



## Education Is Power

By Thomas E. Wilson,  
Ph.D.

Several persons have asked that we enumerate the characteristics of an educated person. After much thought and consultation with colleagues, the following seem to characterize the educated person.

An educated person should be literate. He should be able to read, write, and speak the language of his society. This is extremely necessary in a society as mobile as ours. The educated person must strive for continuous improvement in the oral and written communications skills.

An educated person comes to recognize that he spends his whole life in the learning process. He realizes that learning is not something that comes entirely from a formal classroom, but that the whole world is a classroom from which he must learn.

An educated person has the ability to select a trade, vocation or profession that he enjoys. Not only that, but he learns to enjoy life with all of its implications, (eg. reading, playing baseball, hiking, worshipping, etc.).

The educated person maintains a proper balance in his life style among work, play, love and worship. We feel that each one of these have a definite place in the educated person's life, but that no one of them must occupy our total being.

Life requires that we recognize that we must, at various times, get along with some of the less desirable things in life, as well as look forward to the good. Life itself is a series of continuous strivings. Without the ability to overcome these strivings that hinder us from doing what we would like to do, our life would be very dull indeed. An educated person has the ability to overcome the strivings of life.

An increased awareness of issues and problems confronting our society is also considered a characteristic of an educated person. He takes an interest in things that affect him and his peers and seeks ways to make his world a better place in which to live.

An educated person strives for a refinement of personal attributes. He is tolerant of others and their opinions. He develops a thoroughness in handling the emotional, physical, mental and social dimensions of his life.

An amicable, friendly type of personality seems to be a quality of an educated person. He is interested in the welfare and education of the underprivileged, and has the ability to meet and relate to persons of all levels of life. He portrays a firmness of purpose and common sense in his dealings with others.

An educated person does not "toot his own horn," but does his work quietly and without fanfare. He is both objective and subjective in his thinking process.

The educated person is self-reliant. He does not depend on someone else for his livelihood. He desires to make his own way.

Next week we will continue with the characteristics of an educated person with attention being given to the educative process.

**LAS VEGAS KNOWS  
THE VOICE  
BECAUSE LAS VEGAS  
READ THE VOICE**



## Benjamin L. Hooks

FCC  
Commissioner

Observing one's 25th wedding anniversary is not, as it may appear at first blush, a simple undertaking. Memories of the original ceremony set in a different, simpler and, in retrospect because memory screens out so many bad things -- youthful tensions, feelings of uncertainties -- a more hazily romantic time frame, intrude on the consciousness.

I decided, and told everyone at the outset, there would be no formal repeating of our wedding vows. I simply wanted the preacher, the Rev. E. M. Johnson, pastor of Avery Chapel AME Church, to come and say a few words.

My brother, who was my best man was there. In fact, nearly all of the people who were in the wedding party were on hand for our silver wedding anniversary. To have one's daughter and grandchildren to participate certainly added to the ceremony.

There was a note of sadness on my part: my dear mother and father who were very much there 25 years ago, are dead. My mother-in-law who had arranged the wedding party 25 years ago, was present.

Well, as sometimes happens in marriage, we did repeat the marriage vows. I'm never quite sure what happened. But apparently my wife wanted it done and she managed it while at the same time keeping me happy.

I stood there reflecting. Rev. Johnson, my wife's pastor is now director of Minimum Salaries for the AME Church, still lives in Memphis, Tennessee. Time tele-coped. And we, my wife and I, were young again.

The wonderful love and respect are yet enduring, and were transported, magically, back in time, to the original ceremony. It was a time for reminiscing, a time to take stock of our lives.

A few days after our ceremony, my mother and father-in-laws, Andrew J. and Georgia Dancy, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The Rev. Blair T. Hunt, former principal of Washington High School and a minister in Memphis for more than 60 years, repeated the marriage vows.

I was blessed also because I was privileged to help my mother and father, Robert B. and Bessie White Hooks, to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary just two years before they passed, a few weeks after one another. This was so successful, in fact, it prompted us to observe our anniversary.

It is not possible to detail all the joy we experienced on all these occasions. I am hoping that now as black folks, indeed, as black and white folks, as American, we will concentrate more on family life and try to make our marriage institution work.

Last week I cited some figures from Bureau of Census and Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Commerce on the alarming rate of divorce in this country. For the first five months Jan. - May of 1975 for example, 433,000 persons were divorced. And last year, for the first time in history, there were more than one million divorces in the United States.

The government figures show that there were 6.6 divorces per thousand population, a significant increase over the previous year's figures. And this at a time when marriages had declined to 10.0 per thousand. Critics are decrying the break up of family life in America.

Many factors are blamed: the next sexual permissiveness, changes in American spiritual values and lifestyles that have brought on a new sense of freedom, declining mores, etc. I suspect it is all of these and more. But I think we can overcome this malaise, if we take time to care and take time to share. Marriage is something you have to make work. It is a give-and-take proposition.

# VOICE EDITORIALS

And if we remember that if we discard this spouse for another one, we may not be doing anything but discarding the devil for the witch, as the case might be. We can never be the great race we want to be until we learn to treat womanhood with more respect. A man who must "prove" his virility by making time with every woman who comes along must be terribly lacking in self-esteem. There are more ways to demonstrate true machismo than a promiscuous behavior.

Black women have suffered long and hard, have made tremendous sacrifice for this race of ours from slavery days to the present, working to keep clothes on our bodies, food in our mouths when the system would not permit a black man to earn a gainful living.

Take time with your children, constantly teach them, by example and otherwise. And most of all give our women the love and respect they are due. This I know: there is no compensation like that of two people starting out together, struggling together, loving and sacrificing, losing and winning, crying and have wholesome and beautiful memories together. In short, it is a beautiful thing having lived and survived and triumphed together!

## SICKLE CELL SCREENING

Sickle cell screening and counseling is available at no cost at the Economic Opportunity Board Health Services Clinic at 940A West Owens on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. No appointment is required.

Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disease which primarily affects Black people although people of Mediterranean descent may sometimes have sickle cell disease.

People with sickle cell problems may have sickle cell anemia or carry the sickle cell trait. red blood cell anemia, the hemoglobin in the red blood cell releases too much oxygen causing the usual round cell to become sickle shaped. Sickles die quickly and leave the body without enough red blood cells to supply the needed oxygen to all parts of the body," according to Esther Bell, EOB Health Services administrator.

"The only way to get the disease is to be born with it. The disease isn't contagious, nor can it be cured but it can be controlled," said Ms. Bell. "Drugs, surgery and medicines can help most sickle cell sufferers."

It is important for the individual to know if he or she has the trait because the trait can be passed down to one's children just like the color of one's eyes. "Counseling is important for people of the future children inheriting the disease," said Ms. Bell.

The symptoms are at their worst in the young child and during the periods of time known as sickle cell crises. Symptoms may become milder as the child grows older.

Sickle cell screening requires only a few minutes time and a finger prick. Only a few drops of blood are needed to test for sickle cell disease. The test is quickly done; there is little waiting. If the screening test is negative, no further testing is ever necessary. If there is any positive or doubtful reaction, further tests are done and the client is notified in writing of the results; whether he is negative, carries the trait or has the disease.

For more information concerning sickle cell screening and counseling call the EOB Health Services Clinic at 648-3280, Ext. 69.

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thing to do.**