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36 Pages This Week

THE MALE SHORTAGE

A dilemma for black women

By ROBIN BARKSDALE
Chronicle Staff Writer

This article is the first in a three-part series.

RECENT RESEARCH confirms what many women felt they already knew: There is a shortage of available men. A single, college-educated woman over the age of 25 has, at best, a 50-percent chance of getting married, according to research at Yale and Harvard universities. Her chances decrease as she gets older, and a 30-year-old woman has only a 20-percent chance of marrying, concludes the study, whose findings were released in February.

For black women the prognosis, according to the survey, is even grimmer.

A 25-year-old black woman has only a 25-percent chance of marrying and at age 30 only an 8-percent chance of marrying.

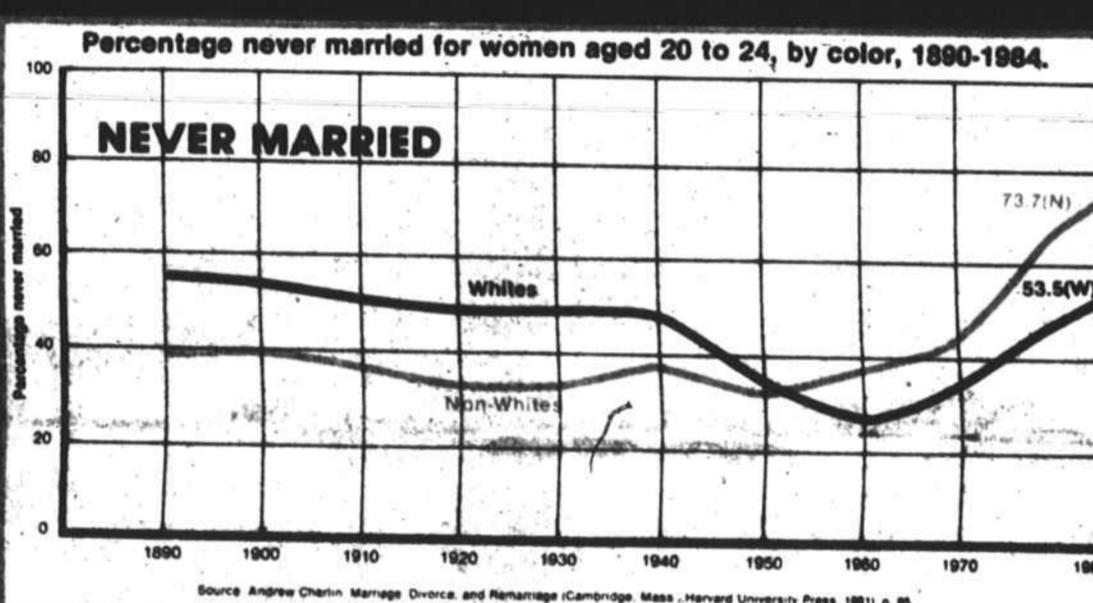
The problem appears to be particularly acute for the well-educated black woman. If she follows the custom of marrying within her own social group or class, her "ideal" choice would be similar to her in important respects and would be at least as well-educated. However, many black men will not be able to meet those criteria because the number of college-educated black women, in recent years, has considerably exceeded the number of college-educated black men.

No promising answers

Where are all of the black men? The answers aren't very promising:

- According to the 1980 U.S. Census, there are 1.5 million (25 percent) more black women in the country than black men.

- Census and labor force data estimate that almost half of the black male population between the ages of 16 and 64 is either unemployed, out of



the labor force or in prison.

More than 15 percent of all black men between the ages of 25 and 35 were unemployed as of December 1985, and 21 percent of all black men between the ages of 20 and 24 are out of work.

While the ratio may not be as pronounced in Winston-Salem as it is on the national level, black women in the Twin City still slightly outnumber black men. Black women account for 54 percent of all black singles in Winston-Salem over the age of 15 (there are 8,139 single black females and 6,966 single black men, a ratio of 1.2 to 1).

Yet, despite the fact that the local ratio is nowhere near the national level, singles in the Twin City say they are, for the most part, experiencing the same situations as their counterparts elsewhere.

"There is a shortage of professional black men in Winston-Salem," says Rosalyn Wagner, a financial analyst at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. "Many black men date several different black women. I know there are men out there, and we (single black women) are looking for the same type of man. Because of that there is going to be a shortage."

'It all depends ...'

Others admit there is a male shortage but say that single women often place themselves in situations.

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Mitchell beat man, say two witnesses

All-white jury hears new trial

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Staff Writer

Two Winston-Salem women testified Wednesday that they saw Sammy Lee Mitchell and two other men attack Arthur Wilson in the 1800 block of Claremont Avenue on Sept. 17, 1983.

"I saw Sammy Mitchell hit (Wilson) with a stick," said Barbara Jean Bason, who lives on 18th Street. "(Wilson) fell to his knees, and that is when Drayton and Darryl Hunt began kicking him. I will bet my life on it."

Another witness, Patricia Ann Williams, said she saw Mitchell, Hunt and another man attacking Wilson on Claremont Avenue near a drink house.

"I saw Sammy hit the man and Darryl kicking him," she said. "I could not make out the other man who was with them."

Ms. Williams' and Ms. Bason's testimony came during the trial of Mitchell, who is charged with the first-degree murder of Wilson. Darryl E. Hunt and Merritt William Drayton are co-defendants in the case and are expected to be tried within a month.

Wilson, a 57-year-old black man, was found beaten to death and robbed of \$110 near the drink house.

Hunt, 21, is serving a life sentence after being convicted last year of the rape and murder of Deborah B. Sykes, a newspaper copy editor.

Drayton, who is charged with murder and manslaughter in two other cases, testified in May that he, Mitchell and Hunt attacked and killed Wilson three years ago. Drayton has since recanted his testimony and may testify during Mitchell's trial.

Many black leaders say that Hunt was railroaded on flimsy evidence. They say they are concerned that Mitchell will be railroaded as well.

An all-white jury was selected Tuesday to hear Mitchell's case. District Attorney Donald K. Tisdale is seeking the death penalty for Mitchell if he is convicted.

Mitchell, 31, of 760 N. Patterson Ave., was calm while the women testified. Wearing a gray three-piece suit with a black tie, Mitchell occasionally stroked his beard.

Mitchell's first trial in September ended in a mistrial. A jury of nine whites and three blacks was deadlocked at 11-1 for conviction with a lone black female juror holding out for acquittal.

After they saw Wilson being attacked, Ms. Bason and Ms. Williams said they ran back into the drink house, screaming that a man had been beaten and hurt.

Ms. Bason said Mitchell, Hunt and Drayton left

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No to drugs

Protesters link arms, sing songs in Happy Hills

By JOHN HINTON
Chronicle Staff Writer

More than 50 people participated in a human chain last week on the corner of Free and Liberia streets to protest the sale of illegal drugs in the Happy Hill Gardens public housing project.

The demonstrators, who were mostly black, held signs, sang religious songs and held hands last Thursday and Friday for about 90 minutes. About 150 residents saw the demonstration from their homes. Several joined in the protest.

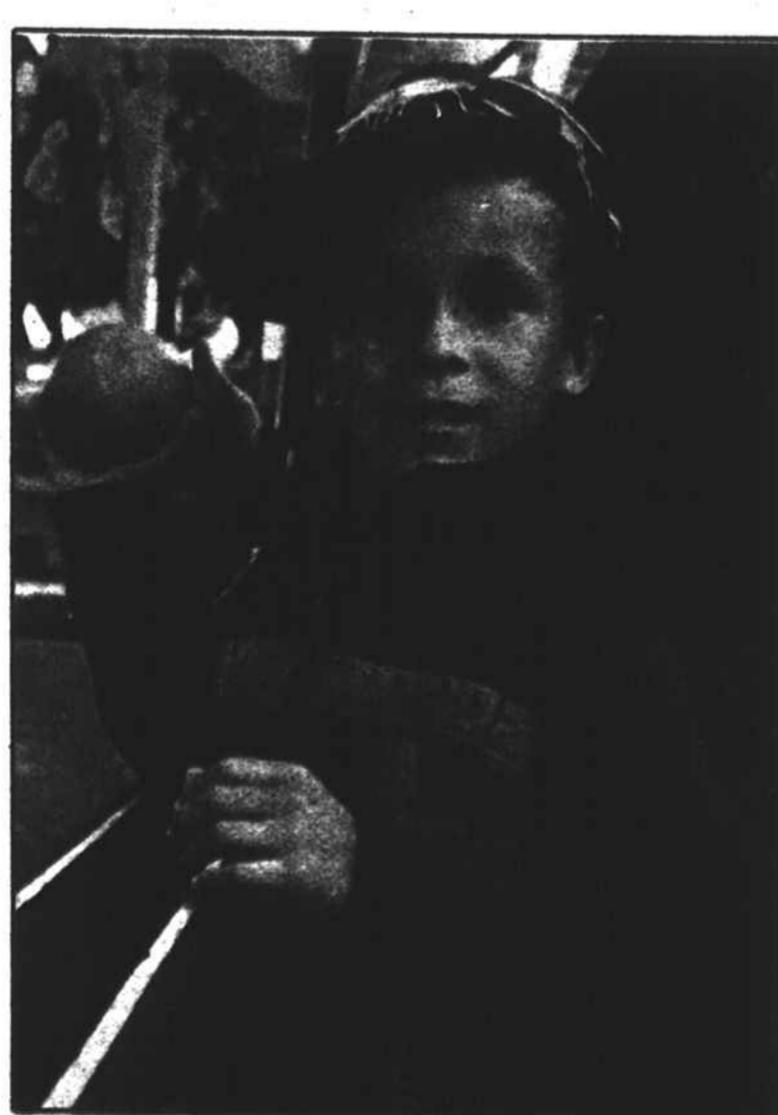
The demonstration was peaceful, although some of the residents yelled at the protesters. Winston-Salem police cars routinely drove by the demonstrators.

Some of the protesters' signs said, "Our neighborhood is not safe anymore because of drugs," "Is your child on drugs or do you really know?" and "Drugs cause poverty."

The Rev. Wallace Gaither, the elder at True Temple Holiness Church, led the demonstrators from his church to the corner on both days.

"We are here to help," Gaither said Thursday as he held hands with other protesters. "A lot of these people have gone astray and need some guidance.

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The Windup

Abshard Bass, 7, pauses from his baseball throw competition at the Dixie Classic Fair to cast a glance at the photographer (photo by James Parker).

THIS WEEK

ARTS	B8
CLASSIFIED	B18
COMICS	B9
EDITORIALS	A4
ENTERPRISE	B5
FORUM	A5
OBITUARIES	B10
PEOPLE	A6
RELIGION	B10
SPORTS	B1

QUOTEABLE: "I think my personality is one of my biggest assets. I have the ability to work well with all types of people. I can just as easily talk with a bum on the street as the president of the United States. I have an ability to look beyond the status of people, and that helps make me versatile."

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UPDATE

AKA housing: Set to go

By CHERYL WILLIAMS
Chronicle Staff Writer

■ Chronicle Update is a regular feature that focuses on developments in news and feature stories previously printed in the newspaper. It will appear during the third week of each month.

The Phi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority still plans to develop a 20-unit apartment complex in East Winston, said Virginia K. Newell, a member of the sorority.

Since plans for the project were announced in May, Phi Omega Inc. has hired John S. Clark Co. Inc. as the contractor and developer Doyle Claywell of Greensboro to help with obtaining financing for the project, Mrs. Newell said.

Mrs. Newell said that Phi Omega feels the project is in good hands. The John S. Clark Co. built the East Winston Shopping

Center, she said, while Claywell has experience in loan packaging and working with governmental agencies.

Plans are to develop a 20-unit apartment complex on 1.15 acres at Second and Third streets and Woodland and Cleveland avenues.

"The project is going along very well," she said.

Mrs. Newell said that Phi Omega has been working with the city and with Winston-Salem State University to assess the city's housing needs, so that the sorority can be certain that the apartments are going to be occupied.

As soon as Phi Omega gets the money to finance the project, construction will begin, Mrs. Newell said.

The Board of Aldermen agreed in May to partially finance the project with Urban Redevelopment notes.

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