

Point of View

— Blacks Must Communicate —

People must be able to talk to one another, if they are to understand one another. People must come together to talk, and they must have some common denominator to hold their interest in a constructive conversation. When the common denominator is a major issue in the lives of these people, they seek and they usually find a line of communication with one another. Through the medium of communication, they seek counsel of each other in a common quest for answers and solutions.

The Black residents in our community, by the accident of their African ancestry, have the common denominator of being classed as second-rate citizens. They have the unenviable denominator of being deprived of equal opportunity because of the blood of their ancestors. It makes no difference how completely Caucasian a Black might be in physical appearance; he is denied equality of American citizenship with the same resistance that faced his African ancestors, provided his identity is known. The American Black is a mixture of all bloods of all races, but his African blood sets him apart from all other Americans as something different from all the other American mongrels.

Our nation came into being because it was a haven of freedom from tyrannical rule. Pilgrims from Europe pioneered, but pilgrimages from every corner of the earth followed in rapid succession.

America became the meeting ground and the melting pot of people from all lands and all races. They mingled and they intermarried, progenerating a population of every imaginable blend and mixture. The people of America are today the most mongrelized people of the world. Ironically, the American Black can boast of less mongrelization than any other people of this nation, but he is looked down upon by other Americans. This factor gives the Black the most binding common denominator, and makes him an enigma in a democratic nation.

The social revolution taking place in America today was generated by the Black's impatience with the snail-paced racial reforms of the past century. Since his ancestors were declared free by Presidential Proclamation and established as citizens by Constitutional Amendments, the Blacks today have continually pressed for equal justice and recognition.

The momentum of social reforms taking shape in America today, must be reenergized by each Black doing his or her part in a unified effort. Unity will turn the tide. We must have communications for developing this unity. **WE MUST GET TOGETHER IF WE WANT EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY.**

UNITY WILL PROVIDE THE POWER FOR TOTAL VICTORY. LET US UNITE AND WIN. COMMUNICATIONS ESTABLISHES UNITY.



CARL ROWAN

What We Must Do To Stop Violence In The Public Schools

By Carl T. Rowan
WASHINGTON - None of us wants to throw our children into school situations where the threats of assault, robbery and rape exist.

Most of us have been convinced that these threats are more common than the risk of rainstorms for youngsters who attend the public schools of the land.

And that is why public education is in peril.

It is also why I read with uncommon concern the April-May issue of Today's Education, the magazine of the National Education Association. In that issue, Francis A.J. Ianni and Elizabeth Reuss-Ianni report on the NEA's Safe School Study of 1978, and they present a stereotype-shattering analysis of why our schools are beset by violence.

The overriding

stereotype in America for years has been that violence is the result of letting poor blacks into the schools of middle-class whites. The Ianni report that a small, hard-core group "produces most of the violence and disruption in schools" and that members of this hard core "do not seem to come from any specific racial, ethnic, or socio-economic background. School staff commonly describe them as students who have difficulty academically, are frequently in trouble in the community, and come from troubled homes."

Not that race is not a major factor in the conflict. The Ianni conclude from the NEA study that "crime and disruption are reduced in schools where students say they can identify with the teachers and have access to them and where ethnic and racial harmony are great."

As the Safe School Study showed that such

harmony is not great in most schools, although the racial factor in school violence is not as overwhelming, as some Americans assume -- or want you and me to believe.

The Ianni report that, "Most offenses in schools involve victims and offenders of the same race (58 percent). But the fact that 42 percent of the offenses are interracial indicates that interracial conflict is a serious problem. The smaller the size of a minority group in a school, the greater the likelihood that members of other racial groups will commit offenses against the minority."

If the woes of public schools don't flow primarily from racial conflict, from enforced desegregation, from busing, as some would have us believe, what other explanations exist?

According to the Safe School Study, these factors are important:

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FEDS HARASS BLACK CO-OPS IN SOUTH

By Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

Black people today often have a strange feeling that the clock has been moved back and we are in the 1950s again. The feeling is strengthened when you look at the attack being mounted against the Alabama-based Federation of Southern Cooperatives.

The FSC has established a record of effectiveness in generating economic change in rural black communities. It serves over 100 member cooperatives with 30,000 people in 14 states.

Primarily an educational institution, it provides training in co-op organization, management, accounting, agriculture, marketing, energy-saving techniques, and housing rehabilitation.

There is no way in which such activities can take place in a vacuum — change in one aspect

of life leads to changes in others. So it is obvious that people involved in the co-op movement will take



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greater interest in community affairs and in politics.

That's probably the basis for the harassment of the FSC. According to a recent article in *Southern Changes*, the magazine of the Southern Regional Council, the FSC has

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CORPORATE GREED AND RESPONSIBILITY

By Norman Hill

A recent issue of *Business Week* carried an account of how a number of corporations, Gulf Oil, Tenneco, and Standard Oil of Indiana among them, are seeking to exclude unions from future government-sponsored programs to create synthetic fuels that would replace oil. One industry executive, John M. Hopkins, of Union Oil of California is quoted in the article as saying, "No owner has any desire to use union labor if he doesn't have to."

There is no small irony in this turn of events, particularly because organized labor — in the form of the AFL-CIO — lobbied hard for the synthetic fuel program and was praised by big business for its constructive role in passing the necessary legislation for the research and development project.

Now, in an abrupt about face, corporate America is seeking to ditch its partners from labor in a bid to reap ever-larger profits.

It is clear that our economy is going through a critical period. And it is equally true that this period will be one in which all Americans will have to make sacrifices while our economy reindustrializes and modernizes its industrial base. Business leaders are quick to comment about the need for working people to make these sacrifices in the form of smaller wage increases. However, no business leader is willing to assert that business must also sacrifice in the form of smaller profits if we are to solve our nation's economic problems.

If business is unwilling to play a responsible role in partnership

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