

OUR VIEW

Race Relations

How can the dead peacefully rest when those still above ground cause so much ruckus? By any account, the fatal drive-by shooting of 15-year-old Palo Verde High School student Christopher Privett ranks as a tragedy. He's been robbed of the chance to live the life his loved ones wanted for him. No one — except families of murder victims — can understand the pain the Privetts are going through. Vindictive feelings notwithstanding, the families of the young men accused as an accessory and as the gunman are also in a state of grief, wondering what went wrong and lamenting the possibility that they might be separated from their loved ones for a long time.

The emotions stirred up when young people kill young people are never easy to deal with. But comments on newspaper forums and blogs are making the healing process triply difficult. The Privett tragedy has unearthed deep-rooted prejudices that prove that racism remains America's bane.

A woman name Judy writes on the Review-Journal website: "Gerald Davison should be tried as an adult and if found guilty sent away for the rest of his life. Students that don't live in Summerlin don't belong in Summerlin schools. CCSD must stop the practice of busing in kids. Nobody cares what the family of the shooter says."

A poster named Moki says: "Uh-oh Where is Al Sharpton, it is a Black kid so we need different rules as not to hurt their feelings."

This comes from a guy named Paul: "This was obviously a racially motivated crime, but because it's Black against White, that will never come out. Can you imagine the fallout if it was a White kid [who] shot and killed a Black kid. There would be a media frenzy and fake civil rights leaders like Al and Jesse would [come] here leading a witch hunt against White people."

The inflammatory remarks cut both ways. Says the ill-named "Obama": "The other kids in the car are White Summerlin residents and if we expose them, their corporate slave parents will stop paying the cop fund."

Posits this person who calls himself "Al Sharpton" and tries to live up to the New York activist's rep for incendiary comments: "We need to demolish Summerlin! It stands as a racist monolith to everything that we down here struggling have struggled so long against. Down with Summerlin. If we demolish Summerlin, or convert all Summerlin homes to Section 8 housing, these racist attacks on struggling Black youths will come to a halt, once these racist elites actually learn what it's like to struggle and have to work for a living... being on welfare or living in Section 8 isn't all that it's cut out to be."

But just when it seems all hope is lost, that we're destined to be separated by race: corporate racism. Hispanic and Black gangs warring in correctional facilities and on the streets; Black and Hispanic students beefing in local high schools; ethnic profiling; hate crimes, some offers a voice of reason, a thread of hope that we're not doomed to live in fear and suspicion of each other, ready to destroy each other if provoked. Separate but lethal has become the mantra. Stay where you are, I'll stay where I am and everything will be alright. This isn't living, it's existing. And the question must be asked: Where is the outrage when the victims are young and Black or Hispanic? Are White youth more valuable? Are minority youth expendable? So long as darker-skinned young people are killing each other, it's okay? Nonsense.

Thankfully, someone named What Have We Become offers this: "I don't care what race the involved parties are, where they lived at the time, or what clothes/jewelry they were wearing. The facts are: a young man was shot to death while walking down the street with friends; someone in the silver car driving by pulled the trigger; and one or all of the people in that vehicle are responsible. I think that everyone, including Summerlin residents, would like to see any and all parties culpable for the shooting brought to justice regardless. The locale of the crime has no bearing here. If this shooting had happened in "The Naked City," we'd all want to see all those culpable held responsible and brought to justice... and I think even the Summerlin residents would agree with that."



Politics, drugs, race intersect

By Harry C. Alford
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Power and greed go together like hand and glove. People who become rich do not stay rich unless they establish a foundation of power. Those who gain power solidify that power through the lust for wealth. There have been a few common folk come to the White House but none have ever left without being wealthy and powerful. It goes together because "He, who has the gold, makes the rules".

As the world evolved into one big theater, many nations, empires and super tribes began to convert their power that was gained through military prowess into a political format via vehicles of exploitation. A violent nation or empire would control its conquered subjects via front governments and psychological techniques.

The British were the first to find that by infecting a large population with drug addiction you can control their very being. How else could a nation the size of the British Isles control a mighty China? The Brits imported opium into the populace of this extremely large geography and, thus, maintained control of its economy. Politics using drugs to control a targeted population turned out to be very effective.

After World War II, the United States found itself in a very awesome position. It had just led a victorious fight



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against two military powers and became the "leader of the world." This was power beyond belief and what was a nation less than 200 years old to do?

Our political apparatus found a vehicle. It created the Central Intelligence Agency, CIA, to assist our newfound military might and influence throughout the world. This later got mixed up in internal matters. As Black America decided to fight for equal rights and full citizenship, the power structure saw this as a serious threat to a nation controlled by those who saw White Supremacy as a state of security and a means to maintain power (money).

It is no coincidence that shortly after the CIA was formed, drugs were imported into the streets of Black communities. This activity created a power of its own. Through friends like the Mafia, as illustrated in the movie "The Godfather," the political apparatus pointed drugs to Black communities and any community bordering them.

It was the same format

that the Brits used on China. The Geopolitic using the ills and profits of drugs towards a distinct class of people that they desired to manipulate. Oh, don't be naive. This is real!

This sick reality has manifested itself into something quite overwhelming. There are two distinct divisions used in this social political apparatus here in the United States. There is the Military Industrial Complex and the Prison Industrial Complex. The Geo Politic uses the Military Industrial Complex to import massive quantities of drugs without fear of exposure or retribution.

This complex reaps much profit for the individuals involved and also ensures that war, the mechanism for revenue, will continue here and there throughout the world.

It was brilliantly documented in the recent film, "American Gangster," that the biggest purveyor of drug importation during the 1960s

and 1970s (Vietnam War) was the CIA and the American military itself. Wherever there is conflict involving the CIA and the military, there appears to be vast drug importation. A better example is Afghanistan. When the Taliban controlled this nation, opium farming was completely wiped out. Not a gram of opium, i.e. heroin, was exported from this nation.

Today, after we invaded the nation and ran the Taliban out, this nation now exports over 80 percent of the world opium supply. It becomes quite clear doesn't it? Who is getting the big profits? Let me say this: Most of the big bucks are being laundered on Wall Street.

The other apparatus is the ever growing Prison Industrial Complex. The sick practice of importing drugs into Black communities and then arresting and prosecuting its population has become seri-

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