

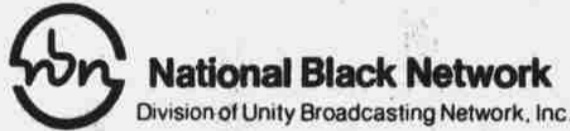
INTRODUCING NEWS IN THE MOTHER TONGUE

For Black people, the mother tongue is the same all over the country. It's the unique way we have of expressing ourselves. That's one of the reasons the National Black Network saw the need for a national Black news service.

What do we call Black news? It's simply news reported by Black people, edited by Black people, and affecting the lives of Black people.

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It's a bet that when you listen to an NBN station, you'll know where it's coming from. After all, it's carrying your news.



PREGNANCY PLANNING AND HEALTH

by Mrs. Gloria Riggsbee

Dear Mrs. Riggsbee: I have one child. During my second pregnancy I had a miscarriage, and I was put in the hospital for a D & C. What could have been done to stop the miscarriage and what are the chances of this happening again? The doctor said the fetus probably had passed out during the miscarriage. If it did not, would a D & C then be a fancy name for a legalized abortion? If the fetus did not pass out, would they have studied it without my permission?

Dear Mrs. S.: Doctors don't know exactly what causes miscarriages. When the fetus doesn't develop properly, or sometimes not at all, the body simply rejects it—particularly in the early stages of development. Some women, for a variety of reasons, have had many miscarriages. There is nothing the doctor or patient can do to stop a miscarriage once it has started. However,

unless you have had three in a row, there is no reason at all to suspect that your next pregnancy will end in miscarriage.

The D & C is a procedure for scraping the inside of the womb to remove any residue that might have been left by the miscarriage so that your body could easily carry another pregnancy. You don't need to worry whether or not the fetus passed with the bleeding or was removed by the D & C, and you have no reason to suspect that the D & C could in any way be called a legalized abortion. Doctors would not do a D & C if there were any chance at all of disturbing a normal pregnancy. Abortions are deliberate interruptions of normal pregnancies. Yours was not a normal pregnancy and it was not deliberately interrupted. Your body interrupted it.

Doctors will study the fetus (if there is one) in miscarriages until 20 weeks along. All tissue passed in miscarriages is studied by law in hospitals for diagnostic purposes.

Dear Mrs. Riggsbee: I have just found out that my husband has smoked marijuana. We want to have children, but I have heard that a woman who gets pregnant by someone who smoked marijuana has a good chance of having a deformed or mentally retarded child. If so, what should be done? Also, if he quit smoking marijuana, how long should the couple wait before they have children.

J. S. Alexander Is Research Dir. For Voter Educ.

ATLANTA, GA. — The nonpartisan Voter Education Project, Inc. (VEP) has named John Stanley Alexander as the Director of Research for its programs of assisting minority political participation in the 11 southern states.

VEP Executive Director John Lewis, in announcing the appointment, indicated that Mr. Alexander's responsibilities in the new post would include research of minority politics, evaluation of VEP programs, and the planning and implementation of all VEP research.

"Stan Alexander brings to this post a combination of relevant educational background and experience in the practical aspects of research programs," stated Lewis. "VEP research is most important, because it helps pinpoint the areas of the South which have the greatest need for our programs of voter registration, citizenship education, and leadership training. With limited financial resources to operate in such a large geographic area, it is imperative that we have a well-researched plan of action."

Mr. Alexander holds a B.A. degree in sociology from Johnson C. Smith University, attended graduate school in sociology at Atlanta University, and has completed special courses in research at Boston University and the Research and Evaluation Institute in Columbia, Maryland.

Research positions held by Stan Alexander before the VEP appointment include Program Director for Model Cities Evaluation at Atlanta University School of Social Work, and Director of Research for the Charlotte Model Cities Program in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Mr. Alexander is married to the former Carolyn Wallace. They are the parents of two children, Rava and Richard.

"I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of an organization with the caliber of VEP," said Alexander. "I am looking forward to an exciting career in political research, seeking more effective ways to involve more minority citizens in the political process."

The U. S. Labor force is expected to expand by 15.9 million during the 1970s, reaching 101.8 million by 1980, the U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reports.

Dear R.J.: There are no medical reports that show that there is any genetic damage done to children by the fact that the man smokes marijuana. The children, so far as medical science knows today, would not have a mental deficiency or be deformed. However, this is not to say that I recommend smoking marijuana. It is illegal, all its effects are not known, and some doctors do believe that it causes or increases psychological problems in people who smoke it.

Dear Mrs. Riggsbee: My husband and I want to adopt a child, but we have contacted the local social services department and they are not taking applications at this time. Where else could we go to apply for adoption?

Dear Mrs. V.: As you have found out, there are not many infants available for adoption these days. However, you want to be sure that the adoption agency that helps you is a good one. The Children's Home of North Carolina may be able to help you. Call the office nearest you and tell them you are interested in adopting a child. They will take it from there.

Address letters and requests for a free booklet on birth control to: Mrs. Gloria Riggsbee, 214 Cameron Avenue, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514.

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