

The Publisher Speaks



For years there has been a continuing plea for Unity in the Las Vegas Black Community. The VOICE, too, wants unity among Blacks more than any other single thing. However, in our quest for unity, we often leave unsaid some factors and actions in the community which need to be spotlighted. It is re-grettable, but true, that while many work diligently for unity, others are taking advantage of the VOICE "STRAIGHT TALK" editorial which will appear as a weekly feature. We cannot sit idly by and watch and ambitious, selfish few hinder the development of the over-all Black community.

One of the lesser known works of the late great Black poet, Langston Hughes, was a book entitled "The Ways of White Folks". Aside from its literary value, the book is also a meritorious contribution for alerting Black folk to devious techniques utilized by their white bretheren in dealing with Blacks and the problems they present. In police jargon, it is termed "modus operandi".

Since the emergence of the Civil Rights movement, Whites have employed a very simple, but highly successful, ploy in diluting the effectiveness of Blacks in a community who pose a threat to the establishment. They simply label them "Black Leaders."

Early on, the establishment learned that, understandably, nothing can incur resentment from members of a given community so much as to have a leader selected for them. Leadership emerges - it can neither be assumed or conferred. There is no one among us who does not resent being told who his or her leaders are. Too often, in our resentment, we overlook the fact that many of the people so labeled were deliberately hailed as such in an effort to create resentment against them from the very people for whom they are working.

Unfortunately, this ploy has been eminently successful in the past. Any football coach can tell you when you find a play that is successful against the opposition, use it until the opposition finds a defense against it. Defending against the strategy of watering down influence of individuals in the Black community by hailing them as "leaders" is simple. All needs to be done is to recognize it for what it is intended and ignore the obvious offensive assault.

This ploy was used again last month. In the wake of the class action suit filed in Federal Court by the NAACP and several concerned West Las Vegans, individual plaintiffs in the suit were immediately identified in the press as "local Black leaders". That's the never failing tactic to prevent Blacks from taking a supportive stance behind anyone game enough to fight the estab-

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LAS VEGAS VOICE

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A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (Published every Thursday) DEDICATED to the INTEREST and ASPIRATIONS for a BETTER LIFE for BLACK CITIZENS of the STATE OF NEVADA

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BLACKS' DISTINY IN OWN HANDS.

WE MUST PREVENT OUR OWN CHILDREN FROM TURNING INTO JUNKIES, INTO THIEVES AND PROSTITUTES AND CONFIDENCE ARTISTS, WHOSE PREY IS THEIR OWN PEOPLE. WE CAN PREVENT THAT.



Just the FACTS

Black power can clearly be defined for those who do not attach the fears of White America to their question about it.

We should begin with the basic fact that Black Americans have two problems: They are poor and they are Black.

All other problems arise from these two sided reality: Lack of education, the so-called apathy of black men.

Any program to end racism must address itself to that double reality. Black Americans are a propertyless people in a nation within a nation (getto), where property is valued above all.

We have to work for power because this country does not function by morality, love and nonviolence, but by power.

We are determined to win political power, with the idea of moving on from there into activity that would have economic effects. With power, the masses could participate in the decision making which governs our destinies, and create basic changes in our day-to-day lives.

Ultimately, the economic foundation of this country must be shaken if Black people are to control our lives.

For racism to die, a totally different America must be born.

It is impossible to re-born a nation so the thing to do is try and re-shape it to fit into our everyday lives. We should teach our children while they are young to cope with the things they can not change.

We can no longer just let things in the system just fall into place if we want to be a part of the system making. We are slowly getting into the position to help lay down the foundation of this system, and make it a better situation in the future for our children. All it takes is Righteous Black people working together. So let's get it together and take advantage of the things we can change.

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

By: Charles E. Belle

The Japanese have just about taken advantage of every American favor in sight, including some not in sight. In Japan, there are stringent controls against gaijin or outside people trying to do banking business. U.S. banks in Tokyo are prohibited from seeking savings deposits, have quotas on loans administrative guidance on the amounts they can fund through local markets and limits on the foreign exchange they can bring in as well as controls on currency swaps. Bank of America Louis J. Mulkern, executive vice-president of the Bank of America in Tokyo, is quoted as saying, "We cannot buy into any Japanese bank." If there are any group of banks with a worst affirmative action program for blacks than Bank of America, then it's the Japanese banks in this country.

California First Bank, until recently, the Bank of Tokyo of California, Sumitomo Bank of California, Mitsubishi Bank of California, Sanwa Bank and other Japanese banks are cutting people of dark color out of their hiring and promotion picture. There are no Black Americans serving as managing officers or on the board of directors of these Japanese banks.

Because Black Americans have previously viewed these institutions as an alternative to the established banking community they were received with its blessing. But the rap is they are worse than what existed in the past. The most favorite nation treatment (ability to get loans at a lower than tariffed rate) for the country of Japan has spawn this leech from a foreign land. The Japanese banks are doing U.S. banking business in this country with captured Japanese companies. This creates U.S. jobs for Japanese citizens. The problem for Black Americans is that being the first fired and last hired, you may never be able to get on board a Japanese bank. The Japanese banks might be the most favorite nation of the few Japanese Americans in the U.S., but for Black Americans the Congressional Black Caucus should call for the rejection of the most favorite nation status for Japan.

Note!