

## Fair Housing Act needs sharper teeth

NEW YORK -- Eighteen years after the passage of the Fair Housing Act, America is more rigidly segregated than it was in 1968, with more black families restricted to all-black neighborhoods. At the current rate of black penetration into majority neighborhoods, we're some 50 years away from open housing.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates there are 2 million instances of racial discrimination in housing each year -- and all but a very small handful are ignored. The few that result in filed complaints of discrimination and in law suits barely indicate the depth and degree of housing discrimination today.

Some years ago HUD conducted a study that found blacks were discriminated against in 72 percent of rental cases and 48

### TO BE EQUAL

By JOHN JACOB

percent of private home sales.

Black homebuyers and renters know that their efforts to secure decent housing are impeded by the still-powerful forces of discrimination that can be traced throughout the entire real estate chain.

There is discriminatory representation -- where black buyers or renters are told the home they applied for is off the market when it has actually been held for white buyers or renters.

There is racial steering, where blacks are denied access to certain neighborhoods or buildings and steered toward others.

There is blockbusting, where white flight is stimulated by unscrupulous agents trying to fatten commission income

regardless of the harm done to communities.

There is redlining by insurers and banks -- discriminatory financing that places a "black tax" on minority homebuyers -- and a wide range of other devices that operate to keep equal access to housing a dream, not a reality.

Most of those devices are illegal, so most housing discrimination takes subtle forms. No one says "no blacks allowed," but through subterfuge and silent understandings, discrimination flourishes.

We ought to have more to show for 18 years of a federal fair housing law than just driving discrimination underground, where it is still effective and deadly.

Today, we must marshal support for a new federal housing discrimination measure to plug



the holes in the existing law.

The combination of loopholes and tax enforcement has made the Fair Housing Act relatively ineffective, just as the housing

crunch for minorities is worsening, with the stock of affordable housing shrinking and little new housing for low-income families being built.

The inability of the Fair Housing Act to stem the rising tide of housing discrimination is rooted in its narrow coverage and its in-  
Please see page A13

## Winston-Salem Chronicle

An independent, locally owned newspaper

**NEWSROOM:** Robin Barksdale, community news editor; Karen M. Hannon, typist; John Hinton; Yvonne H. Bichsel Truhon, copy editor; Cheryl Williams.

**SPORTS:** David Bulla, sports editor.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** James Parker, photo editor; Art Blue, Joe Daniels.

**ADVERTISING:** Julie Perry, advertising manager; Art Blue, Wenna-Yvette James.

**OFFICE STAFF:** Barbara Mills, Brenda Sykes, Stephanie Walls, Fernice Wardlaw, Verisia West.

**PRODUCTION:** Vinson Dewberry, production manager; Tim Butner, Keith Holland, Yvonne H. Bichsel Truhon.

**CIRCULATION:** Veronica Gulons, Harry McCants, Blandelia McMoore, Angela Ross, James Dixon.

## NAACP

From Page A3

Voss said that, although he favors changing some attendance lines, he is not in favor of changing all school district lines.

The racial imbalance in some schools became an issue when the board directed the superintendent in May to provide it with information on student racial percentages and to present information on correcting any imbalances.

Eargle's report revealed that the schools not meeting the board's guidelines, which require that the individual school enrollments reflect the makeup of the overall school population,

were Easton Elementary, with a black enrollment of 62 percent; Forest Park, 65 percent; Cash, 27 percent; Clemmons, 26 percent; Carver High School, 47 percent, and West Forsyth, 22 percent.

The black enrollment at Southwest Elementary, which meets the guidelines, is 44 percent.

Some white parents have said that the racial imbalances hurt their children's education.

In other business Monday night, the board voted to meet before the study to discuss guidelines for the staff members who will conduct it.

**SUBSCRIBE**  
to the

Winston-Salem Chronicle

**TODAY**  
722-8624

## Brown

From Page A4

a human being can be achieved by ignoring your uniqueness of culture -- is to embrace the very racism that is destroying your humanness.

The black woman whom I quoted has done just that. She is never going to get to humanity until she first gets to blackness. This racist society blesses Jews because they are Jews, Irish because they are Irish, Chinese because they are Chinese, but asks Africans to become white to be accepted as Americans.

Therefore, if you succeed in liking what you are, it is the white racism in your own people that will first destroy you.

My answer to this self-hating black woman: It's not what you call me; it's what I answer to.

Tony Brown is a syndicated columnist and television host whose series, "Tony Brown's Journal," can be seen Sundays at noon on channels 4 and 26.

**FOR SNUFF THAT'S SWEET AS HONEY, GIVE HONEY BEE A TRY.**

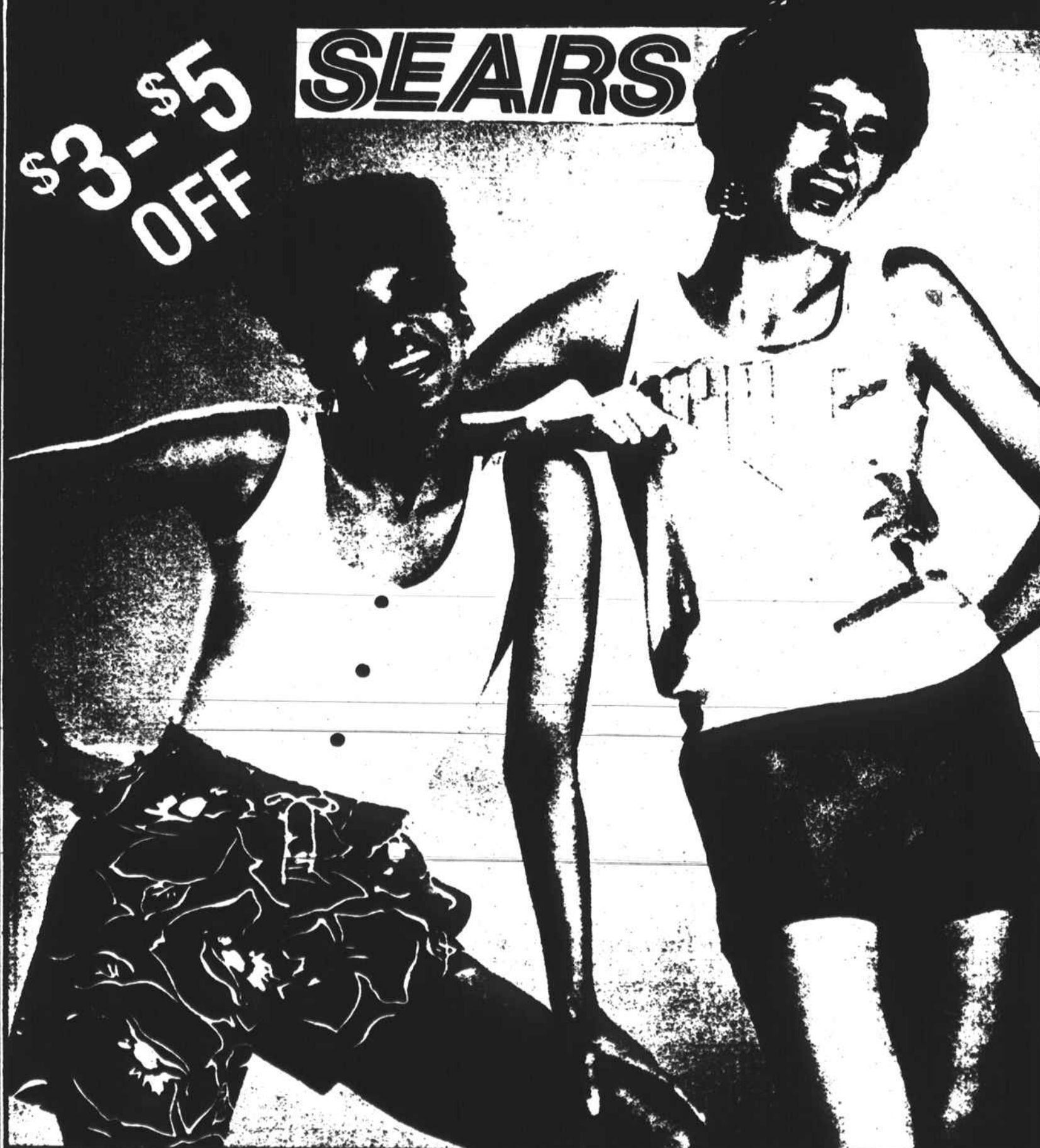


Helme Tobacco Company  
a company of Culver Corporation

**EYE-CATCHING CASUALS!**

**\$3-\$5 OFF**

**SEARS**



**SAVE on misses' shorts and tops**

Tank tops. You can never have too many! Polyester and cotton rib knit tanks in assorted colors. Misses' S-M-L. Reg. \$10. Trapunto tops. Embroidered screen prints make these tank tops picture perfect. Misses' sizes S-M-L. Reg. \$12. Shorts. Summer standbys, in pink, turquoise, black, tan, red, yellow and blue solids and prints. Misses' S-M-L. Reg. \$10.

YOUR CHOICE

**6<sup>99</sup>**

**Semi-Annual Intimate Apparel SALE!**

**25-33% OFF**

25% OFF all bras, Intimate coordinates, all exercise wear, 25-33% OFF Cling-alon' hosiery



25% OFF all Intimate coordinates  
Deliciously feminine! Most of Antron® III nylon.  
\$8 Isn't it Divine™ bra shown.....5.99  
\$4.75 matching daring bikini.....3.49

SHOP YOUR NEAREST SEARS RETAIL STORE  
NC: Burlington, Charlotte, Concord, Durham, Fayetteville, Gastonia, Goldsboro, Greensboro, Greenville, Hickory, High Point, Jacksonville, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Wilmington, Winston-Salem  
SC: Columbia, Florence, Myrtle Beach, Rock Hill  
VA: Danville, Lynchburg, Roanoke  
KY: Ashland  
WV: Barboursville, Beckley, Bluefield, Charleston

There's more for your life at  
**SEARS**