

HOW TO MAKE A MILLION IN COMPTON

Karen Roberson

“The Renaissance Woman”



Name: Karen Roberson (40)

The Hustle(s): Playwright/Theater Producer/Food Truck Owner

Archetype: The Renaissance Woman

IG: [@mskarenroberson](#)

Superpower(s): Has the creativity and motivation to inspire the people around her to take a chance. Her enthusiasm is contagious...whether it's good business moves or not, she instills encouragement.

Her Hustle: Karen is the Owner and CEO of Mahogany Girl Productions LLC. MGP is a performing arts and community event based Production Company, combining performing arts, education and business development under one umbrella. MGP also host charity events fostering community involvement and positive change in the spirit of love and unity. She's dedicated to providing jobs for Compton residents and giving them a platform to showcase their talents. She supports her own dreams by running and operating a Po-boy food truck with her husband. Her immediate goal is to launch a national tour of her powerful hit play “The Penis Monologues – The Long Hard Truth,” which she wrote and directed. This year, her play grossed \$60K after 8 sold out nights in Los Angeles, and she's ready to take the show on the road. She's also looking to expand her Po-boy business.

The Backstory: Karen grew up in a very conservative and religious household in Compton. She feels fortunate to have known the love of a two-parent household, but wishes her upbringing had been a bit less strict and rigid. As a youngster, she was up for the featured role of Rudy Huxtable on *The Cosby Show*, but was unable to participate because of her mother's religious beliefs. She went on to become an honor student at California State University Dominguez Hills where she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theater Arts and Communication. She also obtained an Associate Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education from Los Angeles Southwest Community College. She's the mother of two girls ages 6 and 8. She took the time to be a stay at home mom and waited to continue and pursue her dreams until her daughters were both in school full-time. Her husband is an environmentalist for the State of California. They are proud Compton homeowners and have a healthy loving relationship. She's inspired by the successful career paths of Tyler Perry and Shonda Rhimes, knows what it feels like to be counted out, and will do everything she can to succeed.

Connections: Knows of Armani and Trap Kitchen. Wants to get on Tootie's guest list.