

interviewed by young activists of the 1990s in hope to learn from each other.

It was unlike any learning experience I had in my UNC-CH courses. Not only did it serve as a history lesson for younger participants, (I got a first hand account of COINTELPRO-an FBI program established to break down Black nationalist movements), but it gave the older generation a chance to see the next generation of radicals. Often times my generation (late 1970s) is criticized for not being as active as our parents' generation, but the youth of today showed that we are as committed to improving the lives of Blacks and other minorities as our ancestors were.

The BRC consisted of many different causes - Black Feminist, BRC Youth, Lesbian - Gay, Trade and Union and others over its three-day course. As a former leader in the UNC-CH Black Student Movement, I participated in the BRC Youth Caucus. It was a great opportunity to hear so many young individuals discuss their efforts and dedication to their communities.

In a workshop titled, "Youth and Student Organizing: Supporting Those...Who Have the Courage to Run Against the Storm: The Next Generation," we discussed the attacks on youth as gang bangers and promiscuous teens, as well as the results of recent cuts of minority programs and scholarships on campuses. We worked to establish ways to link together and combat the issues. In this session, as well as in the BRC Youth Caucuses, the minds of intelligent, active, yet stubborn individuals clashed.

The concept that so many people were trying to get together

to solve age old problems became very problematic. Many of us decided not to attend a number of the break sessions of the BRC Cultural Events featuring Sonja Sanchez. Instead, we stayed up until 3:00 AM to have our report-backs from our sessions. We argued

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There is quite a long road to take in the education of many of our communicates. When we left the

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and disagreed on ideologies and basic procedure.

When we finally broke off into regions of East, West, Mid-West and South, we began to accomplish many things. Each region came up with critical issues facing their communities. Some of the issues included; political apathy, failing criminal justice system, police brutality, welfare reform and liquor and cocaine addictions, among several others. The issue of southern Black and Latino farmers was a pressing one that didn't show up on the list of other regions.

The BRC Youth Caucus has composed a list-serv. I receive on an average of 5-10 messages each day about the efforts of participants and the continued quest for solutions to these many issues. We realized that our problems will not go

BCR Youth Caucuses, we vowed to stay abreast of the issues facing the African-American community and fight to end racism and inequality in America. I hope to do my part by creating awareness about the expansion of the prisons the punishment industry. The BRC was an event that will occur again in the future. I hope to attend again next year, but this time with more knowledge about what radicalism is...getting to the root." ☀

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