

Point of View

Editorial

Recently a series of interesting, well written articles concerning Black leadership in Las Vegas were presented by this newspaper. These articles were written by a young, up-and-coming Black leader, George Burns who spent many hours researching the area for material for the articles. The content of these articles has been noted by several persons in high places in our community.

Our up-and-coming Black leaders are younger, more aggressive, and better educated than the old main-line leaders. However, these younger leaders must keep in mind that the older leaders were here when things were very tough, and conditions were much more against us as Blacks than they are today. It was our older "leaders" who marched, were spat on, were prodded with oxen prods, and beaten by police and other irate white citizens.

As the leadership of the Las Vegas Black community changes hands, let us not forget the Biblical saying that "Old men are for counsel, and young men are for war." Seek advice from the older more experienced former leaders who paved the way for a better Las Vegas, and then plunge forward armed with common sense, knowledge, and tenacity.

To Be Equal

TUITION TAX CREDITS A BAD IDEA

by John E. Jacob

One of the strangest responses to the concern about the decline of America's public schools is the renewed interest in giving tax breaks to parents of private school students.

The Administration is pushing a tuition tax credit plan. There is considerable support for it in Congress. And the Supreme Court recently approved a version of tax breaks for parents of school children.

Previously, the Court struck down such state laws on the grounds that they violated the constitutional ban on government involvement in religion by subsidizing parochial schools.

In the Minnesota case recently decided by a 5-4 vote, the Court found that since the state of-

ferred a tax deduction for school-related expenses to all parents with school children, the state law passed the test of constitutionality.

In effect, what the Court did was to show backers of a tuition tax credit how to recast their pet plan to meet constitutional objections. The key is to extend the credit to all parents, not just those with kids in private school.

Of course, that's just a legal fiction. The expenses incurred by public school parents are minimal. Pencils, notebooks and gym shorts don't add up to a fraction of the tuition payments for which private school parents would get a tax credit.

The Court might still strike down a federal tuition tax credit - it

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Black parents have a unique challenge - whether there are two united parents or there is a one-parent struggle or an outside parenting aide.

All parents have one thing in common. They face the major responsibility of rearing THEIR children to become responsible adults. Many parents use the experience of their upbringing as the working model in raising their own children. There is good and bad in this model, depending on many decade factors. Blacks are engaged in an unique parenting experience because of the historic family structural and cultural background WHICH offers no excuse

of why there is no greater family/race progress.

Parents are the only major persons involved in raising children. It is mainly through the children's parents' efforts and ability that our future children socialize to become productive adult citizens. When their parents possess the limited, shared resources and skills to raise children effectively and enjoyably to heights the entire nation/community can benefit from, we accomplish. We all suffer when all parents have not done their part by crying for help only. The enhancement of parenting defines parenting as consisting of several interrelated functions and responsibilities...providing resources to maintain a family and home, caring for the home as required, protecting children, advocating for goalseeking children, and interfacing with community, school, church and wider society life role services which result in your Parent Effectiveness Training, Systematic Training for Effective Parenting, Survival Skill Training and Review of Black Family Perspectives. The total effect of this model training experience denotes:

- Development of Self Esteem in our children;
 - Development of Children's Academic Skills;
 - Development of Healthy Physical Habits;
 - Provision of basic living necessities;
 - Utilization of Community Services offered, other than Welfare;
 - Seeking out of improved parenting information and training;
 - Establishment of a set of Standards in today's Family Contribution;
 - Granting the Community Effective Measurements of its functions; and
 - Returning Efforts and Rewards to the System of Family Progress.
- Amen - Amen - Amen.
Clarence C. Cross



John E. Jacob

be advised to try to ensure such legislation never gets past the Congress.

For a tuition tax credit would be a body blow to public education. Its effect would be to drain tax dollars away from already financially un-

PEOPLE, PLACES and POLITICS

By Joe Neal



It I interpreted Paul Price's question right in his last week's column concerning the Tatum murder, everyone who owns a twenty-five automatic pistol is a murder suspect irrespective of whether or not they have a motive. If I interpreted Paul Price correctly, he attempted to move the Governor and the State Attorney General to take action against Lt. Lovelle Gaines for not allowing "Metro" to run ballistics tests on Gaines' private weapon.

I happen to believe that Gaines is correct in not allowing "Metro" to run ballistics tests on his weapon. If "Metro" wants to conduct such tests, they have at their disposal the means by which they can acquire such tests.

The place where Tatum's body was found had motor cycle tracks in the area. It would seem to me that maybe Mr. Price should have made a cast of all those motor cycle tires, especially those owned by prison guards.

There is a point in any investigation where one must come to the conclusion that he has enough evidence to file a charge or he does not. Lt. Gaines and Sgt. Clyde Johnson have been investigated by "Metro" and a prison Critical Review Board and now I understand that there is a Captain at the Southern Desert Correctional Center, who has allegedly taken it upon himself to conduct his own investigation into the white prisoners' complaint that Gaines and Johnson violated their civil rights. I find this investigation to be a strange one, because the Director of Prisons had already appointed a Critical Review Board. This Critical Review Board has cleared Gaines and Johnson of any violations of prisoners' rights. But yet, this Captain has requested that certain black guards rewrite their statements pertaining to these charges.

This whole affair at the Southern Desert Correctional Center is turning into a "get Gaines." I suggest that "Metro" look at some of the other persons in the prison system besides Gaines. Maybe "Metro" should take a look within its own house. They might ask themselves some questions about the Tatum matter. Did "Metro" have a man working at the prison where Tatum worked? Did Tatum have contact with this person? Was the narcotics undercoverman allowed to handle drugs to secure his cover? Why did Tatum go to New Mexico on vacation just before his death? Where is the weapon issued to Tatum out of the prison stock? What happened to the pen register on the prison telephones the night Tatum was murdered? How much insurance did Tatum have on his life? Who collected it? Did "Metro" know of Tatum's death before his body was discovered? Was a cast made of the motor cycle tracks found near Tatum's body?

WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS.

The views expressed on these editorial pages are those of the artists or authors indicated. Only the one indicated as the Sentinel-Voice editorial represents this publication.