

It's time for Blacks to do something about it



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK
Pride in Black past, struggle in the future

by LAWRENCE ALBERT

Our dead ancestors have become fertilizer for the growth and strength of our future. Although the national Memorial Day has passed, every day should be a tribute to the Black men and women who gave their lives so that we may live.

I'm not talking about observing their deaths with hoopla and parades, but with holding the ground on which their blood has been spilled.

Because of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we have the right and authority to enter any establishment in this country and expect equitable treatment. He plowed the ground that had lain fallow before. He opened doors that had not even been knocked on before. He spoke of things openly that had been only whispered before. He was and is to us what Moses was to the Jews.

He lead us through the desert, filled with hazards, and man-eating predators. But more than that he was our spirit and inspiration.

Malcolm X was our John the Baptist crying in the Wilderness, calling us to come forth and claim our heritage. He showed us that there is no shame in being Black--the shame existed in trying to deny the fact. He taught us to be Black and proud of it.

Although I'm singling these two great Black leaders out for tribute, I have not forgotten the rest of our ancestors who sweat and worked just as hard as Dr. King and Malcolm X. These two men are remembered here because they impressed their presence into everyone who remembers them.

Let us have a Memorial service for these men every day by the caliber of our lives. Although they reached a peak of power and success, they did not forget that they could be cast down at any moment. Thus, we should realize and not forget that though we have made vast progress on the road to freedom, we have a long way to go. And, most of all, we must not forget that we can lose what we have gained unless we struggle to hold it.

Textbook protesters & multicultural education problems

Textbook protesters, engaged in a well-financed, skillfully organized battle against academic freedom, are threatening the entire concept of multicultural education in American schools, a National Education Association official declared recently.

Samuel B. Eldridge, director of NEA's Teachers Rights Division, noted that these protesters from the political far right demand that public

'VOICE' Kickback loan investigation

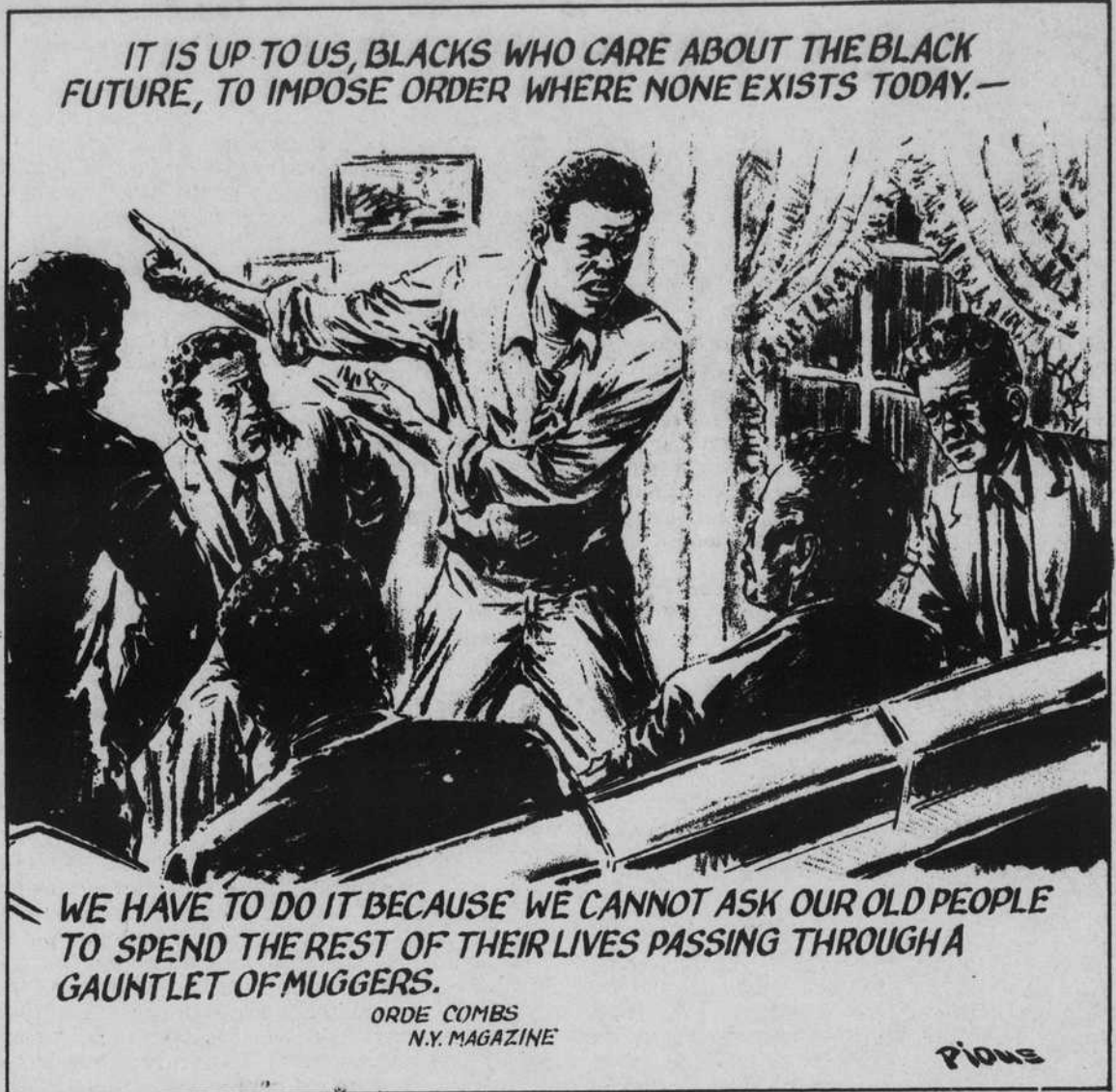
Complaints have come to the editor's attention that unscrupulous and illegal means are used when people go for help in obtaining S.B.A. loans.

This article is designed to let the public know that The VOICE will not sit idly by if these allegations are true.

On the other hand, The VOICE will not be used to blot anyone's character on hearsay.

For these reasons, The VOICE is conducting its own investigation into this matter. If anyone has any factual information relating to kickbacks, please call the Las Vegas VOICE.

648-2615



Just the FACTS

Las Vegas supposedly has attained a reputation as a city where everyone is welcome and treated equally. Newcomers talk of how well Blacks and Whites get along in this city of neon lights. And from outside appearances this seems to be true. But uncovered, the maggots of discrimination are revealed, crawling about like their cohorts in buried coffins.

education should not teach students how to think but rather should dictate to them what they must think.

Also at the heat of the protest movement, he added, is their demand "that public education should not inform students of the real world, with its great multiplicity of ideas, life styles, and racial, ethnic, and cultural experience, but rather that it should portray to them a picture of the world as the textbook protesters would like it to be."

That world, said Eldridge, would be "peopled largely by kindly Anglo-Saxons, dominated by Protestant fundamentalist religious values, a world in which the American Way--in neon capital letters--is recognized by all as the only good and moral and admirable way of life--the kind of world that, in fact, never was and never will be, despite what the McGuffey's Readers may have taught our students of an earlier era."

The NEA staffer, speaking at a conference on "The Future of Multicultural Institutional Materials," declared: "If these demands are met, what we will see will not only be the end of multicultural education, but the end of the kind of education that is vital to the preservation of a free, democratic society."

He noted that the conference sponsors--NEA and the Council on Interracial Books for Children (CIBC)--have promoted multicultural education for many years. However, the concept is in jeopardy quite ironically at a time "when we should be celebrating the progress made so far and urging further advances toward our common goal."

Discrimination exists in many Las Vegas establishments. This column will confine itself to that of the discotheques.

Blacks have lodged many complaints about the way they have been treated by John John's, Dirty Sally's and other such establishments on, or near the Strip.

Dirty Sally's hassle Blacks with ID checks. This is not a case of Blacks being oversensitive. Whites are allowed in this place without any kind of check, unless some Blacks are in line. This can be checked very easily, as this columnist did. Sit in the parking lot and watch the crowd enter.

Every Black has to show his ID. But Whites are passed through the door.

John John's uses the "old reservation" trick. If too many Blacks go to this discotheque, they are told reservations are required. If you tell them you tried to make a reservation by telephone and was told it was not required, you are told it is a private club.

This is not to say that these are the only two clubs that do this. Most of the really popular discotheques use similar methods to exclude Blacks.

It would seem that if the races could get along anyplace it would be in dancing establishments--it is a universal language understood by all.

Discrimination at these places can be chopped to bits easily enough if Blacks would complain to the Clark County Commission, which licenses these places, and to the Equal Rights Commission.

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