



Education Is Power

By Thomas E. Wilson,
Ph.D.

School starts again in about two weeks. This is a good time for us to take an inventory of attitudes that will affect the educative process of our children.

Many southern Blacks have gained national and international acclaim. These remarkable Black Americans were often educated in schools that were poorly equipped. Great musicians learned on battered horns; excellent athletes trained with second hand equipment; outstanding scientists learned in make-shift labs. High academic achievers walked for miles to study in poorly appointed classrooms with worn and sometimes out-dated books.

What was the secret that produced excellence under such conditions? One of the great factors was UNITY. Southerners took great pride in accomplishing the "impossible" for the welfare of their children. Traditionally there was a great bond among the parent, teacher and neighbor who united in the determination that each child would receive the best possible education under existing circumstances. The hard work and ingenuity of teachers and parents often improved these existing circumstances. The teacher was regarded by the parents as someone to be respected and appreciated. After all, this teacher was an essential partner in preparing the child for a more prosperous life style. That respect and appreciation was communicated to the children, and the teachers worked hard to help their pupils. It was a labor of love. They were returning the love that they received from the children, parents and community.

As another school year approaches, one might ask: Do I make a special effort to meet my child's teachers? Do I present a friendly and supportive attitude? Do I make myself available to the teachers for any assistance that I may give in my child's education. Do I speak of education as something of great value that should be vigorously pursued? Am I careful to express my negative thoughts about teachers and education away from the child's ears? Do I try to use a fair and open-minded approach when I disagree with the teacher?

Among our school district's staff are many skillful Black teachers who know from experience the problems of a Black child. We now have Black administrators at practically all levels. Several of these are women. This will utilize the unique qualities Black women have shown in dealing with "impossible problems." They will combine their God-given "woman's intuition" with the excellent academic training necessary for their positions into a winning combination for the Black child.

Black men are also getting into the administrative picture. The Black male has had an uphill climb in reaching these goals. These men are also highly trained and share the high motivation to see that Black children get the quality of education that will pave their road to success.

What is our attitude, as parents, toward these professionals? Do we see them as "hostile aliens" or as "skilled friends" who have something important to offer our children? It is hoped that we will see them as "skilled friends." Most of these people have undergone great sacrifices to accomplish their successes. They are all very human just as we are. A positive attitude on our part can make them feel that their efforts are well worth the struggle that they have been through. And guess who will reap the rewards? OUR CHILDREN!!

**EDUCATION TODAY...
FOR A BETTER
TOMMORROW**



Benjamin L. Hooks

FCC
Commissioner

Public interest groups who filed comments during the Equal Employment Opportunity inquiry leading to our Report and Order setting guidelines for broadcasters, were of one opinion: It is vitally important to have full participation of the small stations as well as the large because (naturally) the smaller stations serve as a training ground for those aspiring to work in the industry.

Yet, the majority Order recently released setting EEO guidelines to the nation's broadcasters exempted a whopping total of 4,598 stations of the total of 8,506, or 54 percent, from have to file written EEO reports every three years at license renewal time.

The rationale - stations with 10 or fewer employees are simply too small to be burdened with this additional paper work. Under this new program, also, the Commission requires broadcasters with 50 or more full-time employees to file annual EEO reports on recruitment, sources, training, job titles and analysis of the broadcasters promotions and hiring and reasons for disparities and may exist between the percentages of minorities and women on the stations' staff and their presence in the community.

The exemption of so many small stations is a retreat from the Federal Communications Commission earlier EEO position which declared stations with only five or more must so file. I proposed sticking to that figure for small stations and also proposed that the Commission apply the job title, etc., annual reporting to those larger stations with 25 or more employees. I lost on both counts and issued a dissenting statement in this matter, while concurring generally with the Order.

There is much to recommend these new guidelines and I do believe that they represent, on balance, a step in the right direction. But let us not kid ourselves - it is but a step. For we must now begin to improve the reporting requirements of the stations.

The Supreme Court recently in NAACP vs. Federal Power Commission (May 19, 1976, the NAACP had petitioned FPC to sanction its reg-

BAYARD RUSTIN The Issue is Jobs

The Humphrey-Hawkins full employment bill is the most important piece of legislation before the Congress. A landmark bill like the civil rights legislation of the 1960's, it is the fulfillment of the theme of the 1963 March on Washington - "Jobs and Freedom." Symbolically, this can be seen in the fact that not only is the Congressional Black Caucus fully supporting the bill, but that one member of the Caucus, Congressman Augustus Hawkins of Los Angeles, is a co-author.

Distortions, misinterpretations, and outright lies are being spread by the opponents of Humphrey-Hawkins in an attempt to discredit it. But the discouraging economic news of the last several months will make jobs a major issue in this election year and will force Humphrey-Hawkins to be examined on its merits.

Unemployment has increased each of the last three months and is now officially at 7.8%. But if one wants to get a more accurate picture one has to include workers who have become so discouraged that they have given up looking for jobs that no longer exist and part-time workers who want full-time jobs. If these people are counted, unemployment is really over 10%.

These figures reflect a continuing crisis in the American economy. We are faced with a significant unemployment problem for many years to come. Many economists project that

ulatees in respect to their EEO policies, and the FPC said it did not have power to do so) said: "...however, that our regulations concerning discrimination by the broadcasters can be justified insofar as they are necessary to enable the FCC to satisfy its obligation under the Communications Act... to ensure that its licensees' programming fairly reflects the tastes and viewpoints of minority groups.

Even the Corporation for Public Broadcasting which said that under the 10-or-more employee reporting rule, "...approximately 93 percent of non-commercial (public broadcast) radio stations would be excluded..." voiced the belief that exemptions of smaller stations would be unwise.

It said: "...like their larger counterparts, (they) have obligations to program to suit the diverse needs of their communities. One of the essential methods a station can employ to assure such programming diversity is to have a fully-integrated work force, comprised of persons who reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of the broadcast service..."

(I quoted this in my statement.) "Exemptions from developing work force analysis for broadcasters with less than 50 (full-time) employees would exclude 88 percent of the non-commercial (public) tv and 100 percent of the non-commercial radio stations," CPB added.

In my concurring and dissenting statement, I closed by saying: In sum, and except for the important elements noted in dissent, this package overall, represents a useful regulatory program by an agency that is not fully conversant with the mechanics of the most contemporary affirmative action approaches used by the specialized equal employment authorities.

...While I strongly differ with a number of the mechanics in this program... I am aware that the success of any EEO program, is almost wholly dependent on the good faith efforts at enforcement of the fundamental principle of non-discrimination. It is here that I shall concentrate most of my attention, since many folks have remarked that it was not so much that our EEO rules were deficient, but our enforcement...

I would hope that this new package will aid the agency, the licensees and the public in ensuring equal opportunity for all.

For, after all, that is its purpose. And with your help, and God's, I do believe we can make the broadcast industry a model of affirmative action programs, improving its employment and upgrading of women and minorities, and programming, as well, so that it meets the needs, interests and conveniences of all U.S. citizens.

unemployment will still be at six percent four years from now; others warn that we may be headed for another economic slowdown or even a recession.

There are two basic approaches to unemployment. One says that we should define as acceptable whatever level of joblessness is prevailing at the time. In 1946, full employment was thought to be three percent, but 1960 it had been redefined upwards to four percent, and today some "experts" are telling us that five and-a-half or six percent unemployment is the best we can do.

The other approach, which is both better morality and better economics, recognizes that unemployment is not only a burden on the individual, but a loss to the nation. It is typified by the Humphrey-Hawkins full employment and balanced growth bill. Humphrey-Hawkins recognizes that in a complex, modern economy like ours we need intelligent, coordinated policies to achieve full employment; and that national policy must be devoted to the goal of full employment.

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