

Editorials & Comments

Sociology Of The Minority

Rewritten From The Carolinian

One of the greatest crosses a minority has to face is that the majority insist on the right to speak for, analyze and interpret the history, need and sociology of the minority. The benchmark of the phenomenon was the Moynihan Report of 1965 which formed the basis of national policy every since.

Moynihan's Report was found to have no basis in data or study but was and is accepted. His view was simply a reaffirmation of existing racism.

Reagan is continuing this policy and even finding blacks to parrot the party line.

The most common and destructive of these so-called facts about black people are:

1. There has never been a stable family relationship.
2. There is a matriarchy.
3. Black fathers, when present, are passive and uninterested in their children.
4. All blacks are lower class.
5. Mothers on welfare have babies to get more money.
6. The lower status is the fault of laziness, with no reality of external pressures.
7. Blacks are incapable of learning, so why spend the money?
8. Black inferiority is catching, so school integration, busing or social mixing must be avoided at

all costs.

9. Black men are sexual athletes.

10. Black women are morally loose.

All these myths vanish when held up to real life, but few researchers or policy analysts care to do this.

These become seriously dangerous when they are implemented as public policy. This is very clear when we consider the present policy on family assistance, unemployment, foster care and care of the elderly.

All of this policy undermines the value system and social customs of black families. They ignore our African-based belief that we belong to a wider clan or family.

These policies force fathers from families, children into homes of strangers, the elderly into nursing homes.

Black Americans and their families are surviving, but under great odds. The churches have a major responsibility to move with greater intensity to meet these needs. Many of the factors that have traditionally aided blacks are alive and well today. One of our challenges will be to design approaches that will help existing patterns so that they will continue and grow and be strong.

It's Just A Matter Of Time!

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Cody Anderson

If you're one of those people of color who believe you've been accepted into the American mainstream and you want to lay back and refer to other blacks as "them" or "they," be careful; it's just a matter of time...

If you have not personally encountered prejudice, regardless of your status, skin shade or hair texture, believe me, unless you live in a vacuum, it's just a matter of time....

If you're one of those who denounce black media, pray that a real crisis never occurs, for the information you receive won't lead you out of the maze...it's just a matter of time...

Perhaps you have been fortunate enough to escape the public school system, with all its confusion, political and racial infestations; if you think this makes you exempt from prejudice, take off that suit and tie and stroll down center city; you see it'll only be a matter of time...

If you think you have arrived because you've got a couple hundred dollars in your pocket and a membership to a private predominantly white club, which makes you one of the boys with special privy to the ethnic jokes so often told; hang in there, it's

just a matter of time...

If you boast about not supporting black candidates because you have been given a hard sell on the advantages of supporting your good non-delivering, non-black buddy who allows you to take pictures with him at his very private victory party, start calling his office for favors or friendship after his inauguration; don't worry, it's not your phone; it's just been a matter of time...

If you're one of those outward know-it-alls who are not registered and or refuses to vote, and boast about it; boast on, it's just a matter of time...

If you're one of those who sat back in the comfort of your home, watching the news and jeering at the efforts of a few dedicated black officials and community leaders as the media ridiculed the poor showing of unity in protest of the school strike, then jeer on; it's just a matter of time...

My friends, this is by no means a blanket indictment against the white community, no more than we should accept a blanket indictment. This is just a notice to you, black, brown, tan, happy, straight, or curly hair, black, colored, or Negro; what affects one is just a matter of time before it affects us all...

Black Community Can And Will (Overcome)

"Blacks Have Always Been Concerned About Crime, But Hesitated To Crusade Because Of The Negative Meaning Of Crime In The Street And Law And Order," Said Andrew Barrett, Executive Director Of The Chicago N.A.A.C.P.

"But The Situation Is So Bad Now That Action Is The Only Thing Left"



Tony Brown's

Journal

Nationally Syndicated Commercial

Television Series



Tony Brown

New Urban League Leadership

"Congratulations, John - the best person won. If I can ever help, please let me know. Best wishes for a successful tenure as President of the National Urban League."

This is the content of my telegram to the Urban League's new head, John E. Jacobs, who succeeds Vernon Jordan who will spend his time in the private practice of law under the auspices of Richard Strauss, a leading Democrat.

His departure leaves behind a mixed legacy, enhanced by his courageous stand against Jimmy Carter's exploitation of the black voters who put him in office - for which the former president labeled him a "demagogue" - and soiled by rumors of his personal life and his controversial shooting in Fort Wayne, Indiana, near his motel in the wee hours of the morning while in the company of an attractive, single white woman.

Although the outgoing Urban League president made a remarkable recovery from the shooting, he has never politically recovered. Every new accomplishment is preceded or tagged by the details of that night in Indiana. That is unfortunate. But Jordan's response about an "integrated" society and being free to choose "integrated" friends just exacerbated an already sensitive issue.

Jordan's style was also a mixed blessing. His cool, Wall Street carriage made

him more comfortable among "them" - it seemed - than us. His ratings among the blacks on the street were consistently low, largely because he did not seek media exposure for its own sake and partly because of his stiff, corporate demeanor.

The view from the ghetto is that he is now among "them" and one of "them." However, his 10 years at the helm of the Urban League, America's most effective social service organization, saw Jordan make some valuable contributions to poor and black people. The issue now shifts, not to what Jordan did or did not do, but to the vision that his successor brings to the job.

John Jacob is gentle, but firm; decisive, but not arrogant and, most importantly, committed to the delivery of services. While he plans to advocate for civil rights, he intends to concentrate on aiding his constituents. "The period of the 80's requires that we engage more in service delivery" despite the budget cuts, he emphasized. As the years of Jordan's rule progressed, he talked less about "services" and more about "civil rights." His rhetoric emphasized the status of the Urban League as a civil rights group and not as a social service agency. He and the other professional leaders became indistinguishable in the sternness of their rhetoric and Jordan joined Hooks and Jackson in going from one verbal sparring

match to another: Jews versus Blacks; Carter versus Reagan; busing, etc.

The 71-year-old mission of the Urban League, as a consequence, got buried and it seemed that there was little difference in the social service approach and the civil rights approach. Jordan developed a "Peacock" leadership.

"I think I am known to our constituency, I am known to our local affiliates and, given a little time, I will be known to the nation," Jacob said. That statement disturbs me.

Jacob would be well advised to do his job of delivering services, and if he does, he will be a leader. If he does not, he will have to - as too many of the self-selected leaders do - depend on the white media to create him - and subsequently break him when they get ready.

The strength of Jacob is his soundness, his low-key confidence and his 17 years of working in Urban League programs. Too many so-called black leaders are simply involved in the delivery of rhetoric and their liabilities could reduce his effectiveness.

Steer a true course, John, away from self-inflicted vanity and false prophets.

"Tony Brown's Journal," the national television series, will move to public television (PBS) on February 6, 1982. Watch this newspaper for details and check with your local public television station.

From Capitol Hill

Proposal Outgrowth Of Assassination Investigation?

The House Assassination Committee, which was set up in 1976 had a rocky start, until Representative Louis Stokes of Ohio was made the Chairman in March 1977. Stokes with his dynamism and sincere hard work, pulled the warring factions together and got the committee to buckle down to the tremendous task of trying to really find out all the extenuating circumstances surrounding the murders of President John Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King.

There have been outcries that authorization of the Assassination Committee was a great waste of taxpayers' money, especially, since Oswald and James Earl Ray are still the only fingered murderers. Yet, the committee stated that its investigation does give rise to the fact that a conspiracy might have been involved.

Even though the Assassination Committee went out of existence two years ago Congressman Stokes and several other members have been using the committee findings to propose means for preventing a recurrence of like events.



Alfreda L. Madison
In a recent press conference the members cited statistics which reveal a great need for remedies. They stated that murders have increased 156 percent from 1960 to 1980, even though the population increased only 22 percent. Seventy-nine percent of the American people feel that our present law enforcement does not discourage criminal activity. Since Andrew Jackson was fired at with a pistol in 1835, there have been twelve attacks on Presidents or presidential candidates - four Presidents assassinated and three of the last six presidents have been assassination targets. After studying limitations which served as inhibitions in complete satis-

factory solution of the Kennedy-King murders, coupled with increased crime, the committee is introducing the Violence Control Act of 1982. At present this is only a "study bill" on which hearings will be held.

Title I of the bill codifies and reforms the law of federally cognizable personal violence. Title II of the bill faces the issue of capital punishment and resolves it, not by increasing the level of violence in our society by state sanctioned deaths, but by authorizing a new concept of imprisonment in federal law; life without release only by the President's power. Title II draws on special recommendations of the committee-mandate contingency planning by the Justice Department to deal with assassinations, authorizations of federal autopsies and creation of trusts for victims of federally cognizable violence. Funds for the surviving victims grew out of testimony before the committee which showed that efforts were made to insulate Mrs. Martin Luther King from funds James Earl Ray hoped to

realize from the sale of media rights to the facts around Dr. King's assassination. Because of this revelation several states have sought to discourage profiteering by criminals from sale of their life stories. Title II dramatizes the need growing out of Hinckley's attack on President Reagan, and his attorneys are trying to get Hinckley off on insanity, for the assassin to be required to undergo medical treatment.

Title IV requires registration and licensing of handguns. Stokes stated the reasons opponents of restriction of handguns give: it's against their Constitutional rights to bear arms, since lawless citizens feel no obligation to be bound by gun control, the laws will simply disarm those who abide by the law and that laws cannot control access to guns, guns don't kill, people do, we do not need more gun laws, but the enacting of long-term mandatory penalties for crimes committed with guns, and that the administrative requirements for registration would be too cumbersome and incon-

By Rev. John Perkins

Walk Your Talk



Rev. Perkins

God's Love For Us!

As I go across the country, listen, read and observe society, I sense that it is suffering from the lack of a genuine understanding of love. Much of our energy and action has to do with this lack of understanding. We are Americans tend to watch soap operas every day. The whole soap opera mentality evolves around someone failing in or out of love.

In the community where I come from, the black community, falling in love has become an obsolete thing because our young people today do not have a genuine understanding of love. I think that the whole dynamics of sex before marriage, children born out of wedlock and divorce reverts back to this: Man has a need to be loved. Many sociologists and psychologists would agree that teenage and adult behavior patterns show whether or not that person was loved. This presents us with a need to understand love.

The Bible speaks of love in I John 4 beginning in verse 7. It says "Beloved let us love one another for love is of God and everyone that loves is born of God and knoweth God. He that loveth not, knoweth not God for God is love. In this was God's love manifested toward us, because God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

The Bible presents God as a loving and caring person that cares totally for the well being of humanity. The Bible also says that God is the Father who made and sustains the universe. A God who loves us so much that He revealed Himself in a very personal way through Jesus Christ. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." The positive application which is revealed through this verse is that God is Love. So then, our first thought of love evolves from our response to a caring and loving God. Our love toward Him should be based upon His provision. His care and our need to be loved. The Biblical idea is that we love God because He first loved us.

A problem arises in our society now as to whether or not man recognizes God's love for him. The big issue that occurs is, do you know that you have been loved by God? Do you recognize it and have you responded to it? Have you asked Him into your life? If you have it is because you understand something of God's love for you. You were not overpowered by God's wrath or judgement, but by His love. We are assured by faith that there is a God in heaven that loves, forgives and brings us into His family and into a relationship with Him. When we recognize God's love for us, then we are fully equipped to live a victorious life of faith.

Now God tells us to share His love with others. Then our lives are to be lived in terms of sharing our lives with others. I have been loved by God. I want you to be loved by the God that loves me. My reason for sharing with you is so God can love you with all of His heart as He does me. In fact, God has already shown His love for the whole world. That is what makes the Gospel so central.

Parks And Recreation Win

State Awards

Charlotte Parks and Recreation Department has received national and state awards during the December 14 City Council meeting. These awards were given for program excellence.

The department was one of four finalists in the cities over 250,000 category for the 1981 Special Recreation Awards program. These awards were announced in October at the National Recreation and Parks Association Congress in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Since the committee has shown the impossibility of separating the assassination issues from the ques-



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