

# editorials & comments

## "Think Black," Not Minority!

Rewritten From  
The Michigan Chronicle

The quick-witted, sharp-tongued Tony Brown addressed the Phylon Society (or organization of Black Faculty at Wayne State University) on October 23. Brown, journalist and executive producer of Tony Brown's Journal, focused his remarks upon the need for blacks to see value in their own culture. He urged blacks to view African culture as an inclining, rather than declining factor in their quests for success.

Elaborating further on blackness as an inclining factor, Brown charged the black audience to stop immediately the dysfunctional practice of identifying themselves as "minority." Minority, he allowed, meant that a person could never be higher than 49 on a scale of 100, regardless of the size of his or her group membership. The important point, he went on to say, was "not what they call us, but what we answer to."

The speaker was powerful in his analysis of the negative effects of blacks perceiving themselves as members of a minority group. On the educational front, lack of attention to the influence of black culture has bred ignorance of black history and its scholarly value. Recent media reports of the continuing struggle of blacks for equal rights to perform heart and brain surgeries spotlighted efforts to label blacks as incapable of certain delicate operations. These surgeries, now sources of high income to surgeons, had been declared off-limits for "minorities" for such reasons as "inadequate" training and limited experiences in the field.

## Black Surgeons

Black surgeons who viewed themselves as competent blacks rather than emerging minorities, refused to accept limitations ascribed to them by those who would control the economics of the profession. They know of life and work of Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, a black who performed the first open heart surgery in the U.S. Now as by-pass operations have become common procedures for extending the lives of heart patients, they were determined to get their fair share.

Being black instead of minority is also a major issue in the business world. Tony Brown cited as examples the large num-

ber of businesses operated by the new immigrants (Koreans, Vietnamese, etc.) in Harlem. Instead of "buying black," blacks along 125th St. in New York are spending their money to enhance other cultures. In so doing, their businesses literally dry up on the sidewalks as others prosper. Considering the total income-generating power of blacks in that community, the extent of black monetary investment in itself is disgracefully small. Still the majority in numbers, blacks form an economic minority there.

## Black Woman

Being an economic minority in America's cities worries blacks and threatens the stability of their family life. In a recent study conducted by researchers at Howard University and reported in the National Leader (Henry Duvall, Money, Marriage, Children Bother Black Middle Class, Oct. 27, 1983), 65.4 percent of black married women identified financial problems as their greatest stress. In analyzing why black middle-class women fret over money to a greater extent than their white counterparts, Dr. Shirley Hatcher looked at the concern for status. She pinpointed fears related to changes in their economic situations.

The "newly-arrived" black middle class woman in the study tended to see herself as a minority, rather than as a "proud black woman." Minority meant less than a quality of being inferior on the basis of lower income. Black pride would not have hinged upon the capacity to buy status symbols and enjoy activities associated with high income.

Another important point made by Tony Brown was the relationship between language and the perception of minority status. He emphasized that money and power determine which dialect will be the "standard dialect."

What then should blacks as a group do about their low economic and social status? Brown's answer was clear and simple: "Form black organizations and support them as a means of acquiring wealth. Use black English or standard English when the occasion demands it. Think black instead of minority, and sense power as opposed to helplessness. Build black institutions and consider them the best in the world."



## Opinions Of "The Day After" Is More Of An "Emotional" Argument

Dear Editor:  
I suppose everyone has their opinion about viewing the movie Sunday night of The Day After. Mine is more of an emotional argument...one expressed from my heart. For during the movie I could feel sadness grasping within my chest, the feeling of helplessness and the sense of recognition that this horror could possibly occur.

First, I would like to examine the contentions of the Republicans and the Democrats. It seems that during my years the Republicans have preached more defense power and less social programs. While on the other hand Democrats have resolved that human services is more a main concern and more monies should be used to take care of the poor, the old and unemployed. Both ideas are necessary for the first class survival of man in the United States, however. If you really think about it one without the other could only make for a less free America. Can you imagine the U.S. without social programs—programs for the poor, programs for the aged, the veterans or handicapped? With too much protection the healthy individuals would be the soldiers.

On the other hand if we did not have defense we would leave our beautiful

country open to those who would and then could gain control. Why can't both sides see that they are both right - the important factor is to keep the defense and the social programs balanced - therefore warranting a more stable and growing society.

What actually appalls me is the fact that there are those - some politicians included - who want to ban the movie. That would be like banning an informative part of our lives that could very well be a reality. After reading about Hiroshima, seeing photos of the badly maimed, the babies with birth defects, and the suffering - it would seem to me that everyone would realize the importance of allowing the public to know what would happen in the event of a nuclear blast.

We are like cowboys and Indians in a way. While the Indians are on their reservations trying to take care of themselves, feed the hungry and mend the wounded, there are brave forces surrounding their loved ones from the land-hungry seekers. The Braves have their bow and arrows in hand ready for the kill and then it happens...one accidentally lets an arrow go, straight through a lieutenant's heart. The battle has started. Neither the forces help-

ing the hungry and wounded nor the Brave forces surrounding the campsite survives - the destruction is imperative.

I don't think the answer is arms limitation. Just like the cowboys and Indians there seems to be too little trust between our democratic thinking and the communists. The cold war will only be diminished by a third, threatening party.

The Day After is not the only movie which projects the ill fate of nuclear attacks. But the message is always clear - There is no winner in nuclear war. We needed to see the reality regardless of the aching within our hearts. The movie made me realize the importance of our defense in this country and the much needed insurance that we cannot be taken advantage of. We also need the practice of taking care of the weaker ones - because one day we may really have to put our actions of charity to a real test.

Sincerely,  
Napolean Bain

Do you have something to say? Then do so for everyone to read. The Charlotte Post, the only other voice in town, welcomes all letters on various subjects.

All letters are subject to editing for grammar, libelous content and, when necessary, brevity.

WITH SABRINA JOHNSON



## Pedophile

He is often a trusted neighbor, community oriented, loves children and respected by his peers. There is only one flaw in his character - he is a man sexually attracted to children - commonly known as being a pedophile.

Children are seduced by him. He offers them toys, treats and promises of love in return for sexual satisfaction. A pedophile is often afraid of normal relationships, so they choose a child whom they can dominate in every way. They court that child the way a man courts a woman - buying him gifts and taking him places. The pedophile knows what he is doing and is driven not by compassion but desire.

The pedophile's interest in children leads him to seek out sexually oriented visual material or children - which brings the subject to child pornography. The pedophile begins his collection by cutting pictures of children out of catalogues. Then he actively seeks more explicit pictures of children and is heavily involved in the world of child pornography. Estimates have it that anywhere between 600,000 and 1,200,000 children each year are seduced into this underworld.

In 80 percent of the reported cases the seducer is not a stranger: often known and trusted by the child or a family member. The society for the prevention of cruelty to children estimates that of all the reported crimes against children - 75 to 85 percent involve sexual abuse. Dr. Carl Rogers' (Children's Hospital, Washington, DC) studies of sexually abused children suggests that a child is sexually victimized at least once every two minutes - one in five girls and one in every 10 boys ages nine are sexually abused at least once during their childhood. It is believed that these statistics are directly related to the world of children pornography.

New York psychiatrist Judianne Densen-Gerber was the first to lead the crusade against child pornography. She collected child pornography from all over the world and presented it to the House Committee on Sexual Exploitation of Children in 1976. In 1978 Congress passed legislation outlawing the sexual exploitation of children. It states that no child under the age of 16 can be shown in actual or simulated sex acts for the purpose of sexual stimulation. The legislation defines child pornography as obscenity and a form of abuse. A \$10,000 fine and a 10-year jail term is the punishment imposed.

The laws and legislation did not eliminate the problem. In 1983 a study conducted by the General Accounting Office (GAO) found that the number of children involved in pornography had actually increased over the past five years. Most of the children are being used by a close knit network of pedophiles for the making of homemade pornography. Children between the ages of 12 months to 13 years are featured in 60 percent of all pornographic materials coming into the U.S. via New York from abroad. There is a flourishing underground network of those who have interest in child pornography.

Pornographic materials serve three purposes for the pedophile: 1) for fantasizing during "dry" periods when no children are readily available; 2) blackmail if the pedophile fears a child may expose him; and 3) deduction: the books, films and photographs stimulate and lower the resistance of a child who may have been taught that sex with an adult is wrong - to make the acts seem more acceptable.

There are two basic kinds of pedophiles. The "fixated" pedophile suffers from arrested development. He is attracted to children with whom he identifies and is not interested in women. He becomes like the child in his behavior and interests in quest for the child to accept him as an equal.

The "regressed" pedophile is sexually attracted to children because he is trying to replace adult relationships. He attempts to elevate the child to adult status and uses the child as a temporary substitute for a woman. He may commit incest.

Both the fixated and the regressed pedophile need help but are difficult to treat. Convicted pedophiles undergo numerous treatments during imprisonment and after parole. Shock treatment, hypnosis, psychotherapy and the drug depo-provera are just a few of the treatments used in an attempt to "cure" the pedophile.

However, some pedophile do not want treatment - they want respect. The ammunition used in the quest is that of the sexual revolution and gay liberation. Thousands are organizing to demand acceptance. Some such organizations are the Reg. Guyon Society - West Coast based with membership of more than 8,500 - slogan "sex by 8 or it's too late."

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### From Capitol Hill

## President Ignores Reporter's Rights

Alfreda L. Madison  
Special To The Post  
While rushing out the door around 3:45 on a Thursday afternoon, the telephone rings. I picked up the receiver, and the voice on the other end said, "The President wants to speak to you." The next voice said, "This is Ronald Reagan, you said that you wanted to ask me a question. I'm busy getting ready for a trip." I informed the President that I blamed White House Deputy Press Secretary Speakes for the call. I began to ask the President a few questions relative to blacks. The President showed that he has little reasons for his assault on civil rights gains. The conversation was as follows:

Why did you fire the Civil Rights Commissioners? The President said the commission serves at the pleasure of the President and that the Commission unfairly criticized, in many instances, his Administration; that the people he had appointed are imminently qualified, with long civil rights records and that they will perform independently. I called the President's attention to Edwin Meese's statement, "It's the responsibility of Clarence Pendleton, (Chairman of the Civil Rights Commission) and others to communicate to blacks the President's goals and objectives." I also referred to



Alfreda L. Madison  
Mr. Pendleton's confirmation statement when he said that he would carry out the President's policies. Mr. Reagan stated that he had tried to work out a compromise by expanding the Commission to eight people, but that idea was rejected. Senators Joseph Biden and Arlen Specter are chief Commission negotiators. Their offices informed me that the President did not accept the eight member Commission idea. Mr. Reagan's attention was called to his repeated stated, "Blacks are the last hired and first fired." He explained that because of the seniority system, it would be unfair to fire those who have many years of service for those who have less service. When asked what he could do about the practice, the President said, "We'll have to speed up the process." I asked for further explanation of the process. He did not respond.

Concerning affirmative action, Mr. Reagan said he is against quotas. I informed him that affirmative action consisted of goals and timetables. He stated that his Administration has settled many cases and had recovered back pay. He was told that he settled individual cases that are costly and time consuming; blacks are discriminated against as a class and no back pay was awarded in the GM settlement.

He was asked why he opposed the New Orleans case. He admitted that he was not familiar with the case. I explained that New Orleans has a population of 55 percent black, with a police force of 35 percent; all of whom are in the lower echelon bracket. To correct the system a settlement was reached that as the occasion arises, one black and one white would be promoted. The President stated that it would be unfair to fail to promote whites if there was no more than one eligible for the position, who had nothing to do with past discrimination.

He was asked - what about the black who had always been a victim of discrimination? The response was that promotions should be meritorious. He was informed that affirmative action does not advocate that persons with less qualifications should be hired or promoted over

those with better qualifications; that assuming both blacks and whites are equally meritorious, would he promote two or more whites and leave the black back? The President said, "They are calling me and I'll have to go." I told him that I hope he will call on me in his press conference and that I also hope we can have that interview that I had asked for. His reply was, that he'd get with Larry Speakes and try to arrange the interview. I wished him a successful trip, and we signed off.

While I feel the President was innocent of the arrangement, I cannot appreciate the call because I was unfairly treated by White House press secretary, Larry Speakes. In June I spoke to Peter Rousel, of Texas, a member of the press staff, about an interview with the President. He told me to write a letter requesting it. I wrote the letter in June and was informed that I was placed on the list. So I've been awaiting my turn.

When the President was leaving his last press conference, I said, "Mr. President, you didn't call on any blacks and you said you had to call on Sara McClendon because you spoke to her boss recently. You also spoke to my boss, Calvin Rolarkm too." He shook my hand and said, "I owe you one."