

# EDITORIALS

## Help Protect Children From Abuse And Cruelty

A continuing and alarming symptom in our American society is the sickening aspect called the "battered child syndrome."

Each year and each day thousands of our children are either beaten or even killed by their parents.

It appears at times that our society seems powerless to deal with, or do anything about the severe problem revolving around such "battered children."

However, the availability of more foster care homes for children who have been removed from such situations, and especially homes for black children will help alleviate some of the problems.

Good black foster care homes are urgently needed in most areas.

The Social Services or Welfare Departments attempt to remove these children from such homes if available space can be found for them.

With the rising number of early marriages or just male and female

relationships—the advent of a child or children—many times can create problems that immature parents cannot solve. As a result they sometimes inflict and heap cruel, inhuman, or abusive treatment upon the child or children. Such parents not only need the children or child removed from the home, but they too, need help for surely they are sick themselves.

An important factor to remember is that child abuse falls in all sectors of our society, affluent as well as at poverty levels.

All children have a right to be protected from cruelty or abuse by immature or unfit parents.

But, perhaps, still the greatest need is for more available foster care homes for those children who desperately need such a change in their environment so that they can at least be helped in an atmosphere of trust, love and tender care.

## Goals Set For More Black Teachers

The recent report by the assistant superintendent of personnel in Durham county schools that his goal is to have a greater percentage of black teachers working in the schools to match black enrollment in those schools appears as a forward looking and positive goal.

Many educators have lost their positions and it is well past time for North Carolina administrators to continue to build the black image in larger proportions all over the state instead of cutting them down.

Reports from the recent NEA

teacher rights program show that about 211,000 more minority educators must be hired for the nation's public schools in order to "bring about equity and parity" for minorities.

There are many qualified black teachers and other administrators in North Carolina. If North Carolina school systems are to continue to reap the benefits from their educational experiences a more equitable system must be adhered to.

### High School Is Not Enough

Forty years ago, the black man or woman with a high school education could just about make it. There were factory jobs available, usually in the neighborhood, in large urban areas, and there was a lot of land labor available on farms in rural areas. The pace of life was more leisurely and many were not so tight. These things are no longer true. The factories have moved from black neighborhoods to the suburbs. Automation has taken over many of the labor jobs and the number of men needed to turn out products to meet the market has dropped tremendously.—Ebony Magazine.

### Hope For The Future

The real hope for the future of blacks lies now in what black adults can do for and with young blacks. Every black organization should be working to keep black youth in high school and steering them on to college. This concern should include the quality of the elementary and high schools which black children attend and means of financing the college careers of those who aspire to be architects and engineers, teachers and preachers, businessmen and social workers. This is the only way that blacks can save themselves and help their black brothers in other countries. All the rapping in the world won't do it. Education and dedication are the only way.—Ebony Magazine.

## To Be Equal

by Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

National Director of Urban League

## ATLANTA IS SHOWING POLITICAL MATURITY

I've known Atlanta's new mayor-elect, Maynard Jackson, since the days when we both attended the segregated David T. Howard High School in Atlanta, a school whose textbooks were hand-me-downs from white schools that discarded them, school that for a long time had no gym, a school whose black students were often bused past half-empty all-white schools to maintain segregation.

Maynard and I were in the school band together — I played trumpet, he played trombone. Now he seems to be playing the right kind of music for Atlantans, who just elected him the first black mayor of a major southern city in an election that has national significance.

The lessons to be drawn from the Atlanta election are many, but perhaps the most immediately significant is the sophistication and maturity of Atlantans in general and black voters in particular.

Jackson's opponent went all out in a campaign that appealed to the hidden racism of many people. He tried to tie Jackson to a more militant black, Hosea Williams, running for council president, and took out scare ads in the papers that were headlined: "Atlanta is too young to die."

As other desperate politicians have learned, this approach backfired. In a city whose population is evenly divided between blacks and whites, there is just too great an interest on everyone's part in keeping racial hatred out of the picture. Jackson got over 20 percent of the white vote and might have gotten more if his opponent had not had a record and reputation of liberalism.

The large number of whites voting for Jackson was a heartening indication of the city's political maturity, but even more impressive was the black vote. As expected, it went overwhelmingly for Jackson, a qualified, popular black candidate. But black voters showed their independence of racial factors in the election for city council president. Over thirty percent voted for a white liberal with a

reputation for racial fairness, deserting a black candidate in the process, so many blacks voted a split-ticket and brought an integrated team into City Hall. In one majority black councilmanic district, a progressive white minister won over a popular black candidate and both men kept race out of their campaign.

Thus, we see a remarkable example of political sophistication at work among black people who, let us not forget, were barred from voting throughout much of the South until only eight short years ago. In the first round of voting, blacks rejected another black candidate they saw as a "spoiler" to split their votes to back an integrated city government that has a black mayor, a white council president and a city council evenly divided among the races, 9 and 9.

So Atlanta can be said to be the first American city that is truly bi-racial in its government and in its civic life. Hopefully, the Atlanta example will be the model for the nation, instead of the polarizing, hate-filled campaigns and results too common elsewhere.

The hallmark of Jackson's campaign and of his plans for the city is his concern for integrated solutions to the problems facing Atlantans, solutions that benefit whites and blacks alike. His victory was based on community-wide support of both races and the team that campaigned for him was fully integrated, as well.

So the new mayor-elect comes to office with a huge debt to the common people of the city, a gut commitment to integrated approaches to city government, and a heritage of public service. His grandfather, John Wesley Dobbs, was a pioneer in black politics in Georgia and helped organize the Georgia Voters League and the Atlanta Negro Voters League, and his father, Dr. Maynard H. Jackson, was a leading Atlanta minister and teacher.

So the new mayor has not only a deep commitment to the city and its people, but to a family tradition of service and excellence that bodes well for the future. We wish him well.

## ONE WAY TO REDUCE THE "BLACK PRESENT"

TO DECLARE: "STERILIZATION ON THE RETARDED HAD ITS PRECEDENT IN NAZI GERMANY. THIS WHOLE THING IS A HORRENDOUS ATTACK ON PRIVACY, INNOCENCE AND THE RIGHT OF MOTHERHOOD."

JULIAN BOND



## ROY WILKINS SAYS

Executive Secretary of NAACP



## HOW MANY UNDERSTAND?

Many Negro Americans wonder, in spite of the voluntary and involuntary cram courses in race relations in every state, just how many white Americans really understand the civil rights struggle.

How many understand the impassioned talk about denial of rights which wells up, wily-nilly from black people in any black-white argument? Not many. Those whites who at least listen have their own explanations.

Others are impatient because the cold-blooded violence of some young blacks turns them off from any argument, rational or not. Or some senseless black vandalism, especially unnecessary cruelty makes them stop their ears and lift their voices in opposition to anything black.

The terrible torch murder of a white young woman in Boston is a case in point. Black people ought to repeatedly condemn this act because, whether they do so or not, the burning will be in the minds of millions of whites in any confrontation anywhere in the land.

The killing of a policeman is another case in point. Muggings and terror and insults and robbery on the bus or subway train are other cases that make for millions of anti-black votes. Arguments to the deaths by knife or gun over a quarter or a dollar also make people anti-black.

So, out of Watergate, which has meant a sickness for the whole nation and certainly for the President, could come a new appreciation of the Negro American's fierce contention that the constitutional cards are stacked against him.

This putting him down on the broad citizenship level "low rates" him in all his efforts in every locality — in employment, in housing, in schooling for his children. The blacks may yet make a silk purse (civil rights progress) out of a sow's ear (Watergate).

sweep of American democracy. The Watergate doings apparently had no effect, at the time, on the principal actors. They were caught up in the re-election of a President of the United States. Many of them, regardless of their roles, were blindly convinced that the world depended on that re-election.

No price was too great to pay, even if it meant trampling underfoot the most sacred pledges of individual liberty.

A member of the Watergate cast of characters has said:

"I have to say, however, in all honesty, that I never really understood how it felt to be under the gun, so to speak, with one's own individual liberties at stake. I now know what it feels like and I doubt I would ever be very cavalier about the rights of any one individual regardless of the needs of the state or the majority. I suppose blacks over the years have had a very special sensitivity since so many have known the experience of wondering if their own liberties can be protected.

"If, in the end, some of us who may have the opportunity to influence the course of affairs in this country become a little more sensitive about the life and liberties of each individual, then perhaps it will have all been worthwhile. I may have thought that I understood and supported the civil rights movement before, but I know now that I never really did."

So, out of Watergate, which has meant a sickness for the whole nation and certainly for the President, could come a new appreciation of the Negro American's fierce contention that the constitutional cards are stacked against him.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Too often we hear from people who ought to know better, in articles and speeches reported in the mass media that the civil rights movement is slowing down. It is being argued there is a growing disillusionment among civil rights workers because the advantages of the gains made in civil rights legislation and court decisions, won mainly by the political pressure and legal work of the NAACP, are not reflected in the economic conditions of poor blacks in the ghettos. Sometimes it is even claimed that the ghetto Negroes are envious of the more affluent Negroes who have made economic gains, in jobs and education for example, from civil rights legislation; and that the affluent Negroes want to separate themselves in turn from the disadvantaged ghetto blacks.

However, there are important factors which are helping to counteract that situation in so far as it exists. Most members of the NAACP, and a few others, mainly Negro trade unionists recognize that the struggle against racial

discrimination and against economic exploitation are very closely intertwined. They can best be fought by cooperation between black and white organizations and individuals. The NAACP, for example, has added to its program of civil rights legislation for the racially underprivileged, support for economic legislation for the financially underprivileged. These measures include better social security, particularly government health insurance to provide part of their pay plus medical and hospital care for those who cannot work because of illness or non-industrial accidents, higher and more inclusive Federal minimum wage legislation especially the effort made by Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm to bring domestic workers under the protection of Federal labor legislation. (A bill which Nixon vetoed.) The NAACP also supports the right of unions which do not discriminate to get recognition by a labor board election instead of having to strike for it, more public low rent housing, more nearly adequate

public welfare relief, and more money for food stamps to help the diet of the poor. All these measures help poor whites as well as poor Negroes, although Negroes suffer from poverty more in proportion than do whites. There is ground for belief that poor whites will join with poor blacks in an effort to get these measures adopted; and in a common political effort both groups will get to understand each other better, and racial antagonism will erode with this greater understanding. There is no conflict here between more affluent members of the black middle class and poor Negroes, since black doctors, dentists, lawyers, and ministers depend overwhelmingly on poor Negroes for their patients, clients, and congregations. The same is true of black teachers and professors, although to a lesser extent because of some real progress which has been made in school integration among faculty as well as students.

Alfred Baker Lewis

● Congressman  
● Hawkins  
● Column  
By REP. AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS

## Costly Medical Care

Most Americans are aware of the high cost of medical care, but few can quote exact costs. In 1966, Americans paid \$5 billion dollars for health care; this year, Americans will pay approximately \$9 billion dollars or more, which represents a 200 percent increase in 13 years. Medical care of all kinds is thus costing about \$400 per person, or \$1,500 for a family of four.

A national poll taken in 1971 and 1972, revealed that 3 out of every 4 persons were dissatisfied with the present medical care system. (Of the total population of 206 million Americans, about 181.5 million have some form of medical care insurance.)

CRITICS OF THE PRESENT "solo practice" system, charge that it costs too much, is inefficient, over duplicates services, and is wasteful of both manpower and equipment.

On the forefront of this crisis in American medical care, are the widely growing HMO's or Health Maintenance Organizations. These "one-stop health care" programs, which have doubled in number in the last three years, provide for a fixed fee in advance, all the medical care a family may need in a year, under one roof, using one telephone number, a 24 hours a day, seven days a week. EIGHT MILLION Americans are receiving HMO care today; it is estimated that this figure will double to 16 million within the next two years.

Pre-paid fees for HMO members are no higher than premiums charged by Blue Cross - Blue Shield, or by indemnity insurance companies.

Drug costs — generally a high item expense in medical care — tends to be lower for HMO members, according to HMO authorities. In Seattle, Washington for example, where a major HMO of 86,000 members is located, in one year the average outlay for drugs for that specific HMO, was \$8.50 per member, as against \$16 a family for the U.S. population as a whole for the same year.

A KEY TO THE GROWTH of HMO's is the emphasis on preventive care and the early detection and treatment of illness — which has also resulted in lower health care costs. Because of this emphasis, HMO members spend less time in the hospital, thus cutting down on the fastest-rising part of medical costs.

Last year, the Congress, recognizing the need for more and better health care for Americans, voted to allow people over 65 years of age to join HMO's and have their fees paid in part by Medicare. A potential of 20 million senior citizens have been therefore affected by this legislation.

There is evidence that the Congress, which has provided financial and technical assistance to HMO's on a trial basis since 1971, is now prepared to further encourage HMO growth. The Senate has passed a HMO Bill, authorizing \$805 million over three years. The House bill, more modest, authorizes \$240 million over a five year period. The two versions still must be reconciled.

The projection however, is that in 1980, 90 percent of the population will have access to at least one pre-paid HMO group. In that year, it is estimated that some 40 million Americans will be pre-paying their medical bills.

In any event, the winners will be the American people.



## YES, WE ALL TALK

By Marcus H. Boulware, Ph.D.

## Making An Outline

In making a speech, the speaker should consider making a plan or outline. An outline is a most suitable device. If the speech is long (fifteen minutes or more), an outline is almost a necessity. If the speech is brief (two to ten minutes), the outline is still desirable.

The outline should contain the main points of your speech, yet it should not be too detailed or you may become more interested in following your outline than in paying attention to your audience. Your outline is your central line of argument or explanation, sketched very roughly. It is a reminder of what comes next. It should not be a completely written speech.

OFTEN ONE will want to include in outline quotations, figures, etc., in complete written form. Your listeners will appreciate such brief interludes, and your speech will gain authenticity. Christ himself spoke parables so to make Divine Truth understood by everyone.

The outline should have a beginning, a middle, and an end. So does the speech, and yet this requires a good deal of conscious attention. READERS: For my pamphlet on Stage Flight, send two 8-cent stamps and a long, self-addressed business envelope to M.H. Boulware, Florida A&M University, Box 193, Tallahassee, Florida - 32307.

## Agnew's Fight

Generally speaking, the press hasn't been unkind to Vice President Spiro Agnew in his current dilemma. A few reporters aired leaks, which were unfair, consisting of charges and claims unproven and unanswered.

But the press as a whole (and television) has been more restrained than it was with the President. For some time every liberal commentator and columnist and many others assumed the President guilty and many demanded his resignation.

The President, however, appointed a Democrat as special prosecutor to investigate Watergate scandals. He admitted being partly responsible, pledged to help clean up the political systems, though he insisted all along he didn't know of the Watergate break in before it occurred; numerous witnesses have since supported this claim.

Mr. Agnew has largely addressed himself to the process by which he is being investigated, not to specific charges of accepting sums of money from Maryland contractors over the years. If he did that, whether the process by which he is investigated is fair or not, he is in very serious trouble with most Americans.

That sort of political pygmy exists, and some consider it acceptable. Without pre-judging the Vice President, who should have a fair chance to defend himself before assumed guilty, if the charges against him are substantiated, that is the primary issue involved, not leaks to the press.

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