

Opinions On The Street

Should Parents Help With Education?

In another Post story this week, school board member Arthur Griffin stresses the importance of parents forming partnerships with the schools. Instead of leaving education totally in the hands of teachers, Griffin insists that parents, particularly black parents, must become more involved in their children's education.

How do parents feel about that suggestion? Should parents be involved in helping educate their children, or should that task be left up to the schools? That's the question The Post posed to seven individuals at a nearby shopping center. Apparently all agree that parents should help in the education of their children.

● **JOSEPH CLARK**, a retired City employee, lives on Remount Road. Himself the father of six grown children and the grandfather of three, Clark comments, "I think parents should help." He believes that when parents stay involved, children stay out of trouble.

● **NETTIE MAE STROUD** of Drummond Avenue works as a shirt presser. The mother of 12, she states, "It's right for parents to help. I help with mine. If you don't, nobody else is going to help them." Most of her children are grown, but one son, David, attends Eastway Junior High.

● **JEAN YOUNT**, a Fort Mill resident, works the counter at a Charlotte dry cleaner. To the question, "Should parents help?" she responds, "All the way, because children need help. If you have a child, it's your responsibility to help take care of it in school." She has one grown son, whom she helped when he was in school. Her grandson is on the Teachers' Honor Roll, "so you know his parents are helping him," she remarks.

● **MARY BRYANT**, of Chester, S.C., is employed in Charlotte. One of her eight children is still in school. "I help mine," she reports. "You can see how their grades are by helping out." She also thinks it keeps them out of trouble.

● **SARAH JANE BROWN**, a retired Charlottean, lives on Beechnut Road. She has three grown children, 12 grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. She is a firm believer in parents helping with their children's education. "That's our duty," she notes. "I helped mine. My daughter helped her children when they were in school." She continues, "That's a loving parent. If you stay involved, you always have something in common to talk about. God loves families."

● **MITCHELL GATEWOOD**, of West Boulevard, is employed as a sales representative for Mister 'G' Home Remodeling. "Parents need to be involved without question. It enhances a student's learning and gives them incentive to do other things, like go to college or technical school," he points out. "When they're involved, parents know what



Joseph Clark
.....Out of trouble



Nettie Mae Stroud
.....Nobody else will



Jean Yount
.....Your responsibility



Mary Bryant
.....Helps out



Sarah Jane Brown
.....That's our duty."



Mitchell Gatewood
.....Enhance learning

their children are doing in school and how they're doing. They don't have to worry about what they'll see on their report cards, because they already have an idea."

● **BENNIE JONES** of Dr. Carver Road says she has one grown child. "I tried to help when mine was in school," she relates.



Bennie Jones
.....Tried to help

Kim Jones Is "Beauty Of Week"

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Jones, noticed a CARE advertisement in a publication. CARE is a program which requests people to help feed hungry children around the world. The Joneses conceived the idea of possibly adopting such a child.

"I was adopted by my parents (the Joneses) when I was five years old," Kim relates. She first lived with them in Atlanta before moving to Brunswick, Ga., a small city at the tip end of the state near many resort properties.

"I've been blessed," says Kim now. "My parents and I are very close. I'm grateful to them for taking me in when there was no one else to care for me.

"My mother will give me her all," Kim explains. "She inspires me and gives me confidence when I don't have confidence in myself. The same for my father. They are both very understanding and caring people."

With the adoption by the Joneses, Kim's life fell easily into place. These intervening years have been of a young girl's dreams fulfilled.

Now Kim is an aspiring coed enjoying college life. "I've matured a lot since coming to Smith," she says. "Education has come to mean very much to me." Kim admits, mentioning that at one time she wasn't interested in making good grades. "I used to take school lightly. I thought my parents' urging me to do well in school was something they wanted me to do for them. I've learned it wasn't as important for them as it is important for me.

"I study hard," continues Kim. "I stay in the books. I want to succeed in life and make those who love me proud."

Yet she manages to fit a few leisure activities in her schedule. "I enjoy bike riding," she states, "and dancing." Kim had studied dance for eight years: ballet, jazz, tap and acrobatics. "I haven't really danced in about five years," she notes. "I think I'll take classes again when I return to Charlotte next semester."

Kim also enjoys jazz music, classical ballet, art and poetry. She describes herself as "sensi-

tive, giving, very understanding and sometimes shy." "I'm a strong person who takes things seriously," Kim adds.

Kim's serious nature stems from vestiges of her earlier life which still remain with her. Her concerns are for abused children. "That upsets me very much," Kim admits. She would also like to see an end to starvation worldwide. "I still remember the days when I was without food to eat. Orphanages and foster homes can sometimes be very bad. It is depressing not to have enough to eat," she expresses. "I would like to see a halt to starvation.

"I do not waste food now," says Kim. "I hate to see waste."

A turbulent past behind her, this pretty young lady says, "I feel secure about my future." Sometime in the future Kim wants to travel to her homeland. "I'd like to visit Korea. I want to see what it is like," she reflects. "I'd like to see my natural parents. I have no leads as to who they are. I was told they are dead. But I believe they are alive."

Arthritis

Continued From Page 13A
To help arthritis patients deal with their illness and its effects, Arthritis Patient Services and the N.C. Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, Southwestern Branch, are presenting the fourth Annual Arthritis Awareness Week Symposium on Saturday, May 4, at the Adam's Mark Motel, 555 S. McDowell Street. The symposium, which lasts from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. and features speakers from both Charlotte and Duke Hospital in Durham, is geared to patients, their families, and the parents of children with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, as well as interested professionals.

Pre-registration (by April 26) is \$10. Registration at the door is \$12. Although lupus, a form of arthritis, is more prevalent among blacks, rheumatoid arthritis appears to strike all races equally. Approximately two-thirds of its victims are women.

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