

**STRONG..STEDFAST..DETERMINE**

**EDITOR'S NOTES:**

Citizens For Safe Streets suggested a re-run of this editorial.

**GUEST EDITORIAL**

**CRIME BY BLACKS IS AGAINST BLACKS**

BY Leonard Mason

Chairman of Nevada State Black Political Convention

I want to take this opportunity to elaborate on a matter which many of us respond to negatively because the denouncing of crime has been used by right wing organization to suppress black people. But, we must realize amongst ourselves that crime by black is in fact against black.

Having been a resident in West Las Vegas for the past 30 years, I have witnessed this community economically grow and die. As a young man of 15-16, I witnessed the gay elegant days of the Moulin Rouge with stars performing, such as Satchmo, Hines, Hines and Dad and many others. Many of you may recall the Jackson Street days when people such as Pearl Bailey, Nat King Cole, Peggy Lee, Sammy Davis and many others were commonly seen performing or strolling among the bistros of Jackson Street, the elegant shows and nationally known stars at the Carver House Hotel, the naughty but necessary burlesque of the El Morocco Cocktail Lounge. Gambling once provided revenues for black owners in the West Las Vegas area. These attractions supported many areas of business not directly related to entertainment or gambling such as barber shops, markets, service stations, etc.

The manifestations of integration disembowel black people from the ghetto seeking a greater level of entertainment offered by the Casino Center and the Las Vegas Strip of which West Las Vegas club owners could not compete.

We must also look at the second, but most important and sustaining ingredient that caused this demise, the degradation of crime, from wholesale mugging of wealthy white patrons soliciting the novelty of the entertainment offered in West Las Vegas to the chiseling and embezzlement of management and thievery of dealers within some of the black owned casinos and resort hotels.

Today the empty vacant plywood covered shops & lounges, are testimonies to crime amongst ourselves against ourselves.

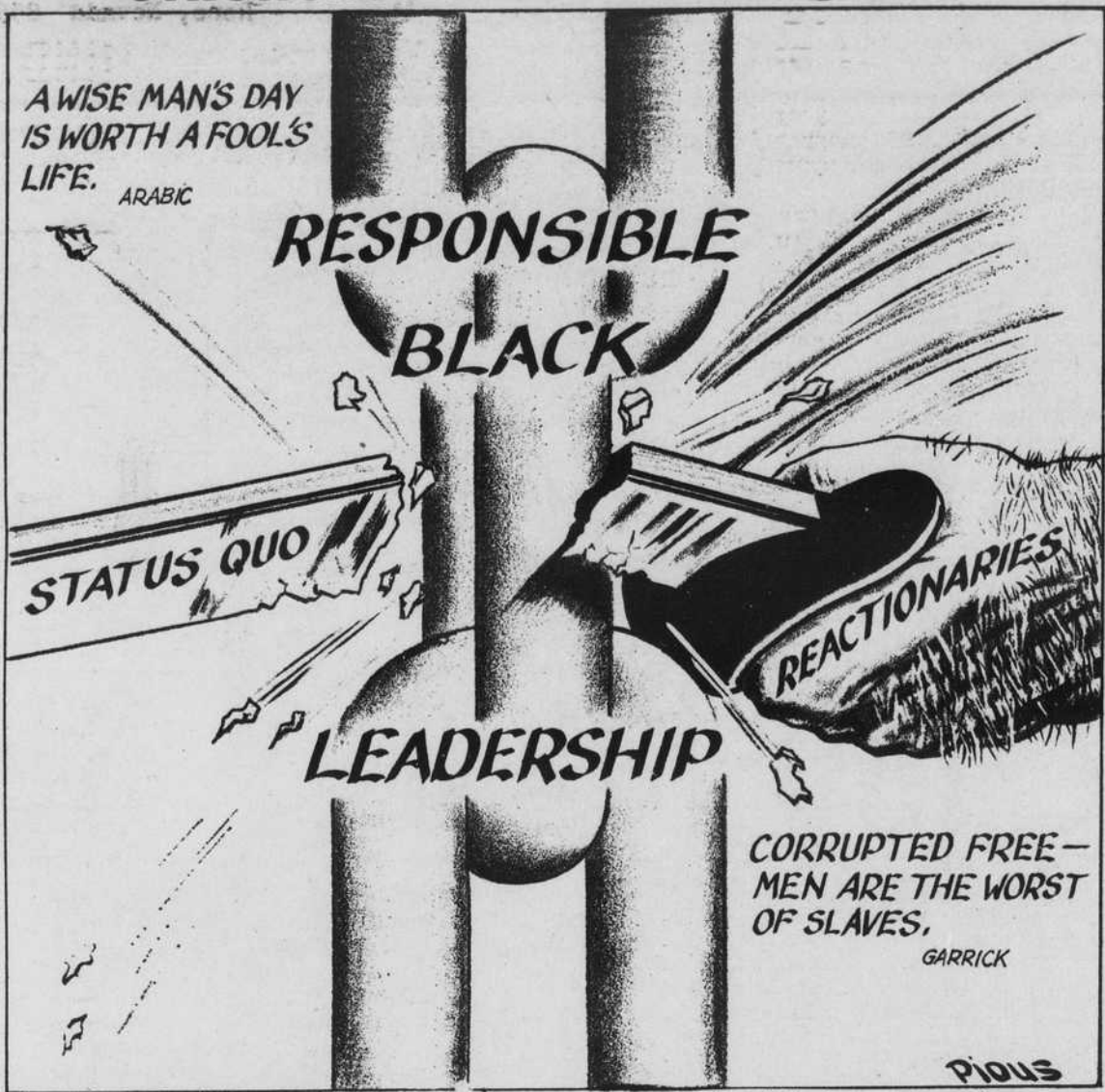
We must seek some way within our community to eliminate the narcotics traffic, to eliminate prostitution by our sisters, daughters and loved ones.

We must find some belligerent way to settle our differences other than the abrupt decisions brought many times by the cry of a .22, .38 or .45 revolver (from 1969 to 1972 we had approximately 3 homicides per month in West Las Vegas.)

Many of you know the cost of protecting your homes. Many of you have been robbed 3 or 4 times in one year. Many of you have spent a great deal of money for what I would refer to as ghetto architecture where you find homes are now enveloped with configurations of ornamental steel bars or more sophisticatedly burglar alarm systems. But you, in a most hypocritical manner will turn around and support burglary or narcotics, by buying your neighbors stolen goods from burglars and narcotics addicts and once again insuring the perpetuation of crime.

The only way that we may eliminate crime in the community is through raising our awareness of the economic cycle of crime which transcends the many social problems suffered by black people of our community.

Conclusively, West Las Vegas shall not develop as a wholesome community for our children to live. West Las Vegas shall not see the independence of economic development if we don't take measures within the community ourselves to stop supporting crime individually and collectively.



**Minority Report**

by James E. Alsbrook, Ph.D.  
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(Editor's Note: Central State University does not necessarily agree or disagree with the opinions of Dr. Alsbrook.)

**MAJORITY RULE BY BLACKS IS ON AGENDA OF AFRICANS**

The ultimate dream of Pan-Africanism--that of welding Sub-Sahara Africa into a giant union of states and developing it into a world power--appears remote now. But some movements in that direction appear to be taking place.

Kwame Nkrumah, deposed Ghana prime minister, has been the leading apostle of Pan-Africanism. He and other national heroes such as Kenyatta agree on the concept but differ on methods. Nkrumah apparently envisioned himself leader of a United States of Africa but his promising career was hampered by neighboring nations that accused him of subversion and by his own army which ousted him when he was in Red China.

Recent events, however, suggest that the dream of a continent-wide African self-determination is no longer confined to a few leaders. Opposition to white-minority rule has increased in widely separated areas and Africa watchers are predicting that majority rule blacks will take place sooner than most people expect.

**WIDE TREND**

Some recent signs have appeared:  
RHODESIA--In this country named for a white explorer rather than for the black aborigines the black masses have demonstrated and voted against the proposed independence agreement between Rhodesia and Great Britain. The agreement in effect provided for the very slow increase in black influence in government. About 250,000 whites now control five million blacks. The black tribal chiefs, who are on the government payroll, also voted against the proposed agreement. They were unanimous. Africa watchers expect the white-minority government of Rhodesia to become more anti-black and they

expect black solidarity to intensify.  
PORTUGUESE GUINEA-- Black freedom fighters, trying to regain their homeland from the white settlers and rulers, now control about one-half the country. Led by Amilcar Cabral, a tough, 48-year-old agronomist, they are gaining in popular support. Long-range projections are that Portugal will be kicked out of Guinea, Mozambique, and Angola, the three Africa land areas now held by European-based whites.

**CHIEF POWERFUL**

SOUTH AFRICA--The influence of Gatsha Buthelezi, a young chief among South Africa's nearly five million Zulus, is increasing despite South Africa's opposition to him. The Zulu King, an older and more docile man, has been limited to a ceremonial role. So popular is Buthelezi that the South African government fears an uprising would follow if he were arrested or harmed. The young chief challenges South African policies.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA--In December 13,000 black workers in South West Africa went on strike and brought the economic life of the white-ruled country to a halt. They forced the government to bargain for the first time.

ETHIOPIA--Black nations meeting with the United Nations Security Council in Addis Ababa last week told Great Britain that they condemn the British veto of a United Nations resolution questioning white-minority rule in Rhodesia. They declared that revolution ousting the white rulers is coming in Africa.

Some black Americans are beginning to realize that advances made by black Africans affect the image of black people everywhere.

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