

Student Reaction To Wilmington 10 Decision

Winston-Salem State University students were chosen at random and asked to express their opinions and comments on Governor James Hunt's decision not to free the Wilmington ten. Here are some of the reactions.

Patricia Brown: "I do not like the decision because all he did was reduce their sentences. And although some of them will be eligible for parole soon, others such as Ben Chavis won't."

Matthew Armstrong: "I agree with those who say that Governor Hunt is pleasing those who will support him in his next election. If there was more white support for a pardon he would have done it."

Cathy Wiggs: "I am totally against Governor Hunt not freeing the Wilmington ten because I believe that they are innocent. And his decision is showing me that North Carolina is one of the most racist states. Being a Black North Carolinian, I hate to call North Carolina home."

Dimitri Belmonte: "I think it was a bad political move on one side of the coin, and on the other side a good move. It depends on which group re-elects the governor. When that's decided it can be determined which side is the good side and which side is the bad side."

Sandra Stewart: "He didn't do right. I just don't think Governor Hunt's decision was fair at all."

Ricky Jones: "Governor Hunt stated that he felt that the Wilmington ten were given a fair

trial and since he had that concept in his mind he went along with their decision. It was a very bias decision."

Carolyn White: "I think that there are two sides to what Governor Jim Hunt said, but I choose not to elaborate on either side."

Richard Farris: "Big Jim really out-did himself this time! It goes along with such other great decisions as the Scottsboro boys decision. It's North Carolina's Scottsboro boys case."

Georgia Wilson: "Governor Hunt should have pardoned them because they've already served their time. The woman freed should be the one in jail still serving time!"

Douglas Summers: "I knew that the governor had a job to do but I didn't like the idea of him reducing the years. I felt as though if they pardoned Nixon, the Wilmington ten should have been pardoned also. I can see the reason he reduced the sentences and not pardoned them because if he would have pardoned the Wilmington ten then a lot of other people who committed a crime would be looking for a pardon and that would cause a conflict."

Gwendolyn Roach: "What he said on nation wide television he could have said in his office because it wasn't anything spectacular. I hope he's not actually naive enough to think that Blacks are going to vote for him in the next election - he's not going to get my vote."

Preston Cato: "I feel that evidence of innocence has been obtained for the Wilmington ten; in the testimonies of numerous witnesses etc. The fact that the Wilmington ten are still in jail is a typical and open case of racism in America."

Karla Umstead: "I believe Governor Hunt is going to be hurt. I believe somebody's going to throw a brick at him."

Vernon Jones: "I think that it was unjust for the governor to even attempt to shorten the term of the ten victims. They should have remained the same."

Pamela Travers: "The Wilmington ten have been proven guilty by a court of law and there fore are not to be freed!!"

Ronald Gaither: "I think that it was degrading to his character not to even consider pardoning the ten. It is evident that his decision not to free them was a politically motivated move and I would advise him not to run for re-election in the upcoming term."

Stephanie Pate: "He could have kept the shortening of the sentences to himself. He didn't give them anything. It's just another example of racial injustice. If the nine Black men still in prison were white (like the white woman involved in the case) they would have been set free. Back in the early 70's when the trial took place, there was a lot of racial tension and the case should be heard again under different circumstances. Blacks should get together in masses to help free the Wilmington ten; if not, that will give the white man an opportunity to take advantage of us again and again."

Cecil Cates: "I think the decision was more of a political decision and I wouldn't vote for him in the next election. It shows how unfair the judicial system is

in North Carolina. (We're not much better in North Carolina than they are in South Africa.)"

Karen Patterson: "It was unfair, unjust, and discriminatory in view of the fact that the white woman involved in the case wasn't given as harsh a sentence as the black men. Hunt gave excuses why the woman wasn't sentenced but excuses don't make things just. North

Carolina is a very discriminatory state."

Wanda Payton: "If the Wilmington ten weren't Black they wouldn't have been in jail so long. There is not adequate proof for a conviction. The Wilmington ten have already paid their so called "debt to society." If they weren't young, black, and radical, they would be walking around as free men right now."

Viveca Thomason

Congratulations Who's Who Students

Matthew J. Armstrong
Eugene O. Bailey
Troy L. Baker
Asonia L. Battle
Pamela Blackstock
Beverly Blackwell
Cecil Cates
Pamela Chasten
Valeria L. Clark
Sandra L. Evans
Faith Geater
Mary Greene
Regina Hailey
Baxter Harrington
Opal R. Henighan
Gail Howell
Angela T. James
Alice Johnson

Hattie R. Johnson
Reese Joyner
Brendila Leslie
Rose B. Martin
Felecia Massenburg
Julian E. McIntyre
Debra McMillan
Renee L. Phillips
Tenia M. Price
Ronnie Rakestraw
JoAnn M. Sawyer
Mary L. Simmons

Paula D. Smith
Dianne Strong
Robert L. Weeks
Cynthia Williams
Sharon E. Young

Support
Your
News Argus

Aldermen Elected

Dr. Virginia Newell, an active and enthusiastic member of our university family has been elected alderman (she prefers to be called alderman) in Winston-Salem. In sharing some of the responsibilities encompassed in her new position, she related that helping the staff run the city, providing jobs and training for the unskilled, improving housing standards and stretching the collar as far as it will go for the poor are her main concerns. She is required to attend committee meetings twice a month and make decisions and policies concerning city ordinances and codes. She is also involved with setting-up the city's budget and establishing contracts for city servants.

Of her many demanding responsibilities alderman Newell finds that listening to complaints from people with problems the most interest and time consuming aspect of her work. She said that one particular problem she is in the process of solving involves a woman on welfare who is being evicted from her present place of residence. "Most complaints I receive come from the poor, and I want to know what the government can do for these people."

"Research" she adds, "also demands time." She finds research a creative part of her work because she is allowed the

freedom to synthesize her own research.

Some of her reasons for wanting to become an alderman include the desire to provide poor Blacks with a direct line to the government by becoming a mediator for the uninformed, and to stir participation in politics from east Winston-Salem. "Government is as good as we make it and it still belongs to the people." She made this statement to emphasize the extreme need for Black involvement in politics.

Now that she has obtained the office of alderman she has set out to implement a number of programs. One of which is the CD1 project which is a sub-standard housing program assisting the poor in acquiring skills to improve their lives by helping themselves collectively. Two other programs she wants to see in action are counseling for Blacks so they will be better educated to vote wisely and, the utilization of the wisdom and knowledge of Senior Citizens, to help the youth in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Newell has had no conflict teaching mathematics here and her duties as alderman. "My duties here at Winston-Salem State University complement my duties as an alderman. I give knowledge and erudition to both."

Viveca Thomason

Write Right

Are you having difficulty with English term papers, essays, or grammar in general? If so, the writing center, located in Carolina Hall is just for you.

The Writing Center, under the direction of three alert and skilled advisors, can teach you all about the basic fundamentals of English as well as teach you the best possible way to learn and remember those fundamentals. Developed for your convenience, the Writing Center, is also open for students who would like to improve their writing. Tutors are also on hand to assist students who need their services.

The staff of the Writing Center would like to remind you that they are willing, able, and ready to help you in any area of writing or reading that you are weak. Remember, you are their first and fore most concern. The Writing Center is opened from 8-4, Mondays-Fridays.

Take advantage of this opportunity, Rams! You'll be glad you did.

DID YOU KNOW?

AN ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS THE MECHANISM BY WHICH LABOR, RESOURCES, AND SKILLS ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER TO PRODUCE AND DISTRIBUTE THE ENORMOUS VARIETY OF THINGS PEOPLE NEED AND WANT...



THESE INCLUDE UTILITIES, FOOD, CLOTHING, HOMES, FACTORIES, CARS, EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION.

FULL DETAIL OF "THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM, AND YOUR PART IN IT" IS COVERED IN AN ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET PRODUCED IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. FOR A FREE COPY WRITE: ECONOMICS, PUEBLO, COLORADO, 81009

Ad Council