

# EDITORIALS

## Reagan Shows Insensitivity

Despite a reputation for making many inexcusable statements of very bad judgment or acts of complete insensitivity to his fellowman, President Ronald Reagan has shown a talent for overcoming such blunders and continuing to appear as the All-American boy who loves and cares for those he was elected to serve. Likewise, Mr. Reagan has a talent for somehow separating his personality and popularity from many of the disliked policies of his administration.

Ironically, two conservative political news commentators, who have often spoken admiringly of the President in the past, have said recently that Reagan's problem arises in part from his years of a relatively isolated world of make-believe - Hollywood. One of these commentators, Payl Weyrich, reportedly said, "I think his Hollywood background has sometimes prevented him from being sensitive enough to the realities that are out there." Mr. Weyrich then offers a weak excuse for Mr. Reagan's blunders by suggesting that "Because of his background in motion pictures he relies on people who direct and write the scripts, and you don't have competent people writing the script you have serious problems."

It is in fact the acceptance of such excuses for Mr. Reagan's words and actions of insensitivity that should be the greater cause for concern by the American people. For example, when Mr. Reagan reacted to loud criticisms of his plan to visit a cemetery in West Germany where military

men are buried who were involved in the World War II Holocaust that tortured and killed millions of Jews, he reacted by making the unbelievable statement that such soldiers were no less victims than the Jews in the concentration camps.

Ironically, that blunder, too, was passed off by some political scientists and even some Reagan critics as not a reflection of any prejudice on the part of Mr. Reagan, but rather a vision that is said to be essentially narrow, unbitter and lacking in historical perspective. "People sense no meanness or vindictiveness there. They attribute what he says to political naivete."

In recent weeks Mr. Reagan has said also that the black South Africans demonstrating against oppression in their own homeland and who were killed by white policemen were at fault. Similarly, President Reagan has demonstrated great insensitivity in past years to many black Americans, Social Security recipients, farmers, women, the handicapped, women and welfare dependents.

In an age of potential nuclear war, at a time hopefully of renewed enlightenment and sensitivity to the human condition, and as the Republican Party seeks to establish some meaningful credibility with many segments of American voters, the nation can ill afford to have a President with a narrow minded view of the world, lacking in sensitivity and having no meaningful historical perspective as to how things really are and have become.

## Both Parties Have An Act To Clean Up

Rewritten From  
The Chronicle

The Democratic Party has always had its conservative sector. The names of George Wallace, James Eastland, Sam Ervin and Orval Faubus should ring a bell bringing to remembrance forces, labeled Democrats, that sought to keep blacks in bondage.

Now these same forces wish to reassert themselves in the Democratic Party to allegedly appeal to the voters who jumped ship in November. Apparently there are retrogressive elements in the Democratic Party also.

This point is presented to balance the opinion held by too many in the electorate who suggest that the Democratic Party is the house of virtue and the other Party is the house of vice and all that ills America.

We would suggest that both Parties have an act to clean up if they are to contribute to the better development of our society.

We would contend that neither house has a monopoly on righteousness and equity, but rather that both must be held accountable for their narrowmindedness when displayed or commended for their progressiveness when it appears.

The former N.C. state chairman of the Jesse Jackson for President campaign has suggested to the understandable panic of many leading black Democrats that 20 percent of the black electorate should be in the Republican Party. His suggestion was

met with fire and brimstone from the voice boxes of the overwhelmingly Democratic black leadership and the community it seeks to guide.

The black community appears to be the only group that has exhibited an inability to develop strategies and handle non-traditional circumstances in the political arena if the setting is not to its comfort. It is a fact that the political behavior of the black community is predestined and predictable. It lacks bargaining leverage because it has nowhere else to go.

Other groups form alliances, switch parties, restructure allegiances or take whatever posture necessary to accomplish their objectives. The black community is locked into one house and dare not come out.

Some reasons for this set of circumstances are that some segments of the black Democratic leadership have vested interests to protect, and the black Democratic electorate is their offering. Another consequential reason is that there exists significant peer pressure from within the black community that everyone be and behave alike. How dare one be different - or a Republican?

It will only be when the sole objective is the progress of the people that real progress will be made. Anything else is so much hogwash.

## From Capitol Hill

## Future Federal Judges To Be Rich White Males?

By Alfreda L. Madison  
Special To The Post

The Joint Center for Political Studies published an article by Sheldon Goldman, University of Massachusetts, which gives an analysis of President Reagan's judicial appointments. The article also provides an insight into expectations of future Reagan federal judge appointments.

The article states that Ronald Reagan's landslide reelection is often compared with Franklin Roosevelt's second term victory. Both Presidents sought to change the courts to their philosophy by appointing judges who shared their views. With two terms in office, Reagan will appoint more federal judges than both Roosevelt and Eisenhower together.

In comparing the Reagan District Court appointees with Carter's, the study makes the following observation.

Reagan: 90.7 percent male, 9.3 percent female, 93 percent white, 0.8 percent black, 5.4 percent Hispanic, 0.8 Asian. Total number of appointments, 129. President Carter: 85.6 percent male, 14.4 percent female, white 78.7 percent, black, 13.9 percent, Hispanic 6.9 percent, Asian 0.5 percent. Total number appointments, 202. Economic bracket of the appointees: Reagan less than \$200,000 District judges, 18.6 percent million dollar bracket 22.5 percent, Appeals Court, less than \$200,000, 10.0 percent, million dollar bracket 23.3 percent. Carter, District Court, less than \$200,000 35.8 percent, million dollar bracket 4.0 percent, Appeals Court, less than \$200,000, 33.3 percent million dollar bracket 10.3 percent.

President Reagan appointed the



Alfreda L. Madison

first woman to the U.S. Supreme Court. He also appointed two women to two other judicial positions. He is given credit for pushing sexual equality in recruiting federal district judges.

The Reagan Administration's black judge appointments is abysmal. The record is the worst since President Eisenhower, in which no blacks were appointed to lifetime District Court positions. The report says, "Justice Department officials are aware of this poor record and have said they would like to improve it, but they feel it is extraordinarily difficult to find well-qualified blacks who share the President's philosophy and are also willing to serve." Critics respond that the Administration has not made recruitment of blacks a high priority. It is felt that is because blacks are largely Democrats.

The Center for Judicial Studies concluded that the majority of Reagan appointees have demonstrated judicial restraint along lines favored by the Administration.

The Reagan Administration has



## Do Babyboomers Affect The Workplace?

How do baby boomers affect the workplace? First by putting new pressures on the work ethic. It is expected by 1995 the number of U.S. citizens between the ages of 31 and 56 will increase by nearly 21 million. On the flip side the number of young people - teenagers - entering the workforce will drop sharply. Obviously, this will contribute to reducing the unemployment rate of this group.

Along with the high level of education, baby boomers are also bringing in a new work ethic. One main point being that the quality of the work environment is truly important. Since over half of working mothers have children under the age of six and 65 percent of the working moms have children six to 17, both male and female workers are demanding that firms offer flexitime, maternity and paternity leave, and day care services.

The sense of company loyalty is declining. Climbing the ladder has changed. Instead of staying with one company to do this, boom-



Sabrina Johnson

ers move from one company to another as opportunities arise. Aside from that, boomers are facing a promotions squeeze. The U.S. Department of Labor expects that the percentage of middle management jobs will increase by at least 19 percent by the end of the 1980s; however, the percentage of women and men 36 to 46 will increase by 42 percent. High expectations are finding low mobility.

This generation is not always what management wants. Instead of "being nice to the customer," boomers

expect the customer to be nice to them. Boomers are very arrogant and cocky, causing them to divorce jobs and mates at a high level.

Many boomers in their 20s and 30s put corporate life aside and are becoming entrepreneurs. Success for this group is primarily based on the economic growth of this decade and ones to come. Studies show that nine in every 10 boomers believe they have a better chance of achieving the good life standard than parent and grandparent generations.

Family life and marriage have taken a new twist for this generation. Young adults are waiting later to marry, have fewer children and divorce more than parent generations. They spend more time in school and feel they must explore life before making a commitment and having children. Two of every three boomer females hold jobs and are flocking in greater numbers into the workforce.

Liberal social attitudes also make this generation unique. Studies show a majority of boomers support gay rights, unmarried men and women in cohabitation and paternal custody. Call them liberal conservatives. Boomers' personal lifestyles are extremely egalitarian, more so than ever studied.

Marriage is no longer the primary but taking a place much lower on the totem pole. Goals have taken the place of marriage and instead of it being the cake, it is now the icing or decoration.

Another inhibitor of marriage is that boomers divorce more. The rate has doubled since the 1960's and for those under 30 it has quadrupled. This means more single people and more single parents. The mate-squeeze is one cause of singlehood. Traditionally, women marry men about two years older, women born during the boom period have fewer men to choose from. Thus giving way to a new pattern.

Boomer women are marrying younger men, and a great number of women and men are cohabiting. Ultimately, about 90 percent of boomers do and will marry by age 35 and will restructure family life. Husbands will become more involved in child rearing and women more involved in earning additional money contributing to the need for the good life.

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