

# Education

## Education Is Power

By THOMAS E. WILSON, PH.D



Christmas day celebration is over. Presents have been exchanged and food has been devoured. Many people celebrated Christmas with liquor and drugs, forgetting the real meaning of Christmas, the birth of the Christ child. Instead of engaging in something educational, many of our youths were too "stoned" to realize what day it was. Drugs seem to be the greatest hazard to youth securing the kind of education they need to face the future.

Why do people take drugs? The reasons for drug use vary from individual to individual. Most reasons fall within these three categories: Relief from tension, upset, and emotional stress; relief from actual physical pain; and relief from the constant barrage of problems forced on the individual by today's complex society.

What do drugs do? Drugs dull the perceptions and the senses. Besides causing blank periods in one's memory, drugs lessen the ability to concentrate. A wooden feeling might be a very good description of the state that drugs put one in. This feeling, along with lessening the ability to concentrate is one of the major causes of educational failure among our young people.

When classed as hallucinogenics, drugs give the person unreal mental pictures and sensations of the present environment. Therefore hallucinogenic drugs should never be used by someone trying to study. Both mental and physical damage can occur from continual use or from overdose of drugs.

Another interesting

fact about drugs that puts a new light on the reasons for drug addiction is, that when the effects of the drugs wear off, the reason the person felt compelled to take the drug ifn the first place becomes even stronger than before. Naturally, the drug-taker's solution to this "new problem" is to take more drugs. Besides heroin addicts and alcoholics, there is such a thing as an addict.

Long-lasting use of drugs may cause blank

spots in one's mind, and it may also interface with the ability to concentrate. Balance is also impaired.

The above mentioned effects are all things that are needed to do well in school. They can make or break a person as far as education is concerned. Therefore, we, as Blacks, must continue our efforts to lead our youths away from the use of drugs if we want them to become truly educated.

The Christmas vacation is not a time to turn to drugs for enjoyment. It is a time to celebrate the birth of the Christ child. We cannot adequately do this if we find our senses dulled by drugs or alcohol.

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## FAMOUS BLACK COLLEGE ALUMNI RALLY FOR TELEVISION SPECIAL

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Lionel Richie, Edwin Moses, Leontyne Price and Wintley Phipps will appear on Saturday, Dec. 29, 12 noon to 12 midnight, in the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon. The "Parade of Stars" is the first national fund-raising event to benefit education. The show features more than 50 well-known entertainers, including host Lou Rawls and co-hosts Marilyn McCoo, Ed McMahon, Bob Hope, Sammy Davis, Jr., Donna Summer, Sarah Vaughn, Bill Cosby and Mr. T.

The four notables are alumni of United Negro College Fund member institutions. Richie is an alumnus of Tuskegee

Institute in Alabama. Morehouse College in Moses graduated from Georgia.

## Learn & Live!



### 1985 Spring Registration

Learn and live at Clark County Community College. Registration for the 1985 Spring Term classes will take place at the Cheyenne Avenue campus in North Las Vegas from Jan. 21 thru 25 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on the Henderson campus on Jan. 23 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Instruction will begin on Jan. 28.

Class schedules are available at the Cheyenne Avenue and Henderson campuses. For additional information about the College call 643-6060.

## Join the Parade December 29th.



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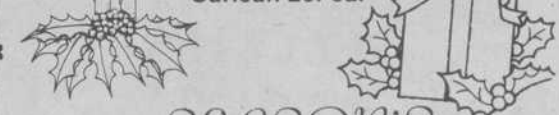


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