

# Point of View

## Pete Stark, A Disgrace To His Race

By Tony Brown

A few years ago, a *Washington Post* writer wanted to know why I had been a speaker at the Fairmont Conference in San Francisco.

He didn't cover my message at the Republican-sponsored event featuring the Reagan Administration's new luminaries and an assortment of Blacks, many of whom were Democrats. Instead he implied that I was there without prior approval of those who opposed Reagan.

My response was that I did not live on the Post's plantation, or anyone else's, therefore I did not need permission to leave D.C.

I am reminded of this event because of the attempted spanning of Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan, a Black, by a White liberal congressman, Rep. Fortnery "Pete" Stark, a White California Democrat.

Stark called Sullivan "a disgrace to his race" because he differs with Stark on certain health care issues.

"I don't live on Pete Stark's plantation. It's too bad ultra liberals like Pete Stark haven't progressed to the point that they can accept the independent thinking of a Black man that does not conform to their own stereotyped views," Sullivan, the former dean of Morehouse University's School of Medicine, shot back.

We all know what attitudes Stark's comment reflected. The Black race is too inferior to analyze complicated issues or situations; that's what White liberals are for, he implied. Besides, who gave Sullivan or any other Black permission to be a part of a Republican administration; Blacks, after all, are wards of the Democratic Party, he blatantly implied.

Stark has never called a White man with whom he disagreed a "disgrace to his race." Sullivan, Stark said, was "an apologist for a racist administration." Why then has he never called a Black in Congress who apologizes for racist Democrats a "disgrace to his race?"

Ron Brown, the Black chairman of the Democratic Party, is an apologist for a

racist party. He even apologized for Stark's racist slur against Sullivan. That makes Brown by Stark's own definition, a "disgrace to his race." But Brown was, also by Stark's definition, defending the designated plantation overseer, which makes what he did acceptable.

For Stark's information, and White liberals like him, Sullivan's politics are his personal business. Moreover, his record of service to the Black community



Tony Brown.

is exemplary.

Last week, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the organization founded by Martin Luther King, presented Dr. Sullivan with one of its annual awards. SCLC also honored Martin Luther King III. I received SCLC's Black Empowerment Award.

As a leader in the field of medicine, Dr. Sullivan specialized in training young Blacks as doctors, an empowerment of the individual and an enhancement of the Black community. On March 28, Sullivan, a founding member of the Medical Education for South African Blacks, announced the MESAB was establishing the Mickey Leland Scholarship Program in South Africa. Out of 30 million Black South Africans, only 96 are pharmacists.

While Stark was out playing Big Democrat Liberal Daddy to his Black constituents in California, Sullivan was receiving the Outstanding Contribution to Medicine Award given by the National Medical Association, the nation's Black doctors, and the Black Women's Political Action Forum Humanitarian Award.

The *Washington Post*

NNPA FEATURE

## COPING

by

Dr. Charles Faulkner



### They Hate the Klan

Today is Sunday, September 3, 1990. I am standing near 14th Street and Constitution Ave., N.W. in Washington, D.C., waiting for the Ku Klux Klan to begin their march. It is now 1:45 PM and the temperature is 92 degrees. I'm sweating profusely.

I'm in the midst of many hundreds of people, Black and White, who are standing around, waiting for the Klan to march pass so that they can scream or throw bricks at them. There are hundreds of police officers lining the Klan parade route, so that they can protect the Klan from the obviously violent young blacks who continuously shout their hatred for the Ku Klux Klan and the police. I see 20 Guardian Angels.

The noise is deafening as protesters scream "Death to the Klan" and shout other words that are not for the ears of young children. For an entire mile in both directions, people have come here to tell the Klan how they feel. The hatred is so great that it is frightening. This is a dangerous place to be, yet I see many white people in the crowd. Some of them are carrying Anti-Klan signs. Anyone can get hurt at any time because of the obvious Klan hatred that controls this volatile crowd. I am very, very careful.

Standing a few feet in front of me, in this huge crowd, is a well-dressed white man who appears to be 50 years old. He is wearing a blue suit (very conspicuous in this crowd) and appears to be simply a spectator.

Suddenly someone shouts

called Stark's comments "malicious" and "belittling." The White House called them "bigoted" and "shameful."

What is really shameful is that there is no record of one significant Black group ever

"there is a Ku Klux Klansman in the crowd." Almost instantaneously, 15 big Black men, who appear to be gang members, rush toward the blue-suited white man, who does not look like a Klansman to me. But, today, any white face is fair game to these angry frustrated young blacks who violently push people out of their way as they search for the supposed Klansman in the crowd.

I notice several members of this violent group looking in the direction of the well-dressed white man. I am afraid that he is going to be attacked, but he is not aware of what is happening. I rush over to him and holler "go home," "get out of here fast." He looks at me as if he has no idea what I'm talking about. Another kindly black gentleman puts his arm around the man and almost begs him to leave the area. Suddenly, it dawns on him, that he is being surrounded by a mob of big black men. Fear and helplessness are etched across his face. A baseball bat slams into his head. He falls to the ground as blood gushes from a deep gash. Fifteen to 20 men beat him and kick him into a bloody pulp and dare anyone to stop them. This is instantaneous, stupid anarchy, as a black mob takes out years of frustration in violent attack on this man. Now, groups of other blacks rush over to join in the beating. After five minutes of hell, ten Guardian Angels and an equal number of D.C. policemen rush to the aid of this helpless, unconscious victim. My heart cries for him. I feel helpless. I feel ashamed.

honoring Pete Stark or any evidence that he has ever done anything for Black people.

But there is evidence that his attitudes towards Blacks are based on the racist assumption that they have a

## To Be Equal

# LET'S DO A RECOUNT

By John E. Jacob

The 1990 Census tried to count us all. But despite the Census Bureau's best efforts, it didn't. And it hasn't in decades. This year's undercount may well be the biggest in history.

In 1980 the undercount came to about 9 million people -- or more than the population of eleven states. In 1990, critics say it will be a lot higher.



John E. Jacob

There's overcounting, too. But the overcount is a lot smaller than the undercount. And more of the overcounted are affluent -- people with homes in different states, for example -- while the bulk of the undercounted are poor. The census also works against big cities, whose people are far more diverse and harder for census enumerators to reach.

Many large cities are home to undocumented immigrants who won't cooperate with census takers out of fear of deportation. They have large housing projects in which poor families double up and fear eviction. And they have many people who are simply not connected to mainstream life and are not counted.

That's why New York and other big cities challenge the results.

New York was in the federal courts trying to get the Census Bureau to correct what the city claims is the undercount of about 450,000 residents in 1980. And it will be back to claim a bigger un-

"place" -- and that place is where White liberal Democrats like him tell them it is.

Pete Stark, therefore, is a disgrace to his race.

dercount for 1990.

It's not doing this for the sheer vanity of adding to its official population figures.

Since the census population figures are used to help determine allocation of funds for many federal programs, the city estimates that the 1980 undercount cost it over \$600 million during the decade.

And it says a similar undercount in 1990 will result in a loss of \$900 million over the next ten years.

Also at stake is political

**John E. Jacob is President of the National Urban League**

districting for offices ranging from the U.S. Congress to local boards.

Since most of the undercount is in poor neighborhoods, that means the disadvantaged lose the full political representation to which they're entitled.

The Census Bureau tries to come up with an accurate count by cooperating with community-based organizations and conducting media campaigns. Its enumerators tried to go to places where the homeless congregate.

But the techniques of headcounting and sending mail forms are no longer effective.

The undercount persists, with tremendous damage to the financial and political life of large urban centers that are already burdened by disadvantage.

There has to be a better way, and there is.

Statisticians have developed sophisticated mathematical tools that can make population estimates that may be even more accurate than today's faulty nose-counting procedures.

Scientists make accurate estimates of the stars in the sky and the fish in the sea by using such mathematical modeling techniques. Large corporations do the same to

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