

EDITORIAL NOTES

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9) in police and fire protection, based upon the population density of each neighborhood;

10) in private business and industry's investments in our communities, based upon their projected market measurements;

11) in the allocation of resources for hospital modernization and subsidizing where human needs are greatest; and

12) in making Black America count fully in terms of its total potential voting strength so that we all may count in all local, state, national and international affairs.

That March 1980 MONITOR Microscope ended with these words:

"We have come a long way...from the time when many Blacks at census-taking time were typified by the celebrated Depression Era song, 'The Joint Is Jumping.' The song ends with the words, 'Turn out the lights. Here comes the law. Don't give your right name.' No! No! No! While we may not fully trust White America, we have far too much to lose by not cooperating specifically with the census. Or, it might be

more to the point to say that by our cooperating with the census...Black Americans have irresistibly substantial rewards to gain."

Our Cover Story on the 1990 Census shows how being counted can help achieve one of the Year 2000 goals of the national Assault On Illiteracy Program (AOIP).

For our new readers, we take this opportunity to tell you more about these goals. In mid-January 1986, a group of AOIP's national leaders met in closed session for three full days. Chairman of the planning group was Dr. Moses Norman, then Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, presently co-chair with Dr. Joyce Peoples of the Assault On Illiteracy Council.

Nearly 50 suggestions were reduced to the following 11 major categories:

1. To completely eradicate all "functional illiteracy" within Black America.
2. To have 80 percent of our Black population give priority support (including tithing) to a Black-run religious institution and have 100 percent accountability from these institutions.
3. To have at least 80 percent of our college-bound Black students attend a historically Black college and/or...a col-

lege wherein Blacks have a high measure of control and is focused on the equitable building of our communities.

4. Have at least 80 percent of our Black community businesses owned by Blacks or other persons who live in or immediately adjacent to--and identify completely with the needs of--our people and doing the same for Black professionals....

5. Eliminate the need for unemployment entirely from within Black America by having skill training and equitable opportunities for all.

6. a. Eliminate the high incidence of teen and adult pregnancies both among persons not able to properly rear and support children and otherwise.

6. b. Eliminate substance abuse, child abuse and crime completely from our neighborhoods and create safe esthetically valuable communities.

7. Own and support fully...all of the means of communications which are working totally on our community-building behalf....

8. Have all corporations and other entities that directly or indirectly benefit from the Black community to deal equitably with the Black Community as set forth in our Credo For Justice and Equity (see Page 10).

9. Have our people in proportionate bargaining positions in all major political parties so as to assure an equitable number of Blacks working for us are elected and we can obtain an equitable share of all benefits from the political system.

10. Have Black Americans assuming full fiscal obligations for the basic needs of our interorganizational, independency-producing efforts like AOIP in a manner that necessities will never have to be begged for when "others" feel threatened by Blacks' becoming independent....

11. Have at least 80 percent of our Black families investing in ownership/savings plans that build for their fiscal independence and the same percentages strengthening their family ties both spiritually and economically.

The overall objective of AOIP is to begin immediately to transform our own discrete communities through pride-instilling "togetherness" into such "shining oases of hope" that all therein not only will be motivated to want to learn and become productive parts of our own communities, but also there will be a greatly lessened desire to integrate the communities of others.

The staff of the **National BLACK MONITOR** gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the offices of Mr. Rudolf Brewington and Mr. Sam Johnson of the Census Bureau in the preparation of this article. For more information about the 1990 Census, write Census Promotion Office, Washing-

ton, DC 20233.

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Because of the unusual support of the advertisers in all issues of the National **BLACK MONITOR**, *The ADVANCER*--AOIP's family and Community Reading Newspaper, produced and distributed at cost--now serves many thousands which we want to turn into millions of potential learners of all ages. Thus, your extraordinary support of these concerned advertisers is requested.

Growing priority support for our Black-owned businesses and African American institutions, first, is the focus of AOIP's community-uplifting thrust, as well as the Credo For Justice and Equity, which is published quarterly in the **National BLACK MONITOR**.

Second, we are concerned with demonstrating our long-term support to those entities outside our African American communities, which are helping us rebuild our communities into our own "oases of hope" for the good of all in America.

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