Out of the Blocks Storytelling Series | 400 E. Patapsco Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick Produced for the Out of the Blocks website, created by the Peale, https://ootb.thepeale.org/



Antonio McDuffy (00:01): For each clipper that I have, has a specific job. The master clipper, all-purpose clipper, a detail clipper, the 76er. This is the most powerful clipper in the industry. A barber's ace in the hole clipper. These Wahl's trimmers are usually for young men, the kids. These trimmers right here are for people that have what I call short forehead. This clipper right here is quiet, but it's also powerful and you have to be careful with this clipper because it will do surgery. It has what we call surgical blade on it.

Antonio McDuffy: (00:48) I'm Antonio McDuffy, owner of Antonio's Hair Design, 419 East Patapsco Avenue. As my card says, "Antonio's Hair Design, making a difference in the way you look and feel" and that's who I am. In this barbershop, we don't play any rap music. I'm an old school guy, so I like old school music. When I started this business, I was actually the first black barbershop in the area and coming to Brooklyn was a challenge and I took a chance, but it has worked out where I have a relationship with everyone. I am an ordained minister also, an elder at my church so I do relay that type of faith to my customers in conversation, not beating them down with religion, but just to empower them that they can have a better life, a better situation and there is hope for whatever they're going through.

Antonio McDuffy (02:58): In our neighborhood, in this community, to be honest, there's drugs, there's prostitution. You have to command your area. This is my area. This is where I make a living. I can't have a lot of negativity around because that will kill my business, which kills my livelihood, which kills my

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ability to take care of my family. To step out there and step up and say, you can't do that around here. It's all in the way you present it. Those same guys that come through here that were doing bad years ago, they come back and tell me that they're trying to get their GED. They're trying to find a job. I had a young man this morning came in, that was out there selling drugs and I used to always talk to him. He asked me about a job, but then he relayed to me he can't read. That was my opportunity to tell him this is what you need to do.

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