



by LAWRENCE ALBERT

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Metro Used By Vegas Landlord

When policemen are used to violate the rights of another individual, then something is wrong in our society. Such an incident happened to the local singing group, Stone Gumbo, last Saturday, to atleast five of its members.

The group was renting a house at 3801 W. Oakey. The landlord served them with an eviction notice last Saturday, the same day that the five members of the band were arrested.

A couple of hours after the notice had been served, the man who was buying the house showed up. The landlord had lead him to believe that the house was unoccupied.

So, he showed up all ready to move his family into the residence. He got into a hassle with the group members. He ran from the house and called the police, telling them the group had threatened his wife and they were having a pot party.

Nine Metro cops surrounded the house and arrested the occupants. They were booked into the Clark County jail and charged with possession of a controlled substance, marijuana and dangerous drugs.

The dangerous drugs turned out to be a prescription for one of the group who is an epileptic. The cops would not heed his pleas for his medicine and he had an epileptic seizure in the jail.

Upon his release, the cops still would not return his medicine to him, finally, friends of the young man got a prescription for him from Dr. Charles West.

As for the marijuana, the cops found enough for two or three cigarettes. I am not blaming the policemen for checking out a report by another citizen that his wife's life has been threatened, but I am blaming the police for letting themselves be used by a heartless landlord, and then adding to their negligence by refusing that young man his medicine.

Policemen are continually asking why residents of our community dislike them. It is not that we dislike them, but they have kicked us in the rear and spit in our faces so much we would be fools to welcome them with open arms.

The solution to the matter is very simple --when they respect us as human beings, we will act accordingly.

You Can Give Them A Clean Place To Play



Just the FACTS

It seems as long as Blacks are content to stay in the little slots in life, White people will leave them alone.

Such an incident recently happened in North Las Vegas. Mrs. Sarah Lee Johnson won a discrimination charge recently against that city and the former City Attorney of that city Carl Lovell, who is now City Attorney of Las Vegas.

The incident was sparked, according to Jesse Scott, executive director of the Nevada Equal Rights Commission (ERC), when Mrs. Johnson wanted to upgrade her position in the City Attorney's Office to jr. senior legal secretary in October, 1972.

She had been ruled qualified for the position by the Civil Service Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Johnson had placed first Oct. 27, 1972, on the eligibility list for that position. Lovell hired, however, Mrs. Oralee Palsgrove as a regular probationary senior legal secretary, who was White.

Not only that, but on Jan. 1, 1973, Lovell sent a five page, highly critical memorandum to personnel to be placed in Mrs. Johnson's file.

Scott said, "Prior to Lovell's memorandum, all of Mrs. Johnson's performance appraisal reports which were either written by Lovell, or reviewed by him and approved, were all favorable and contained no information consistent with his critical comments."

Lovell revealed himself even more when Mrs. Palsgrove resigned Jan. 12, 1973, and Mrs. Johnson was transferred from the civil division to the criminal division.

"The legal secretary work in the civil division is varied and somewhat comparable to a private law practice... The work in the criminal division is basically boring," Scott said.

This columnist realizes this is not enough evidence to convict Lovell as a racist, but it sure is enough to make our community wonder. In other words, the next time Lovell comes up for re-election, we should make sure that he is going to treat us equally, both in his office and in court.

Busing Flares Anew

by Bayard Rustin

With the publication of his report on the consequences of busing to achieve racial integration, social scientist James Coleman has become the focal point of a major and potentially bitter controversy. The reactions of Coleman's findings are already assuming an all-too-familiar pattern. Some integrationists, concentrating on the report's assertion that massive busing has reinforced Negro isolation in the inner cities, are questioning Coleman's racial attitudes and intellectual integrity. The opponents of busing, on the other hand, are confidently preparing a renewed anti-integration offensive, their case bolstered by scholarly documentation authored by a respected friend of racial advancement.

One does not have to agree with all of Coleman's conclusions to recognize that the responses his research have evoked--both pro and con--are generated by fears and expectations, rather than by honest evaluation. James Coleman is no more a racist today than he was in 1966, when he published the landmark study Equality of Educational Opportunity, which provided the rationale for subsequent federal school-desegregation initiatives. Nor should his findings be interpreted as an assault on the concept of racial integration: Coleman states clearly that society as a whole is less segregated today than ever before and reaffirms his conviction that integration of all social institutions is a profoundly healthy development.

If I read him correctly, Coleman appears to be making two fundamental criticisms of the way America has gone about the integration process. First, he believes that the federal government erred in emphasizing school desegregation over the integration of other social institutions. And second, he expresses serious reservations as to whether the court system should be issuing sweeping edicts that result in the wholesale reconstructing of urban school systems.

As one who has consistently supported school integration, and who believes that busing may be one of many techniques that can be effectively utilized to promote desegregation, I nevertheless find myself in agreement with the premise that the integration of economic and social institutions is as important as school desegregation.

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