

Forum

On institutionalized racism

NEW YORK -- Racism can be defined as economically empowered racial prejudice and discrimination.

Although there have been some recent scholarly attempts to deny the persistence of racism as a major social problem confronting the social order in the United States, the evidence of rampant societal racism continues to be exposed.

Recently in the state of New York, a report issued by the state-appointed Task Force on the Education of Children and Youth at Risk concluded that racism is an institutional reality in the public school system.

The findings of this report have far-reaching implications for the entire nation.

The report revealed that New York has two unequal public school systems: one in the areas where the rich live and the other where the poor live.

The task force concluded that racism was the underlying causative factor that created this inequality.

Students in the affluent and rich areas were predominantly white, and students from the poor areas were predominantly African-American and Latin-American.

The task force said that the

first-tier or rich schools held "high expectations for their students but at the second-tier or poor schools, low expectations and aspirations are communicated to these students, who are not given a full opportunity to suc-

perpetuating segregated schools; and in some schools, the tracking of minority students into less rigorous academic programs without regard for individual abilities, interests and potential."

This institutionalization of



CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNAL

By BENJAMIN CHAVIS JR.

ceed."

The report further found "our society's acceptance of two unequal educational systems is putting us at risk of creating a permanent underclass in New York and the nation."

Racial and ethnic communities across the nation in particular should become aware of this shocking report.

It appears that there are deliberate decisions being made by school administrators to structure racial and ethnic students to failure.

The report explicitly revealed that "racism is expressed in a variety of ways: inadequate resources to those most in need;

racism must be challenged by all who believe in justice and equality.

The last eight years of the Reagan administration have set the stage for the gradual return to the days of Jim Crow. While there has been progress toward eliminating some of the vestiges of overt racism, the pervasive nature of racism today demands vigilance, determination and constant social action to prevent a march back into history. The future will be determined by the strength of our continued struggle for racial justice.

Benjamin F. Chavis Jr. is executive director of the Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ.

SPIN gives 'cure' for AIDS

NEW YORK -- Every issue of *SPIN* magazine since December 1987 has featured an editorial on AIDS. In the current issue, *SPIN* provides its youthful readers with a "Trojan" to be exact.

The magazine quotes Surgeon General Koop on the prevention of sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs): "Condoms are the best preventive measure against AIDS, and using them without having sex and practicing safe behavior."

Prevention for the young and sexually active is particularly important. Nearly one in 300 college students is infected with the AIDS virus as compared to four out of every 1,000 prisoners. This new finding means that young people, homosexuals, drug users and nymphomaniacs as a high risk group.

It also means that just about every college campus has a case of AIDS or HIV infection. "Safe" sex condoms for prevention is fine, but you're not infected with the AIDS virus. This same issue of *SPIN*, believe it or not, also has something for those in the latter group.

In an exceptional article on AIDS by Katie Leishman, *SPIN* 2/633-8200 provides its readers with what could be a "cure" for AIDS. Leishman reports on the risk and, more importantly, results of a retired medical technologist, year-old Salvatore Catapano.

Catapano, the author says, appears to have found the AIDS treatment the world has been waiting for. "And has obtained a patent

("One of only three American patents ever granted for AIDS treatments") which contains the statement: "It has been found that a complete immunization an remission of a person afflicted with

AIDS is really syphilis, which is treatable, but not by any anti-viral drug like AZT. Leishman reports a "fascinating discovery: After about 15 shots of the typhoid vaccine, a number of AIDS patients who had



TONY BROWN

Syndicated Columnist

AIDS may be achieved by the administration with typhoid vaccine with no observed toxicity."

"The substance Catapano uses an licenses other doctors to use to treat AIDS patients is, simply, typhoid vaccine," Leishman writes in *SPIN*.

After 15 years of research, Catapano has come to the conclusion that "the source of immune suppression in AIDS patients is not viral but bacterial. The patients ... are suffering from extraordinarily entrenched late-staging syphilis. Once the immune system is restored with typhoid vaccine, he says, a course of penicillin should bring the patient into remission," the author claims.

Of 200 AIDS patients treated by Catapano, only one has died, he says, and his typhoid vaccine should not be "combined with chemotherapy -- including AZT -- or radiation."

Catapano is convinced that

tested negative for syphilis began to manifest classic symptoms of the disease...

Then after being treated with penicillin, "the syphilitic symptoms clear up and the tests become negative," she adds.

Another "fascinating" event is reported in *SPIN* by Leishman: After getting his penicillin shots, a patient's AIDS test had become negative. Of "75,000 reported cases of AIDS to date in America, there have been only three published cases of patients becoming HIV negative."

By publishing this information, *SPIN* magazine has not only helped prevent STDs, but it may save the lives of some who are already sentenced to death by AIDS.

Tony Brown is a syndicated columnist and television host, whose program, "Tony Brown's Journal," appears at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, on channels 4 and 26.

Rhetoric vs. the real record

I have tried in recent weeks to write about national issues which have been too quickly glossed over in the presidential campaign. The American people will already have decided their choice for President by the time this column is read. It is a pity, however, that no matter who the victor, they didn't have more facts.

The Reagan-Bush Administration refers to its economic record as "American Miracle," although the facts show that their achievements in the area of job growth are anything but miraculous. Simply ask the millions of workers who have lost their jobs in the manufacturing industries high paying levels, what they think

GUEST COLUMN

By AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS

of this "American Miracle."

Despite the Administration's claims about the millions of new jobs created during these years, their record actually falls short of the record during the late 1970s, when we had a more ambitious employment and training structure. Here are some quick facts:

- An average of only 2.1 million new jobs have been created annually between 1981 and 1988, compared with an average increase of 2.6 million new jobs per year between 1977 and 1980.

- Only 10 percent of the private-sector jobs created under the present Administration have been in industries with above-average earnings, compared with 35 percent under the previous Administration.

- Although the number of persons employed and the percentage of the population employed have been rising steadily for 30 years, the upward trend in both the number and percentage of Americans at work has actually slowed since 1980 years compared with the 1970s record.

In short, no matter what type of spin you put on the Administration's job creation record, it is certainly no miracle.

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