

### Be Wary of Certain "Brothers" And Their Deadly Friendships



## Editorials

### We Must Fight For Our Youth

Almost everyone wants to know what is happening to black youth? Why are they chronically unemployed, bombed on dope, violent and promiscuous?

The answer is really simple.

Many of us asking the questions have not worked very hard to change the situation. It is not enough to want young people to be better. It is not enough to get the "gub'ment" to pass a program for black youth.

No. We — all of us — who know that the way they are now headed leads to misery and self-destruction, must get out here and fight for our youth.

Fighting for our youth means more than just hoping things will get better. We have to spend time with them. That's what the people who corrupt them do. They spend time with our young people. They all work at it — the pimps, the pushers, the partyers, the prostitutes — the entire collection of vultures that are filling young people's heads with a collection of smooth sounding garbage.

When we send our young people to school, or wherever, these vultures are perched on the corner, "looking good, talking bad and selling the excitement of their lifestyles".

Those of us who want things to be different for our young people must do the same thing. We must spend some time with them, not preaching, but teaching; often hot scolding, but holding their hands to guide them through the many traps and pitfalls that mar the road to success.

Even that is not enough. The fight for our youth includes an all-out assault against the vultures. We can't make jokes about the "pimp-mo-bile" or the "dope wagon" as it cruises through our neighborhoods. We can't wink slyly at the prostitutes. We can't make excuses for the thieves, or blame the violence on hard times.

There are but two positions one can take in this fight for our youth. One is either a part of the problem, or a part of the solution. There is no middle ground. So, if we choose to ignore the fight we must be engaged in, then we shouldn't complain when the drugs or worse captures our young person in its clutches and proceeds to destroy them.

### It Does Make One Wonder

While the recent eleventh hour contract between the city and the Hayti Development Corporation appears at first glance to be the hard won result of more than six months of tough negotiation, there are a number of serious questions that must be answered.

For example, what is the difference between the city's \$40,000, six-month contract with the Durham Business and Professional Chain and the city's twelve-month contract with the Hayti Development Corporation?

We said editorially several weeks ago that the Business Chain contract appeared to be the city asking the Chain to solve a ten or twelve year old urban renewal problem to the detriment of the eight black firms that remain to be relocated in Hayti. We asked how the Chain could do in six months what the city has failed to do in more than ten years?

The same question is appropriate to the most recent contract. How can HDC accomplish in twelve months what the city has not done in more than ten years?

Politically, it appears that at the last minute, with the city over a barrel on the proposed civic center bond referendum, HDC managed to wrangle \$65,000 out of the city in exchange for the Durham Committee's endorsement of the civic center. Is this situation what it appears?

This seems to be very similar to the deal the Chain cut. This longtime black organization was resurrected from the ashes of federal defunding by the city's contract.

In both instances, it is not clear exactly what these two organizations, supposedly in business to serve the black community, are to do for this money.

But there is one truism vocalized by James Brown some years ago that we need to keep in mind: "You gotta pay the cost to be the boss".

Now in two instances, less than a year apart, the city has paid a total of \$105,000 for two black organizations to do "something" in Hayti. Well, it's obvious that since the city paid, the city is the boss.

It might be just as obvious that since the city is the boss, the black community will probably come out on the short end of the stick as it has for the past twenty years in Hayti.

The bottom line is very simple: If Durham's black community ever expects to be the boss, then black folks have got to pay the cost. Running across the tracks our hands out is still begging, even though our cause might be honorable.

## To Be Equal

## Depression Hits Blacks Hard

By John E. Jacob  
Executive Director, National Urban League

By now it should be obvious that Reaganomics has failed.

For a year and a half we've conducted an experiment in wishful thinking and all we have to show for it is a deficit projected at half a trillion dollars over the next five years and a raging Depression.

We've got a cascade of bankruptcies ranging from the corner grocer to giant companies employing thousands. We've got a manufacturing sector operating at only seventy per cent of capacity, double-digit interest rates that paralyze business activity and over ten million people out of work.

Much of the devastation is temporary; but the damage done to black and minority Americans will be felt for another generation.

First, the small, struggling black middle class is being decimated.

Blacks are disproportionately employed by government, and federal personnel layoffs have hit black government workers especially hard. Minority administrators have been laid off at over double the rate for whites.

The last hired, first fired principle is working with a vengeance too as black workers are laid off by corporations and state and local governments. The net result is a sharp blow to the middle class backbone of the black economy.

Second, the astronomical unemployment rate among young blacks means that millions will be deprived of the work experience, discipline and skills needed to enter the economic mainstream.

Their generation should have been the one that made the breakthrough to parity with the white majority. Instead, it looks like it will become a Depression generation doomed to marginal activity.

Third, the impact on the working poor through layoffs and federal program cuts forces many into total dependency. We have no body count on the number of people forced to drop out of college and technical schools, forced onto welfare rolls, or drafted into the rapidly expanding army of the permanently poor.

But we do know that black poverty figures are rising, that blacks dropped from CETA jobs are still unemployed, and that black enrollments at colleges are down. Many of those victims of the Depression of '82 will never recover.

All of this takes place in a setting that finds the typical black family earning just a little over half of what the typical white family earns and less than the government itself says is needed for a decent standard of living.

It takes place in a setting in which black unemployment is officially near the twenty per cent level, and almost a third of

blacks are out of work if you include discouraged workers and parttimers who want to work full-time.

So what has happened is that a black community that historically has been disadvantaged and disproportionately poor has been hit, and hit hard, by the Depression and by deep cuts in programs that help provide education, training, housing, and health care.

This is something I cannot accept as solely a political issue or as an economic issue. It is also a moral issue.

I believe all Americans and their leaders have to face up to the moral dimensions of this problem. For policies that make the poor poorer while making the rich richer raise inescapable questions of fairness and justice.

Black people and poor people are no strangers to the duty of making sacrifices for our country. But it's a very different thing to be singled out to make sacrifices for the sake of theories of limited government and radical experiments in economics.

We are under no illusions about the sacrifices this nation must make to restore its economy and to compete in vastly changed world markets. But we are also under no illusions about the need for those sacrifices to be spread evenly and for the poorest among us to be cushioned from their effects.

## An Independent View From Capitol Hill Unemployment Rate Also Hurts Those With Jobs

By Gus Savage  
Member of Congress

We cannot afford to continue to follow the line that says: "A recession is when the other guy is out of work, and a depression is when unemployment reaches me."

Clearly, the soaring unemployment rate hurts those without jobs. It also undermines the entire community.

Whenever unemployment climbs another percentage point, the federal government loses about \$25 billion tax receipts. Yet, when this happens, more revenues must be spent for unemployment payments and for other so-called "safety net" programs, greatly aggravating the fiscal problem caused by the loss of revenue.

The resulting increased government deficit forces interest rates higher. This in turn, keeps the overall economy sluggish. Under such conditions, businesses are less willing to invest or hire more. In fact, they

look for ways to trim costs, which in most instances means a further reduction in work force.

In past years, when such a negative economic cycle developed, Congress authorized more revenues for public employment, job training and unemployment assistance. However, under Reagan's reign, Congress voted the opposite in the current federal budget as well as in the ones voted this month by the House and the Senate to begin October 1 (fiscal year 1983). The latter are presently being reconciled by House-Senate conferees.

That is why clergy from the district of Chicago and its suburbs that I represent recently lobbied leaders of Congress for some relief. If we are to rebound from the slump of unemployment, we must raise a mass, national lobby for meaningful job-related legislation.

The black church well could take its lead from Chicago's Clergy Crusade, under the leadership of Revs. Claude Wyatt, N.A. Allen, H. Brady, James Tillman and Jesse Cotton.

Also in Chicago recently, an organization of the unemployed held a conference, out of which came an *ad hoc* committee called "Jobs or Income Now" (JOIN).

Further dark clouds loom on the horizon. In the fall, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) is scheduled to expire. By next winter or spring, many of those recently unemployed will have run out of unemployment compensation payments.

The jobless and those with jobs need to unite in massing pressure on Congress to change the final version of the federal budget for fiscal year 1983. We still have time to force Congress to respond to the need for jobs, justice and peace.

## Remembering When

By Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

At a time when economic troubled times are with us and reactionary winds blow across the land, it is sometimes helpful to take a trip back in time and remember when America was taking bold steps toward resisting racial and economic injustices.

And, although different circumstances and realities exist now than in the past, there are certain timeless ideals and sound public policy positions which will never lose their intrinsic value to our society.

The early and mid 1960's, although turbulent, produced sweeping changes in how Americans and the world would view itself. It was a decade of positive change for minorities in the area of civil rights and economic opportunity. The 1960's produced a national outcry for the rights of man and delivered a ringing message throughout the country that the abridgment of basic human rights would no longer be tolerated. It was the age of Camelot, the New Frontier and the Great Society. A pop group pleaded for a "hammer of justice, a bell of freedom". Another musical artist wrote about a "place in the sun, where there's hope for everyone". Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. awakened the nation's consciousness with his passionate call for peace, justice, civil rights and urban policies.

It is necessary perhaps to take a sentimental journey back into time to try to make some sense to the Administration's callous indifference with respect to poverty programs and civil rights policies and mechanisms. While the songs and the emotional electricity that sprung from the 1960's may be somewhat out of political fashion — people's human needs are not.

The backlash of reaction we are witnessing today is the result of an insidious attempt by this Administration to use the current economic crisis as means of pitting one group against another. One local community in contest with another over federal funds. One program in competition with another.

The President, by referring to meaningless anecdotes, unknowingly perhaps, resurrects damaging stereotypes, arousing national emotion in support of his misguided policies.

With the first significant effects of past social policy now being felt, it would be a national tragedy to leave this task so largely uncompleted. A strong public resolve is needed to counter the Administration's primitive understanding of human conditions in America. By remembering when, perhaps we can remember again what now must be done. Blacks must assume a more aggressive role at the ballot box. Public officials must not abandon the needs of the poor.

the elderly, war veterans and young people for politically expedient reasons. We must stand publicly for an economic policy which truly provides opportunity for all, and not for a select few.

While it is impractical to live in the past, the message here is to understand the forces which in the past helped forge significant human gains for men and women, and why. The decade of the sixties is of course history, but the spirit of its bold initiatives and its human agenda continually refresh our memories to remind us why its purposeful mission was needed then, and why it is still needed today.

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## Congratulations...But...

We congratulate all of the people who won either a first chance or another opportunity to represent Durham citizens following Tuesday's primary election.

On your part, winning is obviously the result of hard work and commitment. Voters have placed their faith in you.

Now that you've won, the question is will Durham's citizens win, those who voted for you, and others as well?

That is the most important question.

Thus for the next two or four years, we will be looking over your shoulder, asking questions, probing, examining and reminding you constantly of all those wonderful things you said during the past several weeks as you sought to win.

Our goal will be to hold you accountable to the expectations that citizens have for the particular office you hold.

Our method obviously will be to generate public discussions on various issues over which you have control and by which citizens are affected.

So, now that the heated campaigns are over and your attention turns to the hard work of public service, our's turns to the constant vigil of public accountability.

Again, congratulations...but...accountability must follow as surely as day follows night.