

## GUIDELINES SHOW PREJUDICE IN SCHOOLBOOKS

Racial prejudice in schoolbooks results largely from failure to recognize and change accepted attitudes of the past, guidelines against social discrimination in educational materials issued by a leading textbook publishing house points out.

The 25,000-word statement from Macmillan Publishing Co., is the most far-reaching manual on stereotyped words and pictures in school texts to emerge from the textbook industry. In hundreds of examples the guidelines recommend positive social images to replace outmoded and biased views.

They explain, for instance, the feelings of inferiority that grade school books create in minority children who never see themselves or their families depicted as typical Americans. Children come in all sizes, shapes, races and colors and should be realistically shown as such, the guidelines suggest, and so do "typical" American families.

Children must be free from feelings of racism, conscious or unconscious, and come to grips with the history and heroes of Blacks and other minorities in this country, they pointed out. Stereotyped versions in place of realities -- like the inaccurate images of American Indians in Western movies -- have no place in the classroom.

Macmillan's guidelines also devote major attention to equal treatment of the sexes and the elimination of other forms of social bias. Examples: It's wrong to imply that children with working mothers are disadvantaged or that all single-parent households are "broken," unhappy families. A child's ability to speak Spanish or other languages should be treated as an asset. Grandparents should be shown taking an active role in family life, not neglected to rocking chairs.

"Educational materials reach millions of children at a time when their vision of themselves and society is taking shape," states the introduction. "The pervasive influence of textbooks on children's self-image gives publishers an awesome social responsibility only recently recognized to its full extent. It is the

## Republicans Blasted As Shortsighted

Senator Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tex.) sharply criticized the declining enrollment in job training programs as an example of the Republican administrations misguided and shortsighted economic policies recently.

Bentsen, a candidate for the 1976 Democratic Presidential nomination said "The declining enrollment is a direct result of the recession which has been needlessly prolonged by the Republican administration.

"Obviously when unemployment reaches 9.2%, enrollment goes down. There is little incentive to be trained for jobs that don't exist.

Bentsen said minority youths who have already the highest unemployment rates of any group, are the ones who are hurt the most.

"Disadvantaged young people want to acquire new skills to prepare for better jobs, but the current administration is discouraging them, Bentsen said.

Bentsen called for the administration to take immediate steps to encourage minority youths to enroll in job training programs so they can take advantage of job openings when the recession ends.

"Minority youth are about to be caught in a vicious cycle," Bentsen said. "Minority youth have an extremely high unemployment rate now, and unless the administration actively recruits for job training programs, minority youth will remain unemployable in the future because they will lack job skills.

"This is unfair. It is wrong."

"I call on the President to take immediate steps to provide job skills and jobs for minority youths who are being severely hurt by the recession."

policy of Macmillan Publishing Co., to publish educational material that gives children an unbiased view of the full image of human potential."

Macmillan has issued the guidelines in a 96-page booklet addressed to its textbook writers, editors, illustrators and educational consultants. They are also being made available to educators and school committees with no copyright restrictions on their use or reproduction.

## Attitudes of Blacks Change About Military

The attitudes of American Blacks toward U.S. military service has changed unfavorably according to a recent survey conducted by MHA News Service Bureau, a division of Philadelphia-based Mark Hyman Associates.

The first part of a three-part study was directed to 400 directors of youth-oriented agencies and adults within the age group of parents of service eligibles.

Seventy-two percent said that the attitudes of Blacks had changed toward the military in the last five years. More specifically, 55 percent stated that the change had been unfavorably.

In a more detailed breakdown, the study showed that 47.5 percent pointed to subtle segregation. Forty percent claimed slow and unfair promotion practices were the causes, along with apparent and actual racism. Thirty-seven percent said harassment of Blacks by White officers and White GIs were causes. Poor assignments accounted for thirty percent of the choices and unequal justice before military courts tallied 27.5 percent.

Of the 40 percent respondent which said the change in attitude had been favorable, 32.5 percent pointed to educational opportunities in the service. Twenty-five percent cited pay increases while 15 percent noted desegregation as a positive factor. The promotion of Blacks to general drew only two percent as reasons for changes in attitudes.

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