

# Editorials & Comments

## Blacks Lacking In Self-Help

As the keynote speaker at The Charlotte Post Newspaper's first "Churchwoman of the Year" awards program, last Saturday evening, Tony Brown focused some of his remarks on the question of black self-help. He said, in over simplified terms to make his point, that in specific white communities (the Mormons, etc.) people turn their money over 12 times before it leaves the community, thus benefiting many people in that community. However, black people tend to spend their money largely outside black communities, thus they don't contribute significantly to the survival and expansion of black business, the employment of blacks by other blacks, the reduction of black-on-black crimes and the preservation of black neighborhoods.

As we look at the Charlotte black community we have clear evidence of a lack of self-help, a lack of self-determination and a lack of job opportunities made available by blacks primarily for blacks.

Do you realize the potential Mechanics and Farmers Bank could have if more blacks would open, savings and checking accounts there? Do you realize the advertising revenue the POST could have if more blacks purchased subscriptions? Significantly, this means the POST could hire more writers and sales people and the advertisers themselves would be inclined to hire more black workers.

Do you realize how much rental income and how many mortgage payments leave the black community because realtors, mortgage lenders, building contractors don't get the business support they should from blacks. Ironically, black undertakers are the only black-owned businesses that get the major

## Four-Year Term Past Due

Mecklenburg County Commissioners voted on Monday to place a referendum on the September 22 ballot that would allow the voters to decide whether they want to lengthen the terms of county commissioners from two to four years. If the proposal is approved, four-year terms would become effective December 6, 1982, following the next board election.

Supports of the change, including Commissioners themselves, claim four-year terms would allow them to devote less time to campaigning and more time to county business and it would provide more stability in county government.

The POST counts itself among the supporters of four-year county commissioner terms for these and other reasons. The most important of these we think are that longer terms will result in

share, if not all, of black people's business. Sadly, this happens because most white undertakers don't want to bury black people.

Undertakers parallel the black church in that they exist as much because whites don't want blacks in their churches as they do because blacks have strong pride in their churches. The point is, blacks should support and aid black-owned businesses because of the self-help value they give to the broader black community as well as responding to individual needs and be motivated by whites' disinterest in meeting our needs and desires.

Therefore, blacks need to develop new attitudes and new philosophies toward self-help and self-determination.

Recognizing that black Americans don't live and carry on business in an isolated vacuum, and recognizing that our welfare and business success is partly dependent on fact outside of our control, blacks should accept the viewpoint of the Reagan Administration that self-help will end our need for federal government assistance.

William Raspberry said it well in that "Government has been the 'draft horse' that pulled blacks out of slavery...that opened the voting booths and lunchroom counters, that championed fair employment and guaranteed access to the building trades, bank loans, business opportunities and fair housing." With continued support in these and other areas, black self-help would be more workable.

Blacks need to expand their own potential by self-help, doing what we can do for ourselves now. By actively supporting yourself and your community by supporting black businesses and black institutions.

## Four-Year Term Past Due

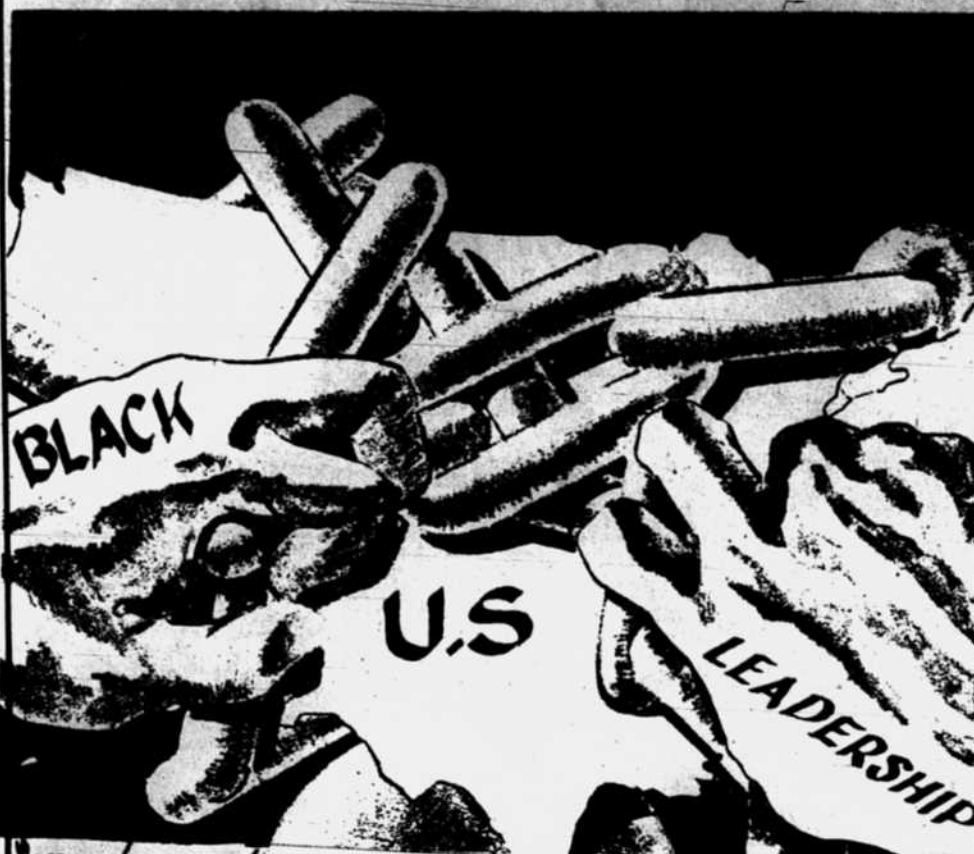
more people going to the polls to vote. Secondly, less elections will reduce the expenses of campaigning and hopefully result in more qualified candidates seeing public office.

The "bottom line" to all of this is that longer terms should allow county government to be more efficient and should encourage voters more interested and responsive in their voting behavior.

Support the four-year county commissioner terms on the September 22 ballot.

In a recent television poll conducted by "Tony Brown's Journal," an overwhelming 86 percent said they did not feel black people place enough emphasis on self-help and blamed racism far too much for many of their problems.

## Blacks' Destiny In Own Hands



**"BLACK FOLKS THEMSELVES ARE GOING TO HAVE TO WORK OUT MANY OF THEIR OWN PROBLEMS, INSTEAD OF LEAVING IT UP TO THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS."**  
ROY WILKINS

## as i see it

## The Theory Of Evolution Or The Doctrine Of Creation?

Rev. Waylon Wallace  
Post Columnist

Whenever I begin something new, my thoughts always go back to some of the first words I learned to read and recite, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Having associated creation with my beginning this column, my thoughts ran swiftly to the current debate over the theory of evolution being taught in the public schools and-or the doctrine of creation.

Allow me to say at the outset, I am a creationist. I believe that God did everything the Bible says, in this matter, in the way and time frame it says it.

I also believe the Bible when it says that the way we know God created the world is by faith.

There is more than one theory of evolution. There are other scientific theories of how the world and humankind came into existence. It would be well if students were exposed to more than one in the science classroom. But, whatever is taught in the science class ought to be the results of scientific observation and not Divine revelation.

It seems that the same folks, who are crying the loudest for separation of church and state, are the principle ones demanding that their faith be taught in the science class.

We live in a pluralistic society. The public schools seek to serve children who come from homes of differing racial background, reli-



Rev. Waylon Wallace

gious orientation and national origins. Many religions have representatives in public classrooms who teach that the world and humankind came into existence in some other manner than is taught in the Bible. Many Christians do not take any part of the Bible to be addressing scientific concerns and their faith is not bothered by scientific theories. Should one element of the Christian community be granted preference in public classrooms over all other religious beliefs?

If this is to be done, the Constitution may as well be changed to fit the reality of our situation.

What is needed are required courses on customs and traditions of the world in which students might become aware of how other people live and what they believe.

More energy has been devoted to this issue than it deserves. Why? Could it be that some religious groups are seeking to prove its relevance and power in the world today after they have failed in the past to take a

stand on vital moral issues? Could it be that folk who should have been God's voice during the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights War and who should be God's voice now over apartheid in South Africa are driven by guilt to prove that they still represent God.

Too many church folks are arguing if facts related in Genesis are true while missing the truth. The truth about creation does not lie in the facts, but, in learning of what is revealed and what the revelation demands of us.

In the weeks ahead I will seek to address the major issues concerning all of us in the light of that truth.

The burden of responsibility for teaching the faith lies at the door of the home and the church. If creation is truly taught and believed on in the home and church then the child will have no trouble when he or she gets to school. If parents and preachers have merely accepted what has been handed down to them without thinking it through for themselves, then their children will have trouble holding on to what is obviously of little value to the people contributing to the molding of their early years.

They can convince their children by being doers of the Word and not bearers only. They can convince the world by practicing the truth of creation, not by merely spreading the teaching.

By Gerald C. Horne, ESQ.

## Affirmative Action

## The Moral Majority

The so-called "Moral Majority" has been making a lot of noise lately. Their fervent and avid hatred of affirmative action - they tend to see it as "reverse discrimination" - is well-known; because of this and other reasons, you won't find many blacks in their ranks.

To enforce their dictate in the courts, they have moved allegedly to knock together a "Legal Defense Fund." At the same time, in the recent maneuvers in Congress to dismantle the main legal life-line of the poor and many blacks - the highly regarded Legal Services Corporation (LSC) which dispenses "legal aid" - the so-called "Moral Majority" has been leading the charge.

The Legal Services Corporation was established by an Act of Congress and signed into law in 1974. Legal Services Corporation currently makes grants to over 320 programs, which operate some 1,400 office and, as of 1980, has served all 3,000 United States counties. In 1980 Legal Services Corporation funded programs handled 1.5 million cases. The overwhelming majority were routine legal matters on a broad range of issues, including housing problems, consumer disputes, family law matters, and social security benefits. The most frequently provided service-in nearly one-third of all cases-is simply giving advice and counsel on routine matters of critical importance to individual clients. Only 15 percent of all Legal Services Corporation cases result in litigation. Unfortunately, less than 1 percent are the all important "class action suits" that reach beyond individual complainants to affect tens, hundreds and thousands. Moreover, "class actions" are the most cost-effective way to approach an overburdened judicial system. Legal Services Corporation's sterling labor has been endorsed by the conservative American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the militant National Conference of Black Lawyers, the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, state and local bar associations, judges, law professors, private attorneys, trade unions of legal workers and many others. With this glowing record, the question arises, "Why is the 'Moral Majority' so concerned with destabilizing Legal Services Corporation?" By posing the question, it is answered: "This gang of zealots that has been dubbed the 'immoral minority' by some, knows that Legal Services Corporation is a potential shield blocking their vain attempt to infect the body politic with their ideological virus.

Thus, in the June 22, 1981 edition of their organ, the misnamed "Moral Majority Report," J.W. Bradshaw assails and lashes Legal Services Corporation. He thoroughly endorses President Reagan's call for a complete abolition of Legal Services Corporation. He tells their reading audience to concentrate on Key House subcommittee members: Chairman Neal Smith, Iowa; Bill Alexander, Arkansas; Joseph Early, Massachusetts; Jack Hightower, Texas; Bernard Dwyer, New Jersey; George O'Brien, Illinois; Clarence Miller, Ohio; and Carroll A. Campbell, South Carolina. These "Republo-crats" have been pressured mightily from the right and they need to hear from the other side - which is taking place but needs to be accelerated. For it, as things stand now, it looks like Legal Services Corporation will find it difficult to escape Congress without a broad slashing of its budget.

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## From Capitol Hill

## Is Reagan Administration Ignoring Haitian Entrants?

By Alfreda L. Madison  
Special To The Post

Haitian entrants to the United States are people too. Yet, both the Carter Administration and now the Reagan Administration are ignoring them in their human rights policy. Both Presidents have continued to decry loud and long Soviet repression of individuals, but not one sound has been uttered by either about Duvalier's treatment of Haitians.

Haitians who have fled the severe repressive and poverty stricken treatment of Dictator Duvalier; many have been returned by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, in spite of evidence from human rights and church groups that these returned Haitians face severe persecution. The Federal Court found that Haitians have "well-founded fear of persecution" if they were returned to Haiti. Phillip Abbot Luce of the Council for Inter-American Security stated after a trip to Haiti, "my trip to Haiti, proved to me that there was a policy of repression



Alfreda L. Madison against those that returned to Haiti. Even if the returned Haitian is not murdered, he is obviously suspect and the Ton ton Macoute, Duvalier's militia, will keep him under surveillance and without work. The repression of the individual in Haiti is as widespread as the Soviet Union."

The Congressional Black Caucus which condemned the Carter Administration for its inhuman treatment of Haitians, has charged the Reagan Administration with racist abuse of Haitians.

Chairman Faunty said the Caucus is astounded at

the callous violations of due process which are being perpetrated against Haitians. He stated that attorneys have been threatened with arrest when they attempted to inform Haitians of their rights to be represented by an attorney. They are being placed in mass immigration hearings without the benefit of an attorney even for those who wish to claim asylum. The local Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) has locked

the press out of the trials even though written requests were made. This is the only time, ever that the press has been barred from INS court trials. In the public access area attorneys have not been able to get closer than 15 feet of the Haitians. Their shouts to the Haitians to inform them of their rights have been thwarted and shouted down by INS officials. The Caucus through Representative Shirley Chisholm has sent a letter to Attorney General Smith complaining about the INS actions. In her letter Mrs. Chisholm said that Haitians who

have come to the INS office for work authorizations on their 1-94 forms are now being arrested. She asked the Attorney General to explain the rationale for changing the prior practice of Haitians who voluntarily identified themselves to INS were granted work authorization.

In a letter to President Reagan the Congressional Black Caucus expressed deep concern that Haitians be recognized as true political refugees and that the due process rights of Haitian asylum applicants be accorded. As proof for political refugee status the Caucus cited Amnesty International, "the apparatus of refugee status the Caucus under Francois Duvalier remains in place under Jean-Claude Duvalier." Our own state Department conceded that the Haitian government encouraged actions to intimidate the media and political opposition. In 1979 the ability of Haitians to express dissenting views declined. Hundreds of journalists and development specialists views declined.

Hundreds of journalists and development specialists were arrested, imprisoned and forcibly exiled to other countries.

The Caucus informed the President that they view with alarm the Attorney General's statement that immigration proceedings should be speeded up. "Any program to escalate Haitian immigration hearings violate their due process rights to claim asylum and result in national origin discrimination as well as racial discrimination." Mr. Reagan's attention was called to the fact that a violation of due process places the United States in violation of the U.N. Protocol Relating to Refugees. This protocol obligates the United States not to return persons to their homeland if they face the possibility of persecution upon return. Mr. Reagan was also informed by the Caucus that

hoped the U.S. Ambassador to Haiti with a restricted A.I.D. program will be able to demand a greater commitment to development and social justice from the Haitian government. The Caucus letter said, "...and you indicated in your acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention, this country is viewed as an island of freedom...refuge for all those who yearn to breathe freely, we hope that you still believe the boat people of Haiti can view the United States an island of freedom."

## The Wearhouse

Friday, July 31, and Saturday, August 1, are Bag Days at THE WEARHOUSE, the Junior League Thrift Shop in Uptown Charlotte. Shoppers can fill a bag full of merchandise for \$5.

