

Point of View

The views on these editorial pages are those of the artists and authors indicated. Only the one depicted as the Sentinel-Voice editorial represent this publication.

TO BE EQUAL

THE REPUBLICAN FUTURE

By John E. Jacob

Republicans are showing that they can be as divided and contentious as Democrats.

Internecine warfare often follows defeat at the polls, as people apportion blame and look for the reasons why their candidates went down in flames.

Republicans can easily find the culprits, for along with the battered economy, their defeat was ensured by the power of their growing right wing and by the failure to open the party to

greater diversity of both ideas and people.

In 1992, the extremist strategy of exploiting racial fears and social divisions for political gain backfired.

It was successful in 1988, when Willie Horton became the party's cynical symbol, sending a scare message to white voters and implicitly associating African American males with brutal crimes.

There were other subtle and not-so-subtle anti-black mes-

sages sent by Party stalwarts. Recall the television ads for Senator Jesse Helms' re-election campaign that spread the false message that affirmative action means white unemployment.

But using race and social issues such as abortion as "wedge issues" to divide the electorate, turned voters off. Even party regulars saw their party as captive of its extreme right wing.

In fact, the election was

probably lost at the convention, when Americans watched a parade of extremists preaching brimstone and hell-fire against all who differed from them.

When those far-right-wingers swung into action at the convention to urge a culture war against minorities, feminists, gays, and others, they turned off millions of Americans who looked for leadership that will bring us together, not drive us further apart.

Appeals to prejudice were doomed in a recession-bound,

post-Los Angeles era when Americans wanted messages of hope, not division.

As Republicans seek to reconstruct their party and prepare for the future, they will have to reject the extremists and try to broaden the Party's base.

The virtual exclusion of African Americans from the Party is a major reason for its downfall.

I know that there was a half-hearted effort to run black candidates for minor offices, but it was more cosmetic than real.

In 1992, President Bush barely got ten percent of the black vote. Had he rejected the extremists, pushed for recruiting African Americans into the party, and had a better record of black appointments, he might have made greater inroads into the black vote.

In the 1980s many people, including myself, said the Republican Party has an opportunity to expand its base.

Had the party made that a priority, it could easily have garnered a fourth or a third of the black vote, enough to win the



JOHN E. JACOB

general election in a close race.

In fact, Republicans who contested the black vote did well. Even a staunch conservative, New York's Senator Al D'Amato, won enough African American votes to win a close re-election race.

But instead of courting black voters, the Bush presidency demonstrated indifference to urban and social problems and fought against civil rights bills.

The Party will not come back unless it opens its doors and makes minorities welcome ... unless it firmly rejects the far-right social warriors ... and unless it comes up with a feasible program for solving the real economic and social problems of the nation.

It is in the best interests of the Party, the two-party system, and the nation, for responsible Republicans to seize control of their Party and bring it back into the American mainstream.



MIC CHECK — 1-2-1-2

There has to be something wrong with my radio, I can't seem to hear a thing. Hold it. Let me check it just one more time...Testing 1-2-Testing 1-2-3-4-Testing. Damn! I still can't hear nothing. Um. Ummmm. I've always believed in the age old saying, "He who does not know his past, is lost," therefore lets go back to the first time my radio started to go "bonkers." Maybe then I can find out what the problem is. Heres the story.

Two weeks ago, Bobbie Troutman was on the other end of my telephone line when I answered a early evening ring. You all, of course, know Bobbie, shes the hostess of the Saturday morning talk show "For Women Only," that airs at 11:00 a.m. on KCEP Radio.

I had a feeling that she wanted to talk about the Las Vegas, Clark County Library District, and sure enough, I was right. She then preceded to invite me on her show, to give my point of view on the Hunsberger empire. Yes, I jumped at the opportunity to first-hand inform the radio listeners what the real issues are with this one-man govern-

ment.

Bobbie next began to, of course, to tell me that she intended to invite library board chairwoman Diana Wilson on the show as well - My response, "that's the only way it should be," however I also said, "Bobbie, they won't show up with me." True enough, the next afternoon Bobbie called again and said that Ms. Wilson and director Charles Hunsberger, both would be unable to come on the show. However, they did tell Bobbie that the following week would be just fine for the both of them.

Mrs. Troutman and the radio station manager, Louis Conner Jr. decided then that the controversy was important enough to the community that the show should go on. The solution, I would go on the show on Nov. 14th and they would then go on the following, show on Nov. 21st., this past weekend.

By this time many people would begin to question their reasons for not being able to make it on with me. Many felt that they didn't care, some said that the officials wanted to hear my point of view first, then counter as they came up after me.

Some even reminded everybody that Mr. Hunsberger went

on prime time news declaring how much he was in fear, and afraid on the day the patrons checked out hundreds of books from the West Las Vegas Library. Maybe he feared that we might be reading more, or yet reading period.

Bright and early on Monday morning, KCEP started its promos for the upcoming part two of the library issue with Wilson and Hunsberger. Later that week, on Wednesday, Wilson started to yo-yo and Bobbie became concerned that she may fake out again. At this time she hinted at letting her personal advisor, who by the way is being paid \$125.00 an hour, to come on the show and speak for her. At any rate, she still told Bobbie that she would be there.

Then on Friday, it got ever worse. Now Wilson has decided to get real smart and blame everything on Bobbie Troutman. Now Wilson wants Troutman to hand deliver a copy of the tape of the show that I was on. What an insult. She claimed that now she can't come on because Bobbie wouldn't bring her a copy of my remarks. What in the hell does that have to do with her telling her point of view? Nothing. Keep in mind that this is the same person who took out large



Assemblyman
Wendell P. Williams

ads in newspapers to tell West Las Vegas citizens that they wanted to communicate and inform, and listen more. And how accountable that they are. Well, here's a chance to talk to taxpayers for one whole hour free of charge, with telephone lines open. But they ran instead.

Besides, for \$125.00 an hour it seems like that high-priced Boston PR firm could have picked up the tape, moreover, they surely could have simply popped in a tape and recorded the show from the November 14th date.

At \$125.00 an hour, its still not enough for the Hart Firm to record from the radio. Wow! I guess they'd rather spend \$125.00 an hour of our money than to talk to us for one hour free.

Hey Charles, Hey Diana! Think about all the people that you have ripped off as you sit down at Thanksgiving dinner. When you count your blessings, thank them, even though many of them will have little or no Thanksgiving at all.

Mike Check — 1—2—3—4—5—6—7—8—9—10—11—Wow, still dead air..where are they?

MINORITY REPORT CLINTON SELECTS EXCELLENT BLACK LEADER TO HEAD TRANSITION TEAM

By James E. Alsbrook

Four years ago when George Bush had won the 1988 presidential election, the newest and most conspicuous Black person associated with Republican political activity was Willie Horton, the murderer and rapist. Bush himself brought prominence to the name of Horton.

But today, when Bill Clinton has won the 1992 presidential election, the newest and most conspicuous Black person associated with Democratic political activity and Clinton's pending presidency is Vernon Jordan, leader of Clinton's transition team. This new status fig- (See Minority Report, Page 3)

LAS VEGAS Sentinel Voice

Nevada's only African-American community newspaper.
Published every Thursday by Brown Publishing Co. Inc.
1201 South Eastern Avenue • Las Vegas, Nevada 89104
Telephone (702) 383-4030

Betty Brown, President & Publisher
Lee Brown, General Manager / Editor
Ramon Savoy, Advertising & Marketing Dir.
Lourdes Cordero-Brown, Office Mgr.
William G. Ramirez, Assistant to the Editor
Willis Brown, Production
Ulysses Palrose, Distribution
Don Snook, Graphics

Contributing Writers:
Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams
Ray E. Willis (CCSD)
Rev. Jesse Scott (NAACP)
James S. Tate, Jr., M.D. (NAARPR)
R. K. Brown
Gwen Waker
Kimberly Bailey

Members:
National Newspaper Publishers Assoc.
West Coast Black Publishers Assoc.
This newspaper is audited by:
Community Papers Verification Service,
6225 University Ave., Madison, WI 53705
(608) 238-7550

Subscriptions payable in advance
Six months \$15.00
Twelve months \$25.00
The rates apply to
Continental United States only