

Point of View

Editorial

How would you like to be awoken one evening, as you were deep in slumber, to find the silhouette of a big burly male figure standing at the foot of your bed?

How would you handle the situation when arriving at your place of business only to find the glass of your front door smashed to smitherings?

What would you do when entering your car one evening in your driveway to realize that someone had flattened all of your tires?

Where are you going for help when you see that someone has purposely broken your water line that has by now spread water to the size of a small lake?

Who smashed your windshields when you were in church last Sunday night?

What happened to all of your food stamps left on your dresser yesterday and who brought these drugs into the house found in the clothes closet?

Which person, visiting our house last night, stole the camera equipment off the coffee table?

What kind of a neighborhood cooperative watch system is established to help curb crime?

Who stole your child's bicycle off the front porch while you were in the swimming pool?

Who broke into your service station Wednesday and stole all of your transmission tools and why specifically that item?

Who was that peeking through the bedroom window as we prepared for bed?

How many persons were involved to carry away the refrigerator from my kitchen while we were at work?

Who set off the burglar alarm for three consecutive days at the church?

Who snatched my mother's pocketbook out of the grocery basket at the store?

Who is the person who breathes heavily when we pick up the phone?

WOW! What a bummer — who is this person knocking on doors soliciting funds for youth teams — then skips town. NEED WE SAY MORE???

To Be Equal

Save The Job Corps

by John E. Jacob

The Job Corps is slated to be ended, and that would be a tragedy. The Job Corps is the last remaining program designed to help youngsters who face bleak futures of poverty and marginality to enter the economic mainstream. And it has a successful track record of accomplishing its goals.

The typical Job Corps member is black, eighteen years old, a high school dropout, from a poverty background, and has a sixth-grade reading level. What other hope is available to such young people? Existing programs are geared to people in more favorable circumstances; no other programs meet the needs of the typical Job Corps recruit.

The opponents of the Job Corps have put out a lot of misinformation about it, with charges that the program costs too much, and has poor retention rates and success rates. At least that's what the budget-cutters would have us think. But the facts

are otherwise.

It's easy to say the Job Corps costs too much — it is not an inexpensive program. But the real question is: too much for what? How do you determine the true costs of giving young people the chance to make it using newly taught skills our



John E. Jacob

society needs.

The Job Corps helps disadvantaged young people get jobs as carpenters, welders, auto repair mechanics, ensuring employability and income.

A government-sponsored study found that for every \$1 the government invested in

the Job Corps, there was a \$1.46 return to society in the form of higher employment, tax revenues, less crime and less welfare dependency. And over time, the returns mount.

The President's advisers gave him a script that says the cost of each job created through the program is over \$15,000, but that counts the annual cost of a Job Corps slot which is filled by about

several courses of training. Graduates of a shorter course are counted by the critics as drop-outs, which doesn't make much sense.

The federal Office of Budget and Management also claims that only a third of Job Corps members "are reported as being employed" within a year after they leave the program. That's based on figures supplied by state employment services and

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three trainees. So the true cost is in the neighborhood of \$5,000.

And since the budget-cutters are so concerned about cost-benefit ratios, why don't they apply the same criteria to some of the Pentagon's waste or some of its expensive military hardware that doesn't work in combat conditions?

Similar mistakes are made in charges that the Job Corps has a high drop-out rate, since the program has

doesn't count those who find jobs on their own.

That's a particularly strange way to calculate whether someone has a job. The standard way to do it is to locate people who went through the program and find out whether they are working or not. And those results are impressive.

The 1984 success rate was over 75 percent — more than 60 percent successfully found jobs and another fifteen percent were continuing their education. That's far better than the results for similarly situated young people who didn't participate in the program.

Last year almost 100,000 young people were trained in 107 Job Corps Centers. If the budget-cutters have their way, next year there will be none. And that would be a terrible comment on our nation's priorities and its willingness to throw away young, potentially productive lives.

President Reagan once called the Job Corps "a vital program . . . in keeping with the American spirit of helping others to reach their full potential." It's still that, and his Administration ought to expand it, not kill it.

The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice welcomes expressions of all views from readers. Letters should be kept as brief as possible and are subject to condensation. They must include signature, valid mailing address and telephone number, if any. Pseudonyms and initials will not be used. Because of the volume of mail received, unpublished individual letters cannot be acknowledged. Send to: Letters to the Editor, The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice, 1201 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104.

Positive Black Education

Education is the medium by which a people are prepared for the creation of their own particular civilization, and the advancement and glory of its own race.

— Marcus Garvey

NNPA FEATURE

COPING

by

Dr. Charles W. Faulkner



BLACK ANGER

I was enjoying this conversation with my friend, Steve. Indeed, this was a learning experience, with my wise and brilliant friend as my tutor. Here is what Steve told me:

"One of my most pleasurable pastimes is just watching the faces of people whom I pass on the streets, who sit on buses or who simply have a cup of coffee at a coffee shop. I study people's faces and find an amazing difference between the expressions on the faces of blacks as opposed to whites.

"The difference is astounding. Most whites seem to have not a care in the world.

Their faces mirror contentment. Their behavior indicates an objective; a place to go. With blacks, it's an entirely different picture. Their faces mirror tension, turmoil, anxiety and unhappiness. Their behavior indicates combativeness. It's almost as if they are angry at everyone in society and ready to fight at the drop of a hat.

"This is probably why statistics reveal that the average black male has a 50/50 chance of being killed by someone else in a fight, mugging or murder. The hostility in blacks is tremendous. It's as if most black males hate themselves and anyone who resembles them

(this means other blacks). They are bursting with stress and this stress can, apparently, be released only in physical confrontation — usually with another black.

"I believe that many black males have great misconceptions about whites that guide their behavior. This might be the reason that blacks seldom take out their frustrations on whites. Whites, especially middle-class whites, are perceived as gentle peaceful folk who wouldn't hurt a flea. They are pictured as sophisticates.

"But, let me tell you something. I know an owner of a very popular large

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Register

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