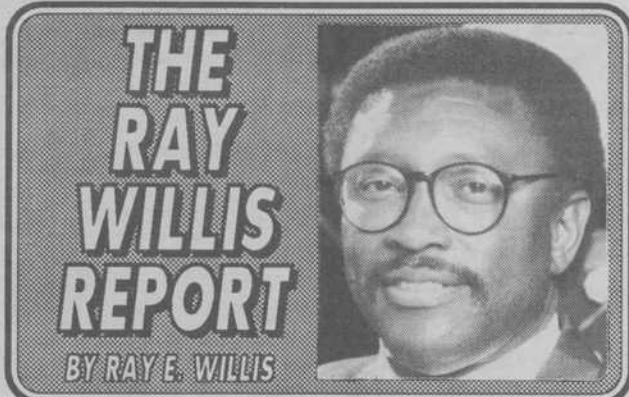


NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION

"KING VS. DENNY"



TOP BRASS

Let's face it. If we actually believed all the negative things we see and hear about the African-American male we would probably regard Black men as the wretched of the earth. Fortunately, we each have a brain computer which tells us such a general viewpoint is a gross distortion of reality. The truth of the matter is that positive images of the Black male are generally ignored or glossed over by our present-day society in lieu of negative stereotypes which fit a preconceived notion about Black men.

Therefore, I'm glad I have an opportunity to profile a man who quietly works to eradicate negative myths about the Black male. He does this by promoting positive self-esteem for Black youth. His name is Ken Brass. Brass is vice president and Retail Banking Manager of First Interstate Bank of Nevada.

Like many other successful

African-American males who reside in Las Vegas, Brass graduated from Southern University.

Some of the other prominent local Southernities are: TV-3 Sportscaster Mike Woolfolk, NAACP President Rev. Jesse Scott, Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams, and Senator Joe Neal.

But, back to Brass. Ken is the highest ranking African-American in Nevada associated with the banking industry. He worked his way up from being a loan officer. A devoutly religious man, Ken serves on the trustee board at Victory Baptist Church and is the church's principal financial advisor.

Recently, he started a church-based group for young Black males. When I asked him "why" he responded, "Many of our young boys and men don't know how to make informed, responsible decisions because

(See Ray Willis, Page 4)

By James S. Tate, Jr., M.D.,
Chairperson, NAARPR

At the time of this writing, a partial verdict has been handed down in the trial of the four young African men accused of beating truck diver, Reginald Denny. What is clear in this is perhaps one of the greatest travesties that has been forced on the American public, and from a historical perspective, that is difficult to accomplish considering all of the other miscarriages of justice there have been in the past on the part of this country. Never have I been aware of a jury being able to selectively remove one of it's members because they disagreed with the position taken by that member. In fact, if the jury is unable to make a decision in a reasonable period of time, what usually results is a hung jury and the defendants are excused. In this situation, the judge is almost saying "...I don't care what happens. We are going to convict these black men, and if it takes my tampering with the jury, I will do it. There is no price too large for me to pay to convict these African males..."

It is small wonder then that our youth have a low regard for

the criminally unjust system in this country. In fact, it is surprising that any nation takes the United States seriously in terms of it's commitment of fairness, honesty, or its defense against racism. Clearly, we sit here in the midst of the number #1 racist country in the world, having the dubious distinction of passing South Africa in that category. In fact, we have more people incarcerated in this country than they do in South Africa and a disproportional number of those people are of course young African males; the target for the beast.

It is clear that in the United States that you can beat a black man almost to death and you will get two years at most. Hit a white man for any reason and you face life imprisonment, if not execution. It is questionable why Attorney General Janet Reno did not decide to prosecute Stacy Koon and his partners in crime under

the Proxmire bill, which has a much stiffer penalty. For those of you who do not know, the Proxmire bill is the bill that deals with the practice of genocide in the United States and that outlaws the practice of genocide. The United States, being one of the last countries to ratify the Anti-Genocide convention of the United Nations.

Small wonder that they wouldn't, since they know they are the number one country practicing it, at this time. Be that as it may, the adoption of the Proxmire bill gives the federal government a potent weapon in the fight against racism. They have so far chosen not to use it. Perhaps that is because Romeo does not use a club against Juliet. It is questionable whether any of the individuals, who currently inhabit the seats of power in Washington are really serious about the elimination of racism or if it is merely window dressing



JAMES S. TATE JR., MD

to convince those who put them in office, that they are indeed doing something. What they are clearly not doing is confronting racism head on in order to hasten it's demise. This administration appears no different than the previous fascist administration of Reagan/Bush. It will be up to the people to dismantle racism whether in the courts or the streets...

It is time to get busy dismantling it. La Lucha Continua!

The Struggle Continues!

NLV...THE WESTSIDE STORY

FORGET THE POLICE

By R.K. Brown

A couple of weeks ago, I joined co-workers and attended a seminar. It concerned the local D.A.R.E. program sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Department.

The program is designed to teach children between the grades of K-6, about the abuses of drugs, and their negative effects. The D.A.R.E. program could be effective, because it targets kids at early ages. The fact is, almost all of the energy in law enforcement is focused on restraining the citizens after the fact, little is spent on prevention.

From the moment these officers enter the academy, they are trained in a no-nonsense mentality. Many times they develop subconscious tendencies to "kill" if necessary. To make matters worse, metro officers are often at shooting ranges perfecting their gunnery skills for a time they might need to use deadly force. Another major fact is that a large part of the force is lily white. This makes these officers believe they are protecting the larger community from criminal aspects within the minority communities. When the time comes that they have to use deadly force, not one instance has shown that they have to use discretion. In "most" cases of police misconduct the outcome is the same, just another minority death or beating.

This system is simply set up against minorities, blacks especially. The judicial system gives everyone the right to go to trial, but "money" makes the big difference. Blacks don't commit larger amounts of crime than whites, simple math

will show that it is impossible. Blacks only make up 13% of the population, obviously then, every black in America would have to commit crimes around the clock to keep up with the 87% of the rest of the population.

In every aspect of the crime world, minority crimes are small change, compared to the crime of their white counterparts. The president of a corporate bank embezzles \$100,000 dollars, and gets probation and some community service. In another case, a local black gang member gets caught selling 100 dollars worth of crack and gets 6 years in prison, but a high member of the N.Y. mafia, runs a multi-million dollar racketeering operation, and spends time in a plush federal prison, complete with golf courses, and weekend passes.

I say "forget" the police. I would recommend that blacks police their own neighborhoods. Let metro reflect the people of that particular community. I often hear whites say that they are "uneasy" when they are stopped by black police. The reason is that for the first time they aren't "fully" in control of a situation. Blacks and other minorities live "everyday" of their lives with that feeling of non-control.

Black police should patrol the Westside. I think youths, and the black community would have greater respect. Crime might not go down all that much; but the next time I read about some brotha's neck being broken in the middle of the night, or some kid being shot 9 times with a 9mm at close range, I think I could sleep a little better at night!

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Jim Marsh with Daughter Stacy

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