

EDITORIAL

by Paul C. Smith

# THEY GIVE US STONES

It is hard to follow the reasoning of our Clark County School District Trustees, when they claim that the district cannot afford to have a Hot Lunch Program. They have claimed that they believe in a Hot Lunch Program, but.

And yet we find on their agenda, meeting after meeting items that they are finding money for like, \$14,136 for lawn and sprinkler system, at one school, money for motor bike pens a thousand or two here and there. For any number of things, fee for Consultants takes a big bite out of funds. These Consultant fees they o.k. seems to be saying that the expertise the District is paying for to regular employees must not be so good.

In all of these cases the only clear picture is that all of these expenditures are for items MORE IMPORTANT than the nutrition of our children; That is as far as the thinking of the trustees are concerned.

"If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone."

Our children ask for and need bread. But our trustees give them green lawns and lounges larger lockers, places to store bikes, parking for cars. Oh what manner of men have we sitting in high places?

## Minority Report

by James E. Alsbrook, Ph.D.  
Director  
Publications and Public Relations  
Central State University  
Wilberforce, Ohio

(Editor's Note: Central State University does not necessarily agree or disagree with the opinions of Dr. Alsbrook.)

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### BLACKS KNOW DUPLICITY ON VIETNAM CONSISTENT WITH BLACK EXPERIENCE OF MORE THAN 350 YEARS IN AMERICA

Not many black people should be surprised that Dr. Daniel Ellsberg was disillusioned by revelations in the Pentagon Papers or that Senator Mike Gravel found cause to weep public tears because of America's "arrogance and duplicity."

Black people, perhaps best of all, know that the United States traditionally has dealt in misrepresentation, double standards and hypocrisy.

And when Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, and then Nixon pursued policies that could not be defended on moral grounds by reasonable men, they were merely performing in harmony with long-established traditions, well-defined precedents, and commonly accepted racial biases.

Consider some of the milestones of misrepresentation in American History:

1. Before leaving England, the Pilgrims "justified" their planned seizure of Indian lands in America by saying the seizure would be "God's will." They cited II Sam. 7:10, which says "...Moreover, I will appoint a place for my people in Israel, and I will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more." The Indians were condemned as "savages" and forced from their lands. The new settlers invaded this continent, misrepresented their ethical posture took other people's property at gunpoint.

#### DECLARATION VIOLATED

2. The second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence states that "...all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights...among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness

**MAYOR STOKES OF CLEVELAND IN A RECENT SPEECH REMINDED HIS BLACK AUDIENCE, THAT WHITES IN THIS COUNTRY ARE CAPABLE OF NAZI-TYPE EXTERMINATION.**

**COLUMBUS, GEORGIA-A COP SHOT A 20 YEAR OLD BLACK WHO REFUSED TO HALT - JUNE, 1971**

**JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA-A COP SHOT A TEEN-AGER IN A DEMONSTRATION - MAY, 1971**

**CHATTANOOGA, TENN.-A DEMONSTRATOR WAS SHOT BY A COP WHO SAID HE WAS RESISTING. MAY 1971**

**ECRU, MISS.-A GROCERY STORE PROPRIETOR KILLED A BLACK MAN, SAID HE THREATENED HIM.**

**THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY-A GAS STATION ATTENDANT KILLED A BLACK MAN - SAID HE WAS DISORDERLY.**



... When these words were written in 1775, slavery was thriving, and it continued for nearly 100 years. If the people and the Government of the United States believed God created all men equal, how could they condone slavery?

3. The United States Constitution states in its preamble that "We, the people of the United States, in order to...secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain...this Constitution..." This basic document was adopted nearly 200 years ago but it did not secure liberty for black people. Slavery existed for nearly 100 years after its adoption. Racial discrimination persists.

4. The doctrine of Manifest Destiny was enunciated in 1845, with national leaders subscribing to the notion that the Government of the United States had "the right of our Manifest Destiny to spread over this whole continent." This action was "justified" by declaring again that the Indians were savages and seizing the millions of acres of land already claimed and occupied for ages by Indians and Mexicans.

#### INSURRECTIONIST ADORED

5. General Robert E. Lee, leader of the Confederate armies in the Civil War, directed an insurrection against the United States. Thousands of men were killed. Lee was attempting to protect the slavery states and divide the Union.

After being defeated, he was forgiven and is extolled by politicians and historians. On the contrary, hundreds of black slaves were shot or hanged for seeking the freedom and equality called for in the Declaration of Independence and in the U. S. Constitution.

6. The nation's most powerful political party of the time--the Republicans--connived with the former slaveholders and double-crossed black people in 1877 by making a deal with the South to "look the other way" on the civil rights of black people. Federal troops were withdrawn from the South and blacks were at the mercy of former slaveholders and Ku Kluxers. The payoff was the giving of electoral college votes to Rutherford B. Hayes, Republican candidate for the presidency.

Many other examples of hypocrisy, misrepresentation and double standards abound in American history. Among them are the questionable justification for the Spanish-American War, black people reciting the American Creed, and the whole train of ramifications resulting from slavery and its consequences.

The shabby morality, "arrogance, and duplicity" that made the Vietnam adventure seem proper and reasonable in the 1950's and 1960's are age-old structures in the framework of American national policy.

Dr. Ellsberg was shocked in 1968 by official misdeeds and Senator Gravel wept in 1971 because of official misdeeds. Black people have been shocked and have been suffering because of official and unofficial misdeeds over since they were brought here on a slave ship in 1619.

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