

Imam Arthur L. Farahkhan is President and co-founder of the 100 black men coalition of Tulsa, OK. He is also a former gang member and survivor of many inner-city conflicts. The father of seven children, an author and a Tulsa Oklahoma Imam, he has launched a new weapon in the war against indecency in Hip Hop music. He has written, recorded and released a new album, *"A Work Of Art Too"* that has the Hip Hop culture buzzing. The new album has even been described by critics as impressive and bold, and indicts some of the leading proponents of indecent hip hop as WITCH DOCTORS.

Brother Arthur, as he is musically known, states he is motivated by love and that the average hip hop ZOMBIE is not conscious that "rap" has "wrapped" the average artist up . . . many parents do not understand the power of "slang", and the power that it has over many of our youth. He says when often asked, why an Imam at the age of 62 is involved in such concerns, he states: "well consider what happened to the Public Schools after respect for the Creator was taken out . . . a wise person can answer the question for himself as to why I am still involved in trying to make a difference . . . and each of us, no matter the age, religion, or politics had better stay involved in creating a better world for our youth."

Brother Arthur has been blessed to be a part of the solution and not just the complaint. His new album is compelling and has something everyone can appreciate including a tribute to his deceased Leader, Imam W. Deen Mohammed, and a beautiful tribute to the struggling single mother. Imam Arthur has long been a fighter against neighborhood violence and recidivism, his work published work, *How to Solve the Inner City Gang Problem*, highlighted the importance of community, family and faith in the resolution of chronic gang "addiction." Tulsa Schools Superintendent, Dr. John W. Thompson says of the Imam, *"For years, Arthur Farahkhan has been a source of guidance and motivation for Tulsa's city youth. What he shares is deeply rooted in that experience . . . Mr. Farahkhan gathers some of the most thought provoking dilemmas and questions involving public schools and our children. In revisiting these issues, he is right on target. While there*

are no easy answers, there is an urgency to begin working together. Farahkhan makes a convincing argument that we in this community must act as partners in helping urban youngsters.”