



# Child Dies Because Of Mistake



Angela Wickliffe went into the hospital to have a hump removed from her back. As a result she was given an overdose by professionals in the hospital.

It is a shame the way our youth have to die. If they are not killing each other or dying from an over dose of drugs, it seems as though the doctors and hospitals are giving it to them and killing them too.

That is a mistake that was made by the doctor in the hospital that no one care to look into.

I really don't think a thirteen-year-old child's life should have been taken by a mistake.

Once again our community suffer another great loss by one of our young youth dying from an over dose given to her by a professional doctor or nurse.

They have been treating people for sicknesses to get off of other drugs and all they know to do is to use the same thing that they are all ready shooting in the streets.

It is just like the methadone clinic. They too set up a system to get you off heroin by giving you heavier drugs. People would go every morning and drink it. That is suppose to be the cure for heroin addicts.

What is the difference between a herion high and a methadone high? All of it is narcotics? It was so good a narcotic until Herman Leavitt

had dranked it and some alcohol and it went to his head and killed him.

I really don't feel that the methadone clinic are doing our community justice because they are giving them as bigger dose as they ask for. That is not what the methadone clinic is there for.

It is some people who have been on it for 9 years and haven't missed a day.

It is time to start taking some of them off of mehadone because between that and alcohol ve find a lot more people dead in the future.

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# VOICE

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## RECESSION PREDICTED IN '79

by Norman Hill

### INSIDE THE VOICE

In an unusual display of unanimity, virtually every economic forecaster has predicted a recession for 1979. While economists differ as to the severity of the slump, they generally agree that unemployment will exceed 7%, that the inflation rate will probably be in the 8% range, and that the Gross National Product will decline by something like 1% or 2%. All this translates into a loss of well over 1.2 million jobs.

jobs, the continued erosion of individual purchasing power, and general economic stagnation. Even worse, the anticipated recession--a favorite cure for inflation--seems unlikely to seriously control the problem of steadily rising prices. Indeed the predicted inflation rate of 8% is actually higher than the present rate. Thus, modern recessions are not only painful cures; they are also largely ineffective cures.

Considering our dismal experience with seven post-war recessions, one might expect political leaders and economic policy-makers to reconsider the old inflation/employment trade-off. But with over 30 years of repeated failure, this outmoded and frequently inhumane approach remains popular, at least among "mainstream economists and conservatives. Several days ago, for example, a leading economic forecaster and consultant to IBM offered this prescription for America's economic ills: "The problem that the country has to face is whether it really wants to get the basic rate of inflation down very substantially, to cut it, say in half. There is no way to accomplish that without going through a recession and having a couple years afterward of slow growth." Many key figures in the Carter Administration unfortunately share this pessimistic approach to economic policy.

In addition to crating more joblessness and human suffering, recessions spawn other problems, problems that esecially affect black people. For one thing, a contracting or stagnant economy prevents blacks from continuing the economic gains of the last 15 years. With rising

unemployment, and decreasing tax revenues, pressure mounts for deep cuts in social programs at all governmental levels. And already, an attack has been launched against the oldest and most basic components of the protective welfare state--measures like the minimum wage, social security, and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

By any standard, then, 1979 is hardly a promising year for black people. But there are some positive developments, the most important being the renewed sense of unity among America's black leaders. As evidence of this I point to the White House meeting of the Black Leadership Forum in December. Faced with the double threat of recession and substantial cutbacks in the federal budget, the black leaders confronted President Carter, and presented him with concrete proposals, regarding jobs, housing, and assistance for America's deeply troubled cities.

Moreover, the Black Leadership Forum left President Carter with a clear, straightforward message: black people, whether they be poor or middle-class, workers or businessmen, will not surrender their political independence, even if it means criticizing--sometimes harshly--an Administration elected with over-whelming black support. One key sentence from the Forum's joint statement to President Carter is worth noting here. "The failure on your part to take bold and decisive action on the matters we have set before you today could well undermine your Administration."

Some people, of course, might interpret these words as a veiled threat. But such an interpretation is a mistake. The Black Leadership Forum was not joining a "Dump Carter" movement. On the contrary, it was reasserting its claim for a meaningful black voice in shaping the nation's economic policy. And it was convincingly defending the interests of those black people least able to survive another round of

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