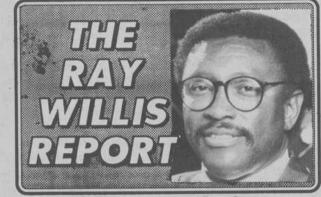
## 3 The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE December 19, 1991 TIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION culty dealing with the local po-By James S. Tate, Jr., MD

A few days ago I was talking to a friend of mine who was in the process of actively bemoaning the fact that he was a black or African American male. One of the questions he asked was. What can we honestly tell an African American child being born into this world as a male that he has to look forward to? 1



## ne Color Of Christmas **By Ray Willis**

"I'm dreaming of a white Christmas...may all your Christmases be white" goes the refrain of the ever-popular yule-tide classic tune "White Christmas." But is there perhaps a deeper message embedded in those words?

Some people feel the "white" in "White Christmas" means White people. Obvious, to them is an implied racial meaning.

Even the most casual observer may be prone to disagree. It just seems to be stretching reality to conclude the message of this holiday standard has a racial connotation.

But as one examines the many traditions associated with the Christmas season, a definite pattern emerges as apparent. That Christmas as we know it in this country has evolved from Eurocentric origins is easy to figure out. Things we freely associate with the Christmas holiday reflect the cultural influences of Nordic people who later migrated from Europe to America and brought their cherished traditions with them.

Another significant factor is that Christmas occurs during the winter season when there's usually snow on the ground. Some questioning theologians challenge the date of December 25 as being Christ's real birthday on the basis that the weather in Bethlehem parallels the weather in the states. This means it would be improbable that shepherds during the time of Christ's birth would be tending their flocks. It would have been too cold.

Religious skeptics say a medieval switch in calendars may have been the arbitrary or convenient way that Christmas was put at the end of the year of our present-day calendar.

Symbolically, St. Nicholas, Christmas trees and other holiday symbols, serve as constant reminders that Christmas is a reflection primarily of European culture and customs.

When people ask if a Black Santa Claus is absorb, be reminded that it would be pretty funny for an indigenous person of African descent to walk around wearing overstuffed bright red clothing trimmed in white while enduring the heat of a tropical native climate.

For obvious reasons, Santa goes with cold weather. And where on earth is there cold weather in the winter time? A considerable distance north of the equator, of course.

Like with so many other things, we as an African people, have had to adapt to our new environment just to survive. The same holds true for Christmas. Although Christmas is foreign to us insofar as those elements which historically have no connection to our African roots, we have of necessity, personalized the Christmas experience to suit our present condition.

Unlike the Michael Jackson song, it really doesn't seem to matter much whether you're Black or White where Christmas is concerned-as long as you've got some green!

Until next week.

began thinking about that and came up with a few things we might want to tell him:

1. His life expectancy rather than being 76 to 78 years as it is for white males is only 69 to 70 years.

2. His chances of dying of a stroke or a heart attack are two to three times higher than his white counterpart.

3. As he grows older and is able to move around, it is more than likely that someone will put a basketball or football or baseball in his hand and tell him to learn to be good at that as opposed to books on poetry, drama, physics or higher mathematics.

4 He is much more likely to be raised by a relative such as his grandmother, aunt, et cetera, as opposed to his natural parents.

5. Even though he constitutes 12% of the population of the country, he and his female counterparts will make up 42% of the number of cases of the HIV viral infections or AIDS. 6. He's almost ten times as

likely to die from a violent episode as a white female counterpart and six times as likely as his white male counterpart.

7. If he should survive his youth and grow into early adulthood he is more likely to go to prison than he is to go to college. he is more likely to have offspring by women he is not married to, his rate of alcoholism will be somewhat higher than his white male counterpart's. His rate of drug addition however will be significantly lower. He can expect to be bombarded by all the megalomania apparatus encouraging him to drink, smoke, get high and join the army where he is about three times as likely to be shot at and killed than his white male counterpart who more than likely will end up as an officer as opposed to an enlistee. In his life he will find that he is the last hired and the first fired. He will be discriminated against in every job position and in every profession that you can name. He will have to fight and claw his way up to obtain any accomplishment he tries for and will always be subject to the whims and wishes of those above him. If he applies for union membership, every attempt will be made to prevent him from becomino a seniorities member of said union. He and his children will be subject to a new disgrace, the so called drive-by shootings and

here in Las Vegas he can anticipate that his shooting will be done by members of different ethnic group type gangs from Los Angeles, who basically use the African American communities of Las Vegas as their hunting preserve. He can also expect that he will have more diffi-

lice authorities, in the case of Las Vegas, the Metro, than his white counterpart. He will have a more difficult time feeling controlled anger. He will have a more difficult time expressing his feelings, he may even think back to when he was a child and would

by the millions!

fall down and hurt himself, some well meaning adult would usually come up and tell him "You are a man and men don't cry." So even as a child he wasn't allowed to cry. Welcome to the preserve young brother! La lucha continua!

The Struggle Continues!

## THE . V. ... season? Maybe so the home-By R.K. Brown

The ONLY purpose for De-

cember 25th, is to recognize the

birth of the SAVIOR OF THE

WORLD! I couldn't tell you how

America has twisted and cor-

rupted this meaning, but I'm not

surprised, they have twisted

everything else. It is easy for the

U.S. to teach the theory of evo-

lution, and at the same time use

Christmas for the annual prosti-

America only cares about its

tution of the American public.

OP

TIN

If an alien space ship landed on earth from outer space in December of 1991, it would defiantly have a misunderstanding of what Christmas is. This is because its meaning has been distorted at such great proportions, that it would be hard to determine what this whole cele-

bration is supposed to be about. It is common knowledge that the U.S. government doesn't endorse religion, it is said that matters of state should be separate from religion.

Legislation has to be passed for children to pray in schools because they might offend atheists! What has developed from this demented mentality, is a wicked society. It is strange that the government endorses religion on currency, and in times of crisis like war, but it can't support it on an everyday basis. The result is Christmas 1991. the ultimate payoff for corporate America, specifically the services and retail industry.

In '91 Christmas carols and decorations reflect Christmas trees, Santa Claus, and every UNIMPORTANT subject one can think of. For every one T.V. special dealing with the baby Jesus, there are FIVE which concentrate on, the Grench that stole X-mas, Frosty the snowman, or most commonly Santa Claus. What is going on here? Oh I almost forgot, this country was built on the ruthless concept of Capitalism; MONEY is the one True God of America! Why is it that they feed and

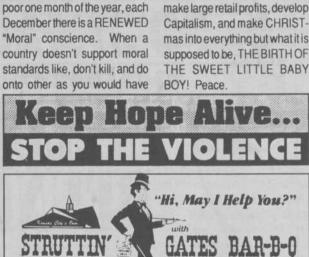
give gifts to the homeless in this



them do onto you, then it will less won't complain for receivdevelop into the corruptive, and ing no assistance for the rest of explosive place we call Amerthe year, as they starve and die ica

I don't point this out to degrade the spirit of Christmas and gift giving. I'll admit that as a child I always received all of the toys and gifts I wanted. At the same time however. I was taught the TRUE meaning of this special time. "Peace on earth and good will to men," is a sentiment which would go a long way if it were upheld year around.

We know that won't happen however, I'm afraid the meaning of Christmas in '91 is simply, "to make large retail profits, develop mas into everything but what it is supposed to be, THE BIRTH OF THE SWEET LITTLE BABY



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