I will make sure that I meet whoever I need to meet so they know who I am, and I'm not going to have any issues with him being 3,000 miles away. Yes he will be independent but I will still be that 3,000 mile backup.

**[Duration:0'18"]**

For the Washington's, their son, Hassan, will be transferring schools after completing his first year at a community college...

His father, Sylvester, says going away for school is all about maintaining a balance.

**(Washington)** Balance between partying and the social life, and the academics and at the same time above all keeping focused. **[Duration:0'07"]**

Boyle explains that there is a natural urge for parents to want to stay in control of their children's lives. But, he says there is an extreme to parents who may come off as too pushy during the stressful admissions process.

He calls them Helicopter Parents...These parents will look at the process as if the whole family is applying...

**(Boyle)** We are applying to Howard University, we are applying to Michigan state. When the school admin hear that it just drives them crazy because they want the application to come from the student. **[Duration:0'13"]**

Boyle advises parents on how to stay involved and try to stand back at the same time...

**(Boyle)** Be a coach not a crutch. I think it's important for a parent to be there as a mentor and a team leader in the process and to view the college application process as a project.

**[Duration:0'12"]**

### **(Conclusion)**

The process can be stressful for parents and students alike but like Boyle explains, parents should guide rather than dictate. For Intern Edition, I'm Amanda Nembhard in Washington, D.C.