

The Age - Old UNC Problem Of Human Relations Revisited

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Perhaps the most awesome and long ranged project of not only student government, but the University administration, is that of improving human relations on campus.

"If there is a place in this state anywhere in the South or anywhere in this nation or world where people should exist as people as closely as possible to the ideal," Bill Moss, Student Body President, stated, "then it is on this University campus. This should exist but that's not the way it is now."

He believes that the first step to improving the situation is realization that conflict is not limited to Black and white issues but between other races, and homo-heterosexual situations as well.

Moss added that the race relations problem was difficult because "There are various forms of racism and various ways of ignoring it."

A large Human Relations Committee has been formed to work with the union, housing association and student government. This committee is composed of any interested persons and is headed by Brian Delany; smaller groups will be formed from The Human Relations Committee.

When asked about the feasibility of trying to change values that had been ingrained over a period of years, Moss replied, "We hope this program will develop with the freshman class. We realize there isn't much you can do with people already in college. You can't say

you must behave this way, but on the other hand, you can't be patronizing to minorities. We want it to be realized that minority rights are infringed upon, sometimes blatantly, sometimes quite accidentally."



Last year's chairperson of the Human Rights and Relations Committee, Roland Staton.

"What you can do is create an atmosphere so that people who are behaving in a way that they don't mean can begin altering their behavior."

"A lot of people aren't racist, they just don't realize that what they are doing is racist. That's the person we want to tell 'Look, you need to be more careful and open up.'"

A cultural awareness week in which various cultural and racial groups on campus can be discussed and represented may be held. Moss hopes this will be one way of destroying what he calls "the myth that this is a white elitist campus." According to Moss, "A lot of white

elitists would like to believe that it is."

Along with committees, this year's student-faculty conference will focus on breaking down social and racial barriers. Moss said he was concerned about the KKK and

water ballooning of Black students, but that he was even more concerned about voluntary segregation on campus — a problem he attributes to both races.

Elaborating, Moss explained, "I've seen the letter. I can only assume that if it (KKK) is an organization it keeps well hidden. My speculation is that it's one or two people; I know it's not a common feeling among whites on campus."

"With the percentage of Blacks being so small as it is, it puts an awful burden on Black students and it makes it easier for white students to just ignore the situation. It will be difficult, but beliefs can be changed."

AVERY INCIDENT

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or nine or ten bags of water and throw it on someone.

"How many people pass by there after 12:00, coming from the library or whatever? Definitely not enough to hit with such a large quantity of water."

Avery residents involved in the incident contend that the water-throwing was a mere prank and not racially motivated, although some admit to the fact that racial obscenities were directed at the Black passersby.

Wrote Avery resident Scott Young, who admitted to being involved in the water-throwing from the start: "This incident was not at all planned toward the Blacks but anyone that walked down the sidewalk. I am not a racist or KKK member as neither was anyone else involved."

"The Blacks totally blew this thing out of proportion and just wanted some added attention. Because of the Blacks' falseness, etc. of the facts concerning this incident, my opinion of the Blacks is considerably lower."

Added another Avery resident, David Osnoe (also in a written deposition submitted to the University police): "There is no need for a BSM (Black Student Movement) because it is a separate (sic), distinct, racist organization."

"It should be changed to be called (sic) ASM (All Students Movement) to promote brotherhood and friendship between all races here at the University."

Black

Life

On

"The

Hill"

