

NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION

The Plea For Civilian Control: Report From The Police Crimes

By Talib Hall, Director, Police Crimes Task Force, Las Vegas Branch NAARPR

The National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (NAARPR) comes across multiple examples of police misconduct, and for that reason, we continue to advocate and work for civilian control of the police.

An example of police misconduct occurred in Brentwood, PA, with the murder of Johnny Gammage. What is so unbelievable about this case is that there are multiple examples of misconduct on the part of the officer concerned. In addition to the misconduct charges, there is a question as to whether or not this particular officer was involved in his girlfriend's questionable suicide.

Locally, we have many of the same or similar problems. Note

the following case in point: A thirty-two-year-old female citizen of Las Vegas came in contact with a certain male police officer. He was asked from a business perspective to contact the woman in reference to a drug program.

At some point, the officer's girlfriend, who is also a police officer, began to make threatening phone calls of a physical nature to the woman. The girlfriend seemed to be under the impression that this woman was romantically involved with her boyfriend. In spite of multiple assurances from the woman that nothing could be further from the truth, the threats continue.

At one point, a third police officer became involved and suggested that the woman contact the Internal Affairs Division to make a formal

complaint. The woman did make a formal complaint, however, as the NAARPR has found out from multiple past experiences, complaints to the Internal Affairs Department of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department go, generally, unanswered. Apparently, this situation was no different.

By their own admission, the Internal Affairs Department of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department is merely a public relations department, not a real investigative arm of the police.

In addition, there were some overt and covert overtures on the part of the third officer to the extent that the woman had to go back to internal affairs and make a complaint about the third officer, who apparently threatened her and said that he would get her fired from her job.

Apparently, he even went to the woman's job and threatened her.

On December 17, 1993, the woman was arrested on a trumped up charge and served with a restraining order (all without benefit of counsel). Again, the third officer visited the woman on her job and was successful in getting her suspended.

There has been no cessation of the activity on the part of the police, nor a true investigation. As you can see, if a police officer steps out of line, one has to raise the issue of WHO is policing the police? In this case, as with many others, it points out the serious need for an unbiased Civilian Control Board, which would have the power to regulate police officers and discipline them when they step out of line.

La Lucha Continua! The Struggle Continues!

NLV...THE WESTSIDE STORY Four Letter Words

By R.K. Brown

In the '90s, as we watch the world we live in become even more and more evil by the day, I thought it would be nice to make commentary about something that truly bothers me.

Let me start by saying that I, by no means, can be called a perfect living individual. I mean I would never try to I.D. the faults of another individual, because to me the most effective position laid down by our Savior was, "let someone as lowly as myself could never pass judgment on someone else."

Having said that, why is it that hate is the key to life on this earth? I am one of the most die hard fans of gangsta' rap. Now we know that every other word in these songs are curse words. Every four letter word in the English language is expressed. But I got to have my rap music.

In the movies, on TV, and in the news, violence and murder rule the airwaves. America loves killing. Black on black crime is at a record level. I was hanging with some of my boys and all they were saying was that they hated this or they hated that.

For the black male, to be tough is everything. If you are from the streets, you can't slip by being soft. So, again, those four letter words come in handy. It helps show how hard you are. Now... to me, there is nothing wrong with cursing or four letter words. But, my problem is, I have found that by far, the worst four letter word that any human in this world could ever use is simply the word LOVE.

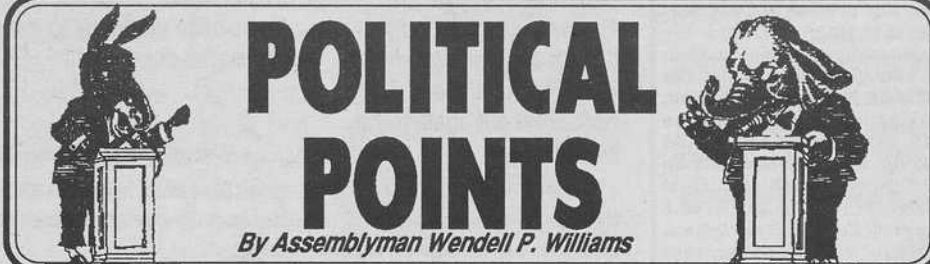
Now if you really want to offend a brotha' or anyone else for that matter, use the word LOVE in your speech — you might get cut or shot by a brotha' for that!

The truth of this world is hate, and love is the worst four letter word in our language. Along with that morality — being Christianity or Islam — can make a brotha' run from you quicker than if you pulled out the biggest AK-47 in the world. Peace and love go hand in hand with being soft. You can't be tough with love, you can't be a peace maker and talk about killing... so again, love is the meanest four letter word in the English language.

All the hater live forever. Hitlers, Mark Furhmans and others live long lives and they finally have to kill themselves. But let a person talk about love or peace, and they are going to get murdered with the quickness! The leader of Israel was a big time war maker.

While he was making war for dozens of years, no one ever touched him. As soon as he started to make PEACE, he was wasted in the streets. You don't believe me, ask MLK, JFK, RFK, Ghandi, or Jesus... See what I mean, you can hate, kill, be racist, or a warrior, but if you want to die young, use the worse four letter word in our language, LOVE, and you will be taking your life in your own hands.. It's sad but true.

peace and love...



POLITICAL POINTS

By Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams

BLOCKHEAD SOLUTIONS

Why should the Federal Government collect hundreds of billions of dollars in tax money and send it back to the states with no control and no rules over the spending of it? Would it not make more sense to leave the money in the states in the first place, oppose to bringing it to Washington and then sending it back? The answers to these questions seem simple and obvious to most of us, but on Capitol Hill, things are a little more complicated. That is why block grants are blockheaded solutions that violate common sense and common legal.

We must remember however, that this idea is nothing new- the whole idea of block grants was the center of the thesis of the Great Society. That thesis tested and fail, with tragic results, with another generation of children growing up in poverty. In fact, the financial cost of War on Poverty has been enormous. The cost of the War on Poverty thus far has been 70% greater than the price tag for defeat in Germany and Japan in World War II. The \$5.4 trillion, one

could purchase every factory, all the manufacturing equipment, and every office building in the U.S. Moreover, with the leftover funds, one could even go on to buy every airline, every railroad, every trucking firm, every telephone, television, and radio company, every power company, every hotel, and every retail and wholesale store in the entire nation.

Now the new Congress is trying to come to grips with the problem, and it has a blockheaded answer: Sending authority back to the governor's through block grants. A coat made of gold worn by a fool, is still a fool's coat.

By all indications, this Congress has never seen a block grant it didn't like. It began the year by passing Legislation that had the effect of "blocking granting" much of the new money last year's Congress appropriated to fight crime.

While cutting a full 25% from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, it maintained funding for HUD's troubled Community Development Block Grant program. For

welfare programs, or almost anything that sounds like a welfare program, the solution is the same: block grants.

The only way to move power out of Washington is to kill the federal programs altogether, cut taxes accordingly and let citizens working through the state and local political process decide whether, and how to get the job done. As a transition to that goal, block grants deserve consideration and review. As an end in themselves, the approach is fatally flawed.

Block grants violate common sense. Why should the Federal Government collect hundreds of billions of dollars in tax money and send it back to the states with no rules and no control over the spending? Wouldn't it make more sense to leave in the states in the first place, rather than bringing it to Washington and sending it back? The answers to these questions are obvious to most people, but in Washington, things are a little more complicated.

Moreover, block grants don't empower people, they empower governors. What is obvious in Washington is that you can't get



Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams

anything done without political support, and support from governors appear to be a non-issue for successful welfare reform. How to get that support is also, from the perspective of Washington, quite obvious: Buy it. In other words, give the governors a couple hundred billion dollars in unrestricted money, no strings attached, and they suddenly become quite enthusiastic. But, block grants in this context is nothing more than welfare for governors, and they will have the predictable result of turning America's governors into the next century's "dependent class."

Finally, block grants are prone to abuse. What "no strings attached" really means "no accountability." Governors who receive block grants are explicitly not accountable to Washington for how the money is spent. Equally important, because the money comes free from Washington the governors aren't accountable to their citizens, either. Blockheaded, blockheaded, blockheaded.

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LAS VEGAS Sentinel Voice

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