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THE POST



Sandra Sherrill, a member and secretary of the Rainbow Chapter No. 258, was crowned "Queen of the State of North Carolina" recently at the Crown and Scepter Grand Chapter of Luxor Grand Lodge of Modern, Free and Accepted Masons Incorporated Grand Conclave in Wilmington, N.C. Ms. Sherrill, a native Charlottean, and a 1967 graduate of West Charlotte High School, has attended Central Piedmont Community College

and is presently employed as a private secretary to Dr. J. E. Alexander in the East Independence Plaza Building. Ms. Sherrill acquired her award by raising the most money through fundraising events. Also awarded at the Conclave was Evonne Caldwell, Star of the Year, Rainbow Chapter No. 258 as Chapter of the Year, and Solomon Lodge No. 257 was runner up in Mason and Loge of the Year.

## Young Black People In Depressing State?

By Gayle Hinson  
Post Staff Writer

The young, black people of today have gotten themselves into a depressing state. An alarming majority of our future leaders are struck with no motivation. They seem to have the attitude of "so what, why should I try? Nothing good is going to happen anyway." This negative self-

### Dora Mason

#### Hosts Las Amigas

#### Meeting

The Las Amigas National Headquarters Committee meeting was held here recently at the home of their co-founder, Doris R. Mason.

The initial purpose of the meeting was to formulate proposals that will be presented to the National Body of the Las Amigas in June of next year.

One of the Committee's significant plans is to establish a national headquarters here in Charlotte. They hope to provide a central place to house documents and pertinent information on local, national, and regional levels, preserve Las Amigas' heritage, and to interpret and disseminate information to concerned individuals and chapters.

A reception was held in honor of the out-of-town guests at the home of Dr. and Mrs. E. E. Waddell. Members also attended the Las Amigas Resource Center located at 2202 Beaties Ford Road, and the annual Harvest Ball held at the Civic Center.

Those in attendance were Mary Q. Moore, of Wilmington, N.C.; Lola McAdoo and Celcia Taylor of Greensboro, N.C.; Ruth Settles, Pat Duncan, Bettye Grayden and Debbie Trent, all of Greenville, S.C.; Peggy Dockery, and Marilyn Beatty of Atlanta, Ga.; Lola Blackmon, Mae Rose McMiller of Gastonia, N.C.; and Gerri Wiley and Johnnie Young of Charlotte.

fulfilling prophecy has got to change. We must instill in our young brothers and sisters a sense of purpose, duty and energetic drive.

None of us want to work. Least of all our disillusioned youth. They are so used to having what they want, with little or no effort exerted on their part to earn it that to suggest that they actually try to work for their keep is tantamount to cursing them.

They are struck with apathy. They refuse to use their hands or their minds. How has all this come about? It did not happen overnight. My hypothesis is that we trained our children to be lazy. Yes, trained them. As they grew up we loved them so much that we wanted to protect them from the harsh realities of the world. And that we should expose them to something as distasteful as work was not for us. We did

not want them to grow up having it hard, as we so often proclaim. So instead of making them clean the house or cut the grass we did it ourselves instead of beating their behinds for not doing it. Instead of making them work for that car we just gave it to them with the only stipulation being that they drive carefully.

Now that the damage has been done what can we do to repair our broken down young people? Whatever the remedy it will not be easy. Anything that has taken years of training to learn cannot be unlearned or untrained in a short while.

Attitude is the big thing. We must talk to them continually. Instill in them a sense of pride for work well done. Make them see that to do the best they can do is the best that they can do. We must make them take responsibility for their own

lives. We must teach them the dignity of work.

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### National Survey Reveals

## Crime Is Nation's Most Pressing Social Problem

By Gayle Hinson  
Post Staff Writer

One of the most pressing social problems confronting Americans today is that of criminal justice. At no time in our nation's recent history have Americans been more concerned about crime and violence than they are today.

Newsweek (March 23, 1981) found that three out of four people feel that criminals are much more violent today than they were five years ago. George Gallup reports that fear of crime has steadily grown to the point where nearly one-half of all Americans are now afraid to walk alone at night near their homes, and as many as one in six admit to being fearful even when at home. And the growth in fear of crime has been most pronounced in our smaller towns and rural areas, where one out of every three residents is afraid to venture out alone after dark in his or her own neighborhood.

The nation is now so concerned about crime, that according to the National Republican Congressional Committee in its 1981 national survey, Americans rank crime second only to the economy (and above both national defense and foreign policy) as the "primary concern facing the nation."

And more alarming, three out of every 10 Americans worry "very frequently" about someone in their family being sexually assaulted or mugged and one of every four have found that crime and violence make it "very difficult" for them to get any "satisfaction out of life."

Unfortunately our intensified fear of crime is well-grounded in harsh reality. According to FBI reports the chance of being a victim of crime has tripled since 1960. New York, Los Angeles, Miami and Dallas all reported record levels of murder, robbery and burglary. Rural areas, long considered relatively more peaceful than urban areas, were not an exception to the general trend in the FBI's 1980 statistics.

40,035,000 rapes  
The National Crime Survey (NCS) which is based on nearly 320,000 random interviews conducted annually by the Bureau of Justice statistics, indicates that from 1973 to 1979 there were 40,035,000 rape, robbery and assault victimizations in the United States. Also the NCS found that nearly one out of every three households in America was directly affected by some kind of serious crime last year. Therefore, the statistics surrounding criminal justice in America led to an inescapable conclusion: America's crime rate is uncomfortably and extraordinarily high. In fact, almost every one of us know at least one victim of criminal violence. What are people doing?

### First in a series

response to crime? They are not just frightened by it but are angry about it. Americans believe crime is worsening and have taken definite steps to protect themselves from criminals going from such simple preventives, as making sure their door is always locked to carrying a weapon for self-defense.

Increased fear of crime has triggered a rise in gun sales, karate, judo, and target-shooting classes now rival enrollments of the country's top colleges. People avoid getting out

alone at night. They even stay away from some dangerous areas in broad daylight. Because they are afraid of crime, more and more Americans never carry much cash, avoid wearing jewelry and keep dogs for protection. The Los Angeles Times (Feb. 2, 1981) reports that one out of every ten Americans no longer feel safe using public transportation at night. The elderly are especially fearful of crime and leave home only in group situations and even then, as seldom as possible.

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