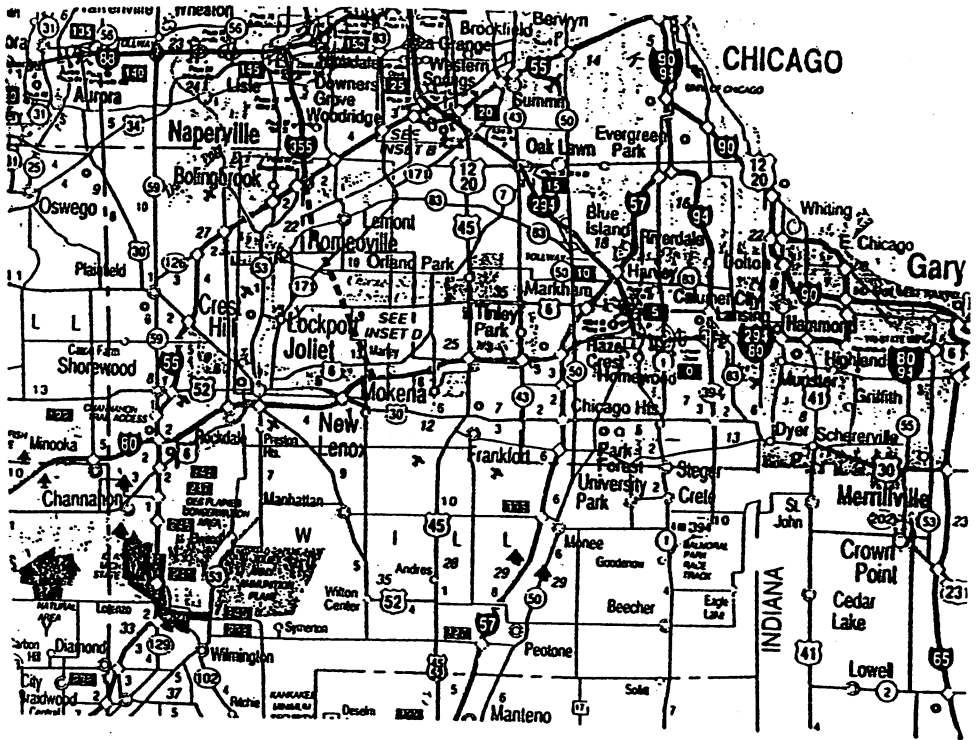


SOUTH CHICAGO AREA ALERT

July 10, 1998 #1



SOUTH CHICAGO ARA ALERT (ANTI-RACIST ACTION)

July 10, 1998

A new chapter of ARA was begun May 16th. Chicagoland is notorious for its segregated, racist history. The south side and suburbs have always been plagued by an ignorant, abusive and at times violent atmosphere. Determined folks have decided we have had enough and have decided to organize against this disgrace and expose this menace with direct action, armed with the studied truth.

We will look into and report on racist situations from around the Chicagoland area, with a particular emphasis on the southside of Chicago and the south suburbs. We're going to battle ignorance and hate with brotherhood, sisterhood and insightfulness.

Racism goes way beyond the bonehead mentality of the nazis and klansters. Although these creeps must be exposed, it is the suit and tie gang who manipulate their strings, that must ultimately be stopped. The history of this country is one of slavery, horrible sexism, racism, genocide and sexual repression. Although rarely acknowledged, we are products of our history and this begins to explain why our society is so degraded by white racism.

Let's go beyond the simple explanations and papered-over "solutions." **WE MUST FIGHT RACISM!**

South Chicago ARA p. o. box 721, Homewood, IL 60430

ara_s_side@hotmail.com

TABLE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

1. *Introduction to Anti-Racist Action*
2. *South Chicago ARA Gets to Work*
3. *Racism & Housing in South Suburbs*
4. *The Racist World We Live In*
5. *Abolitionism, Then and Now*
6. *Black Soldiers in the Civil War*
7. *Eighty-four Underground Connections*
8. *Animals Deserve to Remain Unmolested*
9. *Students Menaced Around the World*
10. *Women Are Not For or From Any Man*
11. *Citizens For A Sane Future*
12. *ARA Members Have A Say*
*FOR A BETTER WORLD**

WHAT IS ARA?

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We are Anti-Racist Action (ARA). We have chapters all over the United States and Canada. We're growing fast.

ARA is a network of regular people, together to solve a problem. We intend to do the hard work necessary to decrease racism, sexism, anti-gay bigotry, anti-Semitism, and the unfairness which is often suffered by the disabled, the youngest, the oldest and the poorest of our people.

We confront hatemongers like the KKK and other white supremacists. Every time they come out we want to be there. We won't stand by and watch these terrorists recruit.

We educate. The ARA News now reaches thousands of readers in 44 states and nine countries. ARA activists have spoken at hundreds of colleges, high schools and community groups.

We celebrate. Our Rock Against Racism and Punk Against Racism shows, benefits and festivals gather progressive people together to have fun.

We're working on new projects. A radio show. Cable access television productions.

JOIN US. If there's no ARA in your town, talk to some friends and start one. We'll help.

No dues. No commitment. Just a chance to change the world. Do it for the victims. Do it for the children. Do it NOW -- before it's too late.

**Anti-Racist Action (ARA)
P.O. Box 82097
Columbus, Ohio 43202
614.424.9074**

In recent years the tide of intolerance and injustice in our society has grown. The gap between the rich and the rest of us is bigger than ever. False "leaders" scapegoat racial minorities, women's rights activists, gay people, environmentalists, and the foreign-born to hide their own part in the problem. Now there are more prisons and governmental restrictions on our freedom but no less fear of crime. We have less funding for education, but more corporate welfare and military spending. We can not and will not let this go on. Come and be a part of the solution.

ANTI-RACIST ACTION (ARA)

P.O. Box 82097
Columbus, Ohio 43202
(614) 424-9074

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We need input on WORKSHOPS
and speakers

(South CHICAGO ARA WILL
CONDUCT A WORKSHOP
AT THIS CONFERENCE*)

Dear Friends:

On October 16, 17 and 18, 1998, Columbus will host the Fifth Annual International Anti-Racist Action Network Conference and Party. You should make plans now to attend.

The ARA Conference has grown into the largest, most important and most fun gathering of activists in North America. The weekend will be filled with exciting speakers, interesting and informative workshops, great music and cultural events, and opportunities to make new friends.

We will have more specifics about the program and about registration, housing, child care, etc. in about August. In the meantime, mark these dates on your calendar and look forward to one of the most inspiring and memorable weekends of your life.

THE FOUR PRINCIPLES OF THE ANTI-RACIST ACTION NETWORK (ARA-NET)

- 1) We go where they go. Whenever fascists are organizing or active in public we're there. We don't believe in ignoring them or staying away from them. Never let the nazis have the streets.
- 2) Don't rely on the cops or the courts to do our work. This doesn't mean we don't ever go to court. But we must rely on ourselves to protect and to stop the fascists.
- 3) Non-sectarian defense of other anti-fascists. In ARA-NET, we have lots of groups and individuals. We don't agree about everything, and we have a right to differ openly. But in this movement an attack on one is an attack on us all. We stand behind each other.
- 4) ARA-NET intends to do the hard work necessary to build a broad, strong movement against racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, discrimination against the disabled, the oldest, the youngest, and the weakest of our people.
We intend to win.

SOUTH SIDE ARA (Anti-Racist Action)

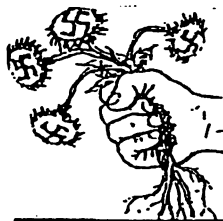
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Do you hate racism? Are you sickened by the Klan and Nazis? Do you reject sexism, homophobia - bigotry of any kind? Then come and join the surging anti-racist action (ARA) network. A new chapter is forming on the south side of Chicago. An organizing meeting will be held at the Blue Island Public Library on Saturday, May 16, at 2 p.m. It is located at 2433 York, in Blue Island. Call (708)-388-1078 for directions. You can write to South Side ARA P.O. Box 721, Homewood, Il. 60430 for more details. We have an e-mail address, also. It is ara_s_side@hotmail.com

We plan on producing newsletters, delving into this pervasive problem in depth. Learn how racism functions and how to fight it. Join other socially conscious folks struggling for human decency in the area. Fight fascist ignorance and racist filth!

There are other ARA groups in Chicagoland. Write ARA Chicago c/o Autonomous Zone, 1573 N. Milwaukee, 420, 60622. Their ph. # is 773-252-6019. Rogers Park has an ARA chapter and one is forming in Cicero. Each group is completely autonomous. The center can be reached at A.R.A. P.O.Box 82097, Columbus, Ohio, 43202. 614-424-9074. ara@coil.com Their free monthly newspaper is excellent.

TRUTH, FREEDOM & BROTHERHOOD



**PULL 'EM UP NOW
BEFORE THEY TAKE ROOT**

South Chicago ARA

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A new ARA (Anti-Racist Action) was started on May 16th, with an organizing meeting held at the Blue Island library. The meeting consisted of a diverse group of six people who are determined to challenge the bonehead racist atmosphere in this area. Ideas were discussed as to how we can best go about challenging the growing degeneration into overt racist behavior and nazi "thinking" that is all around us. This brief newsletter is the beginning.

A student at Brother Rice brought a sense of urgency, which began our work. As we all know, Brother Rice is plagued by a particularly bad atmosphere, racially. It is the school where the uniquely degraded "Buckwheat" incident and brawl occurred as their school basketball team hosted Thornton, a few months back. The "counselling" did little to deter a core of racist bullies from continuing their anti-human behavior. This sordid story will be further looked into. Students must organize to fight for racial justice, open respect and human dignity.

A courageous and articulate lady told of the bad goings-on where she works (St. Xavier College.) Belligerent racist students are harassing hispanic students there. These people must be challenged and stopped to create a human environment that is not degraded by such racist filth. An enormous amount of education and direct action must be begun to challenge and overcome this most basic *social scourge.*



On June 20th, the second South Chicago ARA meeting was held at the Blue Island Library. Six new members joined in on the discussions, representing a wide range of communities. People from Chicago, Alsip and Willow Springs joined earlier members from Blue Island, Oak Lawn and Monee.

We talked about our plans which include having a literature table and alternative stage at the Blue Island Festival in the Park, to be held July 11th and 12th. We also talked about participating in the ARA tour to be held at the United Center on July 16th. Plans for a benefit concert to be held in Homewood at Off the Alley in early August were discussed. We also talked about working on this newsletter. Our next meeting was determined to be scheduled for August 1st at the Blue Island Library from 3 p.m. until 4:45 p.m.

Information packets were handed out, ideas tossed around, recent events such as the march and rally to advocate for public housing, and to protest city government heavy-handedness as to the Cabrini demolitions and forced relocations, in which ARA members participated, were recounted. The important ongoing Black Radical Congress was discussed. Also the ARA convention to be held in Columbus in October was brought up. Some of us will go there and participate, and even conduct a workshop.

New members discussed the problems racists are causing in their communities. It is the same ignorant broken record. Racist bullies are preying on young people of color and those who associate with them. These nazi wannabes threaten and attack people who they can manage to isolate and outnumber. They plague all communities in which they subsist, and recruit alienated individuals with promises of acceptance, only to teach them intolerance and thuggery, which is their only offering. There is nothing positive these creeps ever offer. They're human cockroaches, who degrade our towns and menace our streets.

After this meeting, several of us went on a clean-up. Nazi scrawlings and garbage had been strewn about a party spot of huge concrete chunks, located off a path in the woods by the Cal-Sag Channel, in Blue Island. This is a polluted industrial site, where the Chicago Gas Lamp Mantle Company used to operate from. It is located on the north side of the Channel, west of Ann St. at approximately 132nd street. Brainless nazi and hate-filled graffiti was painted over. All the garbage was cleaned up. We decided to put positive, life-affirming messages in their place. We wrote things like "ARA," "EQUALITY," and symbols such as the peace symbol, the symbol representing women (and life) and an "E" with a circle around it, symbolizing respect for the environment. The atmosphere has been totally transformed from an offensive, threatening, ignorant and wasted area to an enlightened, positive spot offering hope and respect for human life. Dignity or vileness???. You choose.

In 1988, a federal court judge ruled in favor of "affirmative marketing" in a case involving the south Chicago suburbs of Matteson, Fark Forest, Richton Park and University Park. "Affirmative marketing" is the targeting of white homebuyers to a community afraid of becoming resegregated by blacks. Supposedly, black buyers would in "no way" be hindered in their search for housing by these campaigns. Matteson, the most vocal campaigner even claims to "celebrate" their "diversity." Needless to say, they are not actively recruiting Chicanos, Arabs, Orientals, Black Africans, Europeans or Blacks. They need whites to celebrate "diversity..."

"The freedom to choose is elemental in a democracy." True. However, this is not a democracy, and never has been. The parameters of "choice" have been dictated by the monied interests - the corporations interested, and the mortgage companies (banks.) The housing "industry" is no exception.

"The Fair Housing Act, section 3604 (c) prohibits racially discriminating advertising. Section 3604 (a) prohibits discriminatory actions and effects that limit housing availability to minorities and others. Our concern is whether the affirmative marketing program, although not intended to discriminate, in fact has the effect of denying information about available properties to minority home buyers." 1. The NAACP is concerned that Matteson's "affirmative marketing" may be stepping on the toes of the fair housing laws. It has no quarrel if the campaign supplements, rather than supplants normal market activities. Now, who would want to interfere with "lawful" business?

Getting to the point is Matteson resident and community leader Henry Swan's focused statement and question. "I'm offended because what they are saying is if you get too many of me in the community, that's bad. Why is it that when we move in, people start strategizing and making changes?" 2. To which Ralph Coglianese, Matteson Village Administrator and writer of letters inviting advertisers to vie for the job of cooking up their advertising campaign, responds by saying, "It's hard to comprehend that (people think) somehow we're trying to keep minorities out." *ibid.* Let's help this poor, lost soul out.

Sherlynn Reid, director of community relations in Oak Park, says, "Segregated and resegregated communities are planned. So if you want to live in an integrated community, that has to be planned too." 3. So much for democracy. This hints at the reality of the situation. Communities are pre-determined. By whom? Why? What's the engine driving these outcomes?

You have freedom for the monied interests to pursue the greater accumulation



of wealth and power. All the "laws" media, etc. are stacked in their favor. The majority of white people follow the dictates set down for them. Racism is drummed into them from infancy. They are taught to be servile, functionaries in entrepreneurial enterprises. They are atomized from their surroundings, compartmentalized in their jobs, and thoroughly confused as to the economic, social and political machinations around them. They are utterly alienated from proper appreciation of their potential value in society and retreat to a cocoon of their family and a few friends, dulled by a myriad of mindless escapist pursuits, such as religion, drugs (especially alcohol) and the inaccessibility of insightful analysis. They are fed the drone of capitalism's justifications for the sanctity of private property and the "god" given right of profit-driven economy. In effect, the sheep being led to slaughter, consider their lot favorably. They're "free." At least they're not black or poor. When truth and insight are stumbled across, the reaction is instant fear. This is the market the housing industry caters to (as do all other major American industries.)

As for housing, "The situation has been fostered over the years by discriminatory real estate and banking practices, and it is predicated on a harsh reality: most whites do not choose to live in areas with large black populations. Demographic studies have shown that generally, once a community's black population goes beyond 20 percent, whites begin leaving." 3. Well, ... most whites really have been successfully brainwashed into self-crippling mind-sets, now haven't they?

The racism of the housing industry is institutional, varied, complex and nauseating. The banks control the transactions and ineffect, much of the homeowners lives, as the payments are so high, a steady income is essential to maintain possession of ones house, furthering worker docility. The role of the friendly neighborhood bank is similar to the IMF, which controls the immiseration of whole countries, in the "third world."

Real estate agents and mortgage company employees see these racist outlines through individual closings. The overt racist is no longer "politically correct," but the covert, unconscious, "sincerely" anti-racist worker for capitalism, steers whites away from "changing" villages. They suggest more "stable" (i.e. "white") communities nearby. The fact these white communities' housing is more expensive and the realtors commissions are increased, is but a perk for "helping" white families attain the living situation, they so desire - supposedly. As for black home seekers, invariably they have less capital to work with and white realtors (as almost all whites) have been kept ignorant of black culture, aspirations, motivations, etc. - in effect, the only true heart, brain and soul of the country. These realtors have no "feel" for what to do. They may pawn these people off to black realtors, or more likely, "steer" them to "changing" neighborhoods.

Nobody likes to be an extreme minority (such as the only black family in a white neighborhood.) In a thoughtlessly racist society, a daily environment of harassment for oneself, spouse, and children, over and above the daily racist assault delivered to every black person in this country, is too much, for all but the bravest. When you go home, you want some peace and quiet. To insure that, other blacks are needed to relate to and socialize with. When an upwardly mobile black is mired in exclusively white "culture," he suffers miserably. The grotesque example of such devolution is Clarence Thomas.

At first, a fearless black family moves in and is usually able to withstand the cold and occasionally aggressive "greeting" from his new neighborhood. The truly ignorant, panic-mongering racists are the first rats to jump ship, accelerating the availability of housing in that area. People do move for a variety of reasons. Racist fear, ignorance and racial steering accelerate the "changing" of a community.

I grew up in this general area, in the intensely racist southwest suburb of Tinley Park. I got married at age 23. My new wife had some money for a down payment and we were able to buy a starter home in Hazel Crest, Il. By the time I got her out of the house and started to pay her off (divorce) I began to see what kind of neighborhood I had. I got a couple of friends to move in, to defray costs. So, it became a bachelor pad. All my neighbors, it seemed, were older, white and hopelessly racist.

Finally! Blacks started to move in. The neighbors went into a panic. "They're taking over the park... They hang out at the White Men... They blast that music!..." Gee whiz! Black children actually play in the parks and ride their bikes! They're not as glued to the tube like white kids. Thus they "appear" more visible than their actual numbers. They're not afraid to live or be seen. As for myself? I loved it. I got excellent new neighbors. A great blues joint opened in place of a dime-a-dozen drug store, with soul food next door. The town was waking up from it's all-white downer.

The two old bags on either side of me, I felt a particular revulsion for. They'd constantly call the cops to my house, harass my animals and generally spew racist venom. Both their husbands were harried, hen-pecked wusses. One day one of these guys came over to give me all his old beer. It seemed strange because I never really talked to him before. He always hid out in his house (like most older white folks do.) The next day, the ambulance arrived and brought out his body. He put a bullet in his brain. The bitch drove him to suicide. The other lady was a dog-faced racist. All she could talk about was how she had to "move away from the niggers." Her and her husband did move - to Faducah, Kentucky. I guess that's a type of heaven for such low-life, racist swine.

I got to know a few of the blacks. It was the only time I felt accepted and treated neighborly, the whole 13 years I lived there.

In 1990, my second, most excellent wife, young first son and I moved, for a variety of reasons, a bigger yard, less cookie cut, etc. It certainly was not to flee from association with black people. The blacks I'd befriended asked me not to leave. I felt sort of like I was abandoning them. I'm still friends with the ones I know where they live. It's sickening to me, a neighborhood is dependent on the lowest, most ignorant white racists as to it's economic fate. But it goes much deeper than that. Just as "white," then "re-segregated" or even "integrated" communities are "planned," so is this ingrained racism. Corporations and banks orchestrate how solvent a community will be by expanding business or shuttering them, based mostly on their "profitability" or the perception of future "profitability." As blacks move in, corporations see red, and pull out the economic rug, without repercussions, (usually with governmental assistance) go elsewhere to infest and exploit other areas' workers. It is the untouchable right of capitalists to "maximize profits." Meanwhile, blacks are left with the cupboard bare and ignorantly blamed for this "planned" outcome.

A rare few communities, such as Oak Park, Evanston, and Park Forest, have had a comparatively stable experience with "integration." Oak Park is an older community to the west of Chicago and Evanston is north, home to Northwestern University. Blacks and whites live in close proximity and treat each other more-or-less (outwardly) cordial. These communities have a higher percentage of enlightened whites living there, more often than not, with a university easing the mix. I like to take my sons to Central Park in Park Forest to play. It's always more fun to play with the black kids.

Blacks are perfectly willing to live and associate with whites, but not at the expense of being excluded from enjoying their black neighbors. Blacks have had to exist among large numbers of whites since day one and understand how the racist game operates. Few blacks, however stoop to embrace white, bourgeois "values." Whites have always been steered away from grasping black society values which keeps whites racially, culturally, socially and politically ignorant. The truly oppressed (blacks) always know more about societal reality, as the gloves are off in their dealings with the system. There's no honey-coating reality and there's no racist "privilege" to be baited with.

If white people were smart, they would accept the decency offered by blacks, befriend them, learn of life and fight racism.

"In a survey of Matteson's residents conducted as part of the Quality of Life Task Force review, the majority of the respondents stated that they wanted to live in a diverse community. If current housing trends continue, however, Matteson will

not remain diverse because the number of white homeseekers is fewer

than the number of homeseekers of other races. In an effort to preserve the diversity of the village, efforts will be made to promote Matteson to the underrepresented homeseeker who is interested in living in a community where diversity is a value." 4. p. 3.

Let's stop and try to decipher this. At this time, summer 1995, Matteson was roughly 50% white, 40% black and 10% "other." They are really only talking about blacks and whites, here. Chicanos, Arabs, African Blacks, Orientals, even Europeans are not even being considered. "Other races" basically means, "People we're not concerned with." They have figured out that once a community goes below 50% white or over 20% black, they are in big trouble. The whites vanish and the blacks "take over." Aren't whites a minority in this world? Why must a community always have a white majority or it is written off? "Preserving the diversity" is a nice sounding phrase, which means keeping the white population above 50% and the black population below 20%. What is so important about these figures?

Ultimately, in capitalist America, the whims of corporate boards must be catered to, at all costs. A suburb like Matteson relies heavily on shoppers. A once thriving mall, Lincoln Mall, is now about half full. It is now surrounded by large "super" stores, such as Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Target and other mega-franchise operations, blandly typical of suburban America. In another south Chicago town, Harvey, when its mall, Dixie Square, closed down, it signalled the death knell of that town. The only use made of Dixie Square in the last twenty years was when the Blues Brothers trashed it in their movie, while being chased by Chicago police. They were on a mission from God. Three towns to the east of Matteson, is the poorest suburb in the damn country! This is called Ford Heights. It used to be called East Chicago Heights, but Ford moved a plant there and thought it would be nice and vain to rename the town after themselves. Needless to say, they've done absolutely nothing for the welfare of "its" residents. Poorest in the country! It's reduced to liquor stores, "missions" and rundown "housing." The town just to the east of Matteson, is the relatively enlightened Park Forest. To the east of that, dominating the area is the "city" of Chicago Heights. This has been a long-time Mafia-run cesspool of corruption and despair. Racism seethes. To the west of Matteson, separated by farms are the more "affluent" towns of Frankfort, Hokena, etc. Steered whites populate these places.

Somewhat north and east are other destitute black towns that corporate America avoids with a vengeance, such as Markham, Phoenix and Robbins. The only "enterprises" contemplated for these areas are the incinerator proposed for Robbins, a few fast food dumps, small shops, gas stations, etc. to supplant the junkyards and liquor stores. Any real "industry" has long since vanished.

When the cat jumped out of the corporate bag and the movers and shakers of Texaco were shown to be the basest of racists, (by their very own drooling utterances,) it just slipped out. It wasn't supposed to be shown like that. What it exposed was the pervasive racist soullessness of corporate reality. These racist corporate deities are the Gods that the American state, all local governments, the courts, the police, every municipality, and each individual American must prostitute themselves to accomodate. Racism in housing, as it is in every industry, is a business decision...

Other towns are also trying to use "affirmative marketing." "Affirmative marketing" is the active pursuit of white homebuyers in a racially mixed town, ostensibly to "maintain diversity," but really meant to maintain white control so as not to give those with capital "reason" to discontinue "business" in that town, which would exacerbate white abandonment.

Harvey, a once thriving "satellite city" of Chicago, like Joliet, Elgin, Aurora, Feoria, Lockport, and Chicago Heights, is now a vast wasteland. Guess what happened! It borders South Holland. South Holland wants to "slow a pattern of 'white flight'" 5. This is supposed to be accomplished by the "affirmative marketing" aimed at whites, willing to live with blacks. The "fair" housing "laws" are being offered as legal back-up, if it can be shown that real estate outfits are steering blacks in and whites out.

Who would use these courts? blacks?? Every black person has been harassed and menaced by the police and court system in this country. The courts and jails overflow with black "criminals." The village is trying to lure whites. How the hell are the courts going to give blacks justice???

The village of South Holland wants to also establish a "cooperative home buyers workshop and a process whereby real estate agencies provide sales statistics to the village as a means of 'rumor control.'" ibid. Obviously, they mean by "rumor control" the racist panic-mongering that whites frequently lower themselves to. "Census figures from 1990 show South Holland's minority population at 12 percent, although village officials privately estimate it currently at 15 percent." ibid. Why should they be so squeamish over a lousy 3% rise in "minorities?" (read Blacks.) Whites still outnumber blacks almost six to one. Whatever happened to the celebration of diversity? South Holland is infamous for its particularly venomous reaction to the initial pinpricks of "open housing" in the sixties. Then the white supremacists squealed blind hate.

White people in general, have been molded into a sort of homogenized sameness. They get up, go to work, having swallowed the big American lies of "freedom," "free speech," "Democracy," - the whole American dream portrayal. They do their jobs, as told, watch massive amounts of television, and consume ad nauseum.

There's rarely so much as a free-thinking peep out of most of them. If you want diversity, you'd think you'd want less of these types of people and you'd crave more Blacks, Asians, Arabs, Chicanos, etc.

But the liberals refuse to look upwards to get a glimpse at the real racist string-pullers, who have always called the shots in America. The conservatives, at least, embrace the nation's tormentors as their ideal. They're dead wrong, but at least they're honest enemies. Liberals think they can "reforma" a monstrous system by ignoring it's reality, while pecking away at minor symptoms, by self-proclaimed, well-intentioned "initiatives." They rely on the "law" that is written for the benefit of the rich, yet is broken by them whenever they feel threatened. The only "laws" enforced are ones black people so condeanningly "break."

"Steering" is not just a phenomenon of selective advertising and real estate agents. Segregated housing subdivisions are "planned" by the collusion of builders and government.

"The pattern developed by Kaufman and Broad in the south suburban area is typical of the operation of the 235 program all over the country. Kaufman and Broad, one of the nation's largest corporate builders, built the all-white development of 'Appletree' in Country Club Hills and eight miles away in Chicago Heights built the amongst all black 'Forest Heights.' This was not an accident. The marketing procedures must have been carefully designed to produce this result. HUD not only did not question these procedures but aided the builder by allotting 235 section 235 mortgages to the builder to be used in Forest Heights. This is over 90% of the new homes in lower income subsidized mortgages. In Appletree they allotted some 113 and black buyers going to Appletree were told that 235 mortgages were not available in Appletree. These two projects were built at the same time with almost identical houses at the same price level. HUD and FHA made no attempt to help or inform low-income buyers, but left this entirely up to the builder." 6. p.358. So much for government agencies or "watchdog" groups keeping the fair housing laws adhered to. The racist conduct of business, unfettered, is the American way.

"Although advertised as an integrated development, the majority of the homes were sold to blacks - many from Chicago's south and west side ghettos. Given the fact that Kaufman and Broad placed the bulk of their advertising in the black media, the volume of black buyers in Forest Heights is not surprising." 5. p.356. Forest Heights is cut off from Chicago Heights proper. It was originally meant to be a Park Forest industrial park, but when industry spurned the town's courting, the whole area was platted into small, single-family units - every bit of it. No parks or schools were allocated for.

Forest Heights is a miserable section, bounded on the north and east by railroad tracks. To the south a forest preserve begins and to the west is Western

Avenue, a busy highway that is the beginning of Park Forest. It is a very busy four lane highway, with businesses running along both sides. When the housing began to crumble due to shoddy construction, naturally, the black occupants were blamed.

"A reporter for the Chicago Daily News, visiting a Forest Heights' family in its \$23,250 bi - level home, (these are sixties prices) leaned against a steel column that provides the main support for the living room as well as for the load-bearing wall in the upstairs hallway and found that it swung loosely from the beam overhead. This was one of many such examples of shoddy construction in the subdivision." *ibid.* According to an article in the Chicago Sun-Times, these residents were "families from the city, women and children without fathers in the family... The majority of these people had never before owned a house... for most of them the transition was from a high-rise slum to a one-family house (that) began deteriorating because they had no experience in keeping a place up..." *ibid.* They assume these people to be manless tramps who don't know how to live in a dwelling, even though they've lived somewhere previously. "Reporting" they call it.

The children of these residents, poured into the schools; ill-prepared for the assault the system dished up. Although Chicago Heights "residents" they overflowed the schools in Park Forest. These students said "Black students are separated from the majority of the student body by virtue of the tracking system... The majority of the black students are placed on a low-level track without adequate programs to help them advance... tracking is a major factor contributing to black and white conflicts because there is no opportunity to interact." 6. p.362. Remember, this is in the relatively benign town of Park Forest. You can imagine how miserably treated the black students were at more racially ignorant areas.

This racist tracking happens everywhere black students go to school, unwelcomed. As racial "incidents" increase and get more violent, the townspeople panic, the realtors pick up on it, and steer blacks one way and whites another.

"The general conclusion must be that at each income level and regardless of socioeconomic characteristics, a concentration of black families is perceived negatively by whites." *ibid.* This is not thought of as the crux of the problem - outrage that it is, but as a fact of life that blacks should accept as the way things are and must adapt themselves and their behavior to accommodate. After all, that's the "reality" most whites settle for, so it's "official."

"Surveys have shown that whites consider a neighborhood to be 'integrated' if one or two black families live there. African-Americans tend to think a substantially higher minority presence is necessary before a truly bi-racial ambience is achieved." 7. p.16. When blacks move in, "white home buyers tend to look someplace else." *ibid.* "In the absence of white demand, integration

dissolves into white-to-black "resegregation." First home values slide, then the tax base, then public services." 7. p. 16. So, in a thoroughly racist society, blacks are blamed for everything, most specifically, their blackness. For this ruins everything for the poor whites, who must uproot their families and flee.

"The status consciousness of white residents is viewed as a basic factor underlying their perception and evaluation of racial change." 6. p. 375. Status is defined as the "social estimation of honor." *ibid.* Status consciousness is the "degree to which status considerations are important to the individual the extent to which he is concerned about his own relative status or to which status factors tend to color his interactions with others." *ibid.*

"Social estimation of honor "is clearly distinguished from the concept of 'class.' The desire for status protection lay beneath the white behavior in racially changing neighborhoods... and that this desire was usually manifested as avoidance behavior based on status consciousness - that is, that the mechanism precipitating white flight was white status consciousness." *ibid.* In other words, racist Joe Blow could forget the reality of his wage-slavery, so long as he had his white status consciousness (privilege of the white skin) but he could "enjoy" it, only if there were no blacks visible to "spoil" it for him! How base is that???

Capitalism wants whites to be full of racist mindlessness, essentially afraid of their own shadow. This "status consciousness" of whites is the rich vein mined by MAD Magazine in its mockery of American culture. This ephemeral "status" is what we spend our lives working for - striving to attain for our families. By some nebulous racist gauge, we're supposed to have attained the zenith of the American ideal if we accumulate enough material possessions (a fancy house and car, maybe a boat - whatever) in our sparkingly lily-white enclaves! So the capitalists see whites work doggedly for their companies with their sole societal goal being material accumulation and racist "status." That is why I say white society is cultureless and soulless. The last thing most whites want to have happen is to be judged on the content of their character, instead of the color of their skin, because they would all fail miserably.

"'Black' carries the imputation of status inferiority and a black or integrated neighborhood is considered low status." 6. p. 377. That's insanity believed as truth. Treason is your answer to this stultifying, mind-melting rot! It's much healthier to hang with blacks than other whites. That is the truth.

What is best for blacks? I don't know, because I'm not black. My skin is sort of opaque, pink, and slightly tanned in places. Blacks do not seem to be bothered, per se, by the presence of whites. This is an enormous stroke of luck to those "whites" smart enough to pursue their own best interests. Blacks need the company of blacks and tolerate non-racist whites. Whites need the company

of blacks. "Whiteness" is everybody's enemy.

Institutional racism is involved in re-segregation as their motives are purely profit-driven. Racism increases profits.

Pacifist perception of a neighborhood dictates lending policies. "Many financial institutions view inter-racial neighborhoods as poor investment risks. When financial credit is denied to an individual or enterprise on the basis of the racial composition of a neighborhood rather than on the ability to repay the loan, redlining occurs. Many racially integrated areas are wrongly considered as 'high risk' loan areas and residents and businesses in these areas are often denied credit or forced to pay a surcharge for a loan. Furthermore, the backers of new development tend to favor large scale urban development in suburbanizing areas rather than small-scale redevelopment in established neighborhoods. This process of financially favoring developing communities as opposed to established neighborhoods is called disinvestment." 8. p. 17. So the racist perceptions of financial institutions determine which community is allowed to flourish and which ones will die. Capitalism is only interested in capital accumulation, not human welfare. Liberal reformers somehow hope to succeed in "reversing the bias of financial institutions." *ibid.* But there's no profit in basic human decency for the monied interests. Small concessions may be made and lip service paid, but the economic engine of racist capitalism is hardly slowed.

In the more "affluent" suburban housing, you're seeing Condos, quadriplexes, etc. They're very expensive and "secure." Often each building is an exact clone of the next. More profit and more sameness - less "blackness."

The media is another culprit. It "covers" racial incidents incessantly, headlining crime stories, daily. They're trying to maximize ratings and assiduously avoids the consciously constructive endeavors of people. With seven million or so people concentrated in this megalopolis, somebody is going to kill somebody else, in a most gruesome fashion, daily. This hammering on the subject, re-inforces ignorance and fear. Black "suspects" are depicted as horrible, scary monsters.

Unfortunately, this is the only media known to the vast majority of whites. Newspaper, television, and magazine sound bite, shallow take on stories, provides no insight to a television somnambulized public, who accept trite sensationalism as "news." In depth, insightful analysis of reality isn't "profitable" either. The liberals want to persuade the media to be more "responsible." The reactionaries have convinced many that the media suffers from "liberal bias." It suffers cancerously from both.

Rental management agencies see whites as more favorable tenants. Realtors play their role as cogs in the racist machinery. "As a consequence of self-steering by race as well as illegal realtor manipulation, the dual housing market is

perpetuated and realtors have too little incentive to alter market trends." 8. p.25. Once again, it's not profitable to function humanely in this capitalist system. We have to go with the flow of "market trends" of ingrained racism. We all know who lives in the most rundown apartments in the crappiest parts of town and who doesn't...

Community organizations "operate in isolation and often their programs duplicate and overlap each other. In addition, these housing groups generally are understaffed, underfunded and their activities are not publicized. Community organizations in predominantly white areas have not made serious efforts to promote minority housing." 8. p. 27. Here, supposedly, is "democracy" at the grass roots level - fighting for their racial turf. This is what capitalism has reduced white people to - scared, ignorant-of-reality consumers, oblivious to their real best interests - inter-racial living and genuine human development.

As for builders and developers, "Most new housing is constructed in all white developing areas rather than in older established mixed race neighborhoods... Black homebuyers are discouraged from moving into new areas because some builder-developers feel that black home buyers will drive away white traffic... some builder-developers have also created 'instant ghettos' by constructing some subdivisions, often substandard, and marketing them exclusively to minority families." 8. p.21. Big surprise here, isn't it? Gee, I think I'm detecting a pattern..

The "image" a community acquires, as viewed by outsiders, whether factual or not, "often determines who moves into that community." 8. p. 29. In a racist society, blacks have limited options, often opting for an area that provides at least a semblance of acceptance. Naturally, the "poor" whites, then have to bail out and seek out new honkified enclaves.

The law merely claims to protect a person "from having his/her freedom of choice abridged; the laws do not rectify racial discrimination of the past nor do they protect interracial community living." 8. p. 31. The law! Go to any court in the suburbs for a traffic ticket or something. The building is overflowing with black "defendants!" The whites are the judges, the cops and the greasy lawyers, with a smattering of white defendants. Have you ever gone to court and seen a civil rights case, sincerely fought on the behalf of a wronged black person? Blacks are hauled off to prison with the voluminous regularity of the Nazi cattle-cars full of Jews!

As for government, rest assured they care little for racial decency. The feds claim to favor local control, yet pour in the national police at any sign of "trouble." They rob us blind, bully the world and put on the long-running abomination known as Congress and the Presidency. As for local governments, "Many local governments actively work to exclude themselves from region-wide

problems and responsibilities in housing. Furthermore, some local governments either do not invest in local, interracial areas or they refuse to deal with racial concerns altogether." 8. p. 35. Another revelatory bombshell, eh?

The schools are schools of racism. Lily white schools allow whites to avoid blacks altogether, re-enforcing racist beliefs. Interracial schools attract blacks which sends white parents packing their kids off to other schools. As the black percentage of students increase, the funding for these schools dries up. Invariably, the blacks are blamed for being the cause of their own victimization.

On the individual home buying level, the "actions of many homebuyers and homesellers are often self-limiting and against federal fair housing law. Many white and black homebuyers are self-steering themselves into neighborhoods where they feel they would be the most comfortable when their assessment is based on very limited factual information. Furthermore, the actions of some homesellers such as selective showing and selling as well as different home prices for each race are illegal. On the other hand, some majority homesellers have panicked and sold their houses at a loss after the first minority move-in." 8. p. 41. Do the remaining whites blame these bastard neighbors for dragging down their home values by their gutless fleeing? Nope. Almost invariably, the blame is on their new (black) neighbors.

Financial institutions insist on appraisals for every sale not sold on a cash basis. "The appraisal process penalizes homes located in older areas and in areas where residents are of mixed racial, ethnic and income background." 9. p. 44. Appraisers must go to school to take courses at the institutes sponsored by the Society of Real Estate Appraisers and the American Institute of Real Estate Appraisers. Their texts state that neighborhood homogeneity effects the "value" of a neighborhood. The student outline states, "As a general rule, minority groups are found on the bottom of the socio-economic ladder and problems associated with minority group segments of the population can hinder community growth." *ibid.*

A slide show accompanies the Institute of Appraisers course, "The accompanying sound track said of a neighborhood analysis 'one exceptional factor which may affect value is the influx of inharmonious social or racial groups.' The slide on the screen showed a burned out store." 8. p. 45. The prospective appraisers are told the single most important "value level" of a "residential neighborhood are influenced more by the social characteristics of its present and prospective occupants than any other factor." *ibid.* So the appraiser is supposed to make a snap judgement as to a future homeowner's "social characteristics" after being inculcated with racist appraisalese!

"Low balling" by appraisers and employees of mortgage companies (which are often a branch of some bank,) is common. They "low ball" the appraisal of a

house in a "changing" neighborhood - even when a buyer has agreed to buy the house for a higher price than the appraiser claims the house is worth. The deal is therefore, nullified. The appraiser is just doing his job of sabotaging a neighborhood that is "changing." Modest, single-family homes are purchased by working people. They can't just lay down a wad of cash and skip the appraisal. The potential buyer must get a mortgage loan to purchase the house, so the bank determines how a neighborhood is "changed." Needless to say, the banks make an enormous commission on the sale of every house, through a complex myriad of fees charged to both buyer and seller, and continue to "make" money on the interest on the mortgage loan, which usually amounts to two or three times the amount of the actual loan. Blacks pay higher interest rates on their mortgages.

As for relying on builders and developers to mind their profit-driven, racist "P's" and "Q's," "Discrimination and/or failure to market affirmatively can be negatively sanctioned. Watchdogging, however, is not easy and often HUD regional offices do not have the resources to do the job adequately - even with aid from community organizations. If the regulating office is not swift and sure in its enforcement, and sanctions are not 'harsh' in cases of definite non-compliance, the developers are not likely to feel that non-compliance is much of a risk." 8. p. 50.

The actual construction of housing is another nail in the coffin perpetuating racism. When construction workers (almost always white) build a tract of homes, it depends on how expensive the homes will be, who they are to be sold to, and the whims of the builder(s) involved. When white construction workers know they are building a development that will be targeted to blacks, they can let their racism be realized in a concrete fashion, on the job! The nailing becomes haphazard and many are skipped altogether. Warped pieces of wood are sheep-dipped into place. The whole job is done with a mind-set of "half-ass." The builder may provide shoddy materials and the workers are given an inadequate amount of time to construct the homes properly. Rain and snow are allowed to damage the homes before completion. Serious flaws are papered over instead of corrected. "They'll ruin 'em, anyway." These workers are victims of this status crap, too. The "privilege of whiteness" is the miserable "perk" clung to. Poorly trained or non-union labor is used to build the cheaper housing, which blacks usually get stuck with. When an expensive (i.e. "white") house or neighborhood is constructed, pride in workmanship, quality materials and attention to detail come to the fore. The most experienced craftsmen and top of the line machinery are employed. The blueprints are followed to the letter as foremen and inspectors swarm the site. The police presence is noticeably increased, minimizing vandalism during construction and giving their imprimatur on the soon to be sacred addition to the hallowed institution of private ("white") property. Sickened yet?

These problems were delineated in the late seventies, when a half-hearted effort was still being made to do the right liberal thing. This was a coasting to a stop from the impetus from the civil rights movement of the sixties and the "Great Society's War on Poverty" - a sham offensive ending in miserable failure - as they were pulverizing Southeast Asia (another war they lost.) The tiny tethering on the Gulliver of naked racist capitalism has been ripped away by the rightist tide. The openly anti-human regimes of the Reagan, Bush and Clinton eras, were prepared by Carter's "rehabilitation" of American might. After their Vietnam defeat and the Watergate sludge, Carter spoke of "human rights," as the U.S. prepped the Central and South American Death States. Now the beast is rampaging North...

Each of these South Chicago communities has their own sordid history of racist relations (typical throughout the U.S.) as they became "integrated" or formed as planned suburban ghettos. The black children going to the schools, breaking the color line, had to go through emotionally and psychologically, what Victor Jara was forced to endure physically... I'm sure most whites reading these paragraphs will react incomprehendingly - stunned by these paragraphs, but blacks would give it approving nods of recognition. Who do you think has a handle on what racism means and does?

As the veil of the special privileges of "whiteness" is being shredded, through long overdue enlightenment and bitter reality, more and more whites angrily realize they've been dupes in a colossal hoax. As the dynamics of capitalism careen into naked profit-seeking, the thin veneer protecting whites from its most blatant assaults is being exposed. White youths are more intuned to black culture (particularly musically) and its defiant message. We're all in this together, brothers and sisters! Know thine enemy! We've seen what can happen when the people decide they won't tolerate "their" system's swindling anymore. Witness Albania...mass revulsion leads to spontaneous revolution! "Enough! To the guns!! Get these bastards out of here!!!" Of course, the U.S. and its lackeys are busy trying to dampen it down.

So what are we gonna do about it? Well, we're not gerbils in a cage. We're human beings with advanced minds. The Ehopal-like intellectual fog that pronounces this country in its staggering, stupefying torpor to the rest of the world, must not be succumbed to. It's an insanely daunting task to challenge this blindly arrogant genocidal monstrosity. Fear and hopelessness, though, are unacceptable excuses for inactivity. As Frederick Douglass said, "If there is no struggle, there is no progress."

What we must steel ourselves with, is the mental toughness of a Michael Jordan and the physical courage and determination of the Vietnamese people.

They whipped the U.S. soundly, remember? We'll need the insight of the social and political analysis of a Noam Chomsky and the striving to grasp difficult concepts, with the sheer brilliance exemplified by Stephen Hawking. We need to attain cosmic awareness as it applies to this planet, all washed down with the joy for life, exuded by the Phish.

There's a better world out there, dammit! Our job is to go out there and build it. We can't afford to be afraid - of anything, least of all our own thoughts. We are armed with rationality which uncovers the truth, no matter how obscurely it is "officially" packaged. Exposing and fighting racism and other evils of capitalism is everybody's highest moral duty. Our assignment for the rest of our lives is to hammer away at this world of oppression and ignorance with each breath, on the count of every heartbeat. There are babies to be saved - beautiful BLACK babies*

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Thought Bombs is a substantial zine put together by a broad-thinking forty-something union activist tollbooth worker. Careful reading will provide details on everything from Chicago area radical resources to contact data for people with multiple chemical sensitivity. The 64-page issue #5 includes the text of a talk by Ron Daniels ("Confronting racism"), material about MW hero Sam Brundage, and an account of a lobbying trip to the Illinois state capitol, as well as a long interview with punk zine editor Bob Conrad (*Second Guess*). Also: "An abolitionist response to slavery and racism" and a letters section in which we find out the editor is married to a librarian. (Anthony Rayson, 27009 S. Egyptian Trail, Monro, IL 60449; \$2).

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 THROUGH THE POST OFFICE & TELEGRAPH

■ Calumet Township parents try to explain a cross-burning to their children, while FBI investigates a hate crime.

BY STEVE PATTERSON
Staff Writer

CALUMET TWP. — Monday night, Ulysses Lacy and Carmen Estelle had a talk with their son about hate and prejudice.

Steven, 7, has been asking his parents since Sunday afternoon why someone would burn a wooden cross in his family's back yard.

Steven and his brother, Brian, J, discovered the charred cross Sunday, and, a day later, their parents still were trying to find the words to explain it all.

"He had nightmares about that cross," Ulysses Lacy said. "I didn't want to have to, but I'll have to explain that somebody bad put it in our yard and then tell him why. It's something I'll remember as long as I live."

Federal agents confirmed Monday that they are investigating a hate crime that occurred at the black family's home in the 3800 block of Chase Street.

The 7-foot cross was burned hours after a neighbor was arrested Saturday, charged with enticing the Lacys' dog to his fence and then shooting it to death.

Lacy and his fiancée, Carmen

Estelle, didn't sleep much Sunday night and neither did Steven. None of them could get the image out of their minds of that cross, made of pressure-treated wood with the pointed top, supported by cinder blocks.

It's an image, they admit, they'll never forget.

"We slept on the living room floor Sunday, listening for anything," Lacy, a Gary native, said. "But nobody's forcing us out of our home or our neighborhood. Nobody.

"Yet it does make me feel like I can't trust anybody. This is a hate crime and I don't know who all we're dealing with."

The family was cooking out with friends in the front yard of their home Saturday night until they went to bed around midnight.

Lake County police had arrested their neighbor, Igor Vichek, 42, that afternoon. He was charged with shooting and killing the family's dog.

Vichek, who could not be reached for comment Monday, said he was "tired of the dog," according to a police report.

That night, a cross was burned. The cross wasn't discovered until Estelle asked the children to hang a wet rug off the back steps the next afternoon.

Lake County and Gary police responded, though the case was immediately turned over to the FBI.

U.S. Attorney Jon DeGuilio said "an aggressive investigation" is under way. FBI agents removed the cross and interviewed suspects Monday.

Please see Cross, Page A4

'Who burned cross?'



Ulysses Lacy and his fiancée, Carmen Estelle, are trying to figure out why someone burned a 7-foot wooden cross in the back yard of their

JOHN MITCHELL/POST-TENSION

Cross

Parents at a loss to explain hate crime

Continued from Page A1

Lacy, 28, said the family never had trouble with neighbors before.

He works, while Estelle, 27, is a student at Indiana University Northwest. Those responsibilities, along with caring for their five children, ages 14 months to 7, don't leave much time to socialize, either, they said

BELLEVILLE, ILL.

Police, FBI track case of possible racial dragging

The Associated Press

Members of the black community in and around Belleville reacted with outrage Sunday to the alleged dragging of a black teen by three white men in a car.

In a case mirroring the dragging death of a Texas man, Belleville police and the FBI were investigating whether race played a motive in the dragging of Baron K. Manning, 17, who escaped

with severe but treatable injuries after the incident Friday. During church services, ministers called for a Justice Department investigation into the alleged incident.

Manning told police he was dragged Friday for several blocks by three white youths driving a sport utility vehicle. He was treated and released at a local hospital for scratches, bruises and burns on his face, arms, legs and buttocks.

Black Panthers to protect blacks in Klan rally

■ Panthers will be sending armed members to Jasper to defend the black race.

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — The New Black Panther Party said Thursday it will send armed members to Jasper on Saturday to protect blacks during a Ku Klux Klan rally.

Two factions of the KKK have scheduled a two-hour rally outside the County Courthouse in the east Texas town to denounce the June 7 slaying of James Byrd Jr., a black man who was chained to a pickup truck and dragged to his death.

Three white men, two of whom authorities suspect have white supremacist beliefs, are charged

with the slaying.

Local authorities and Byrd's family said they would prefer that both groups stay away.

"We're not in favor of either group because of what they stand for," said Clara Taylor, the victim's sister. "We're trying to get on with our lives."

Jasper County Sheriff Billy Rowles said state troopers, police and sheriff's deputies will provide security during the rally.

"We're going to be there to defend and to patrol the community and protect them from attack," said Malik Z. Shabazz, an attorney for the Black Panthers. Several black residents asked the group to provide security, he said.

"It's not a provocative action. We are simply fulfilling our divine and constitutional rights for self-defense," he said.

Shabazz wouldn't say how many Black Panthers are expect-

"We've talked about moving, but we shouldn't have to live in fear because of this," Estelle said. "We were just getting settled here, liking it; they can't run us out of the place we call home."

Lacy said the family is considering protective measures like motion lights or a fence to surround that back yard.

He also said he's thinking about planting a tree where the cross once stood, forever reminding them of innocence lost.

"The little ones, they're not going to remember, but I'm afraid for all of them," he said. "That doubt, that insecurity, it's always going to be there, now."

"We're going to be there to defend and to patrol the community and protect them from attack."

Malik Z. Shabazz, an attorney for the Black Panthers

ed. He said they will carry shotguns. Some will "monitor" the Klan rally while others will be stationed near the homes of black residents, "setting up a defense perimeter and defense patrols," Shabazz said.

Raising again the bloody flag of racism

26

Native Intelligence

A column by Jack D. Forbes

Native American Studies

University of California, Davis

The Privateers (pirates) who control our economic and political system today have as a major tool the maintenance of distrust between white workers and people of color, as well as the fostering of antagonisms between the working class and the unemployed, between different ethnic groups, between Spanish-surnamed Americans and African-Americans, and between non-Native Americans and Native tribal citizens.

Many politicians, as well as most of the media, favor the rich and the powerful at the expense of the general citizenry. A key strategy has been the concept of "defunding the public sector," that is, to take away financial support for any and all government programs which have the general public as their primary beneficiaries, and especially those which tend to assist the poor more than the rich. In other words, the slogans are "privatization" and the virtues of "free markets" (slogans used in slavery days, and when Native lands were being stolen).

"Defunding the public sector" is a very clever concept because it serves to empower private, for-profit groups as well as to

provide tremendous tax-breaks and advantages for the already-rich. For example, defunding public television and radio in the U.S. has driven the latter into the arms of private corporations seeking to commercialize the public stations, to place their adverts there, and to influence content in a pro-big business direction. One notices that very few non-whites serve on public television's various panels, and the ones selected are usually safely conservative. (Have you ever seen a First Nations intellectual or writer on any such shows?)

Giving huge tax-breaks to the rich (with a few crumbs to the middle-income taxpayers) has also served to create insufficient public funds for public schools, colleges, hospitals, mental health centers, et cetera, thus causing a decline in the quality of the public schools and fostering the growth of private schools, voucher plans, and so on. The tremendous growth in tuition fees (a form of taxation) for

What our readers are saying

Looking for my Choctaw brother

Dear Editor,

Haliito (Greetings) to you all sisters and brothers of all nations. And especially to all readers of *News From Indian Country*.

My name is Larry Morris, I am a full blooded Choctaw Indian, 33 years old. Member of Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (South Eastern Nation). I am writing this in help of finding my long lost brother. My brother's name is Harris Morris. He is in his late 30s.

Last I saw him was when I was about eight years of age, which I hardly know how he looks. Last I heard from a friend, who came back to Choctaw reservation said that

he may have moved to St. Paul, MN area. If any brother or sister can give me help to locating him, it would be a blessing. I don't have to much of a luck because I am incarcerated. I am also one of a political prisoner.

I would also like to thank who would be willing to give me advice to where I can write to about finding my brother. Any information is better than none. Also if anyone would care to write to a lock down brother, I would answer all letters from the heart. Respectfully,

Larry Morris #1055013
PO Box 1108

expected to lead to a new radicalization of the general public and to a new politics which would demand social justice. 27

And that is precisely where racism and anti-Native People moves come in so handy! Time and time again, the powerful have made use of "divide and conquer" strategies in order to retain their power or to obtain more. If whites can be made to fear "affirmative action," if Blacks can be made to fear "immigrants," and if non-Natives can be made to be jealous of First Nations' sovereign status, then the rich can play off one group against another.

If we are to achieve a just society, and one which cares for all of its citizens, then we must be very careful not to fall into the hands of rich, elitist script-writers who have written a play which they expect us to blindly act out.

They want us to play out our predetermined roles as fearful and divided victims, each jealous of the "other." When they attack "affirmative action" they expect us to react by defending, if we are "of color," and joining the attack, if we are "white." But how about being a bit more clever and responding by saying that we want all people who are the victims of oppression, be they of whatever color, to be eligible for positive action?

If the right-wingers want to make it all "color-blind" then maybe we should show them what a "color-blind" society should really be like! (And it ain't what Utah Senator Orrin Hatch has in mind!). If they want to use the white-working-class against people of color, then let us broaden our target group to include all victims of racism and corporate greed!

Racism is a form of mental illness, but it is also a political weapon used over and over again by evil persons seeking to manipulate us. The "bloody flag" is being waved, but we do not have to become its victims again.

Professor Jack D. Forbes, Powhatan-Delaware, is the author of Columbus and Other Cannibals, Red Blood, Africans and Native Americans and other books.

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college students has been a direct result of the transfer of wealth from the public sector to the private, wealthy classes. The result is, of course to strengthen the position of private universities and to make it much more difficult for poor and middle-class students to attend.

Of course, our tribal colleges have never been adequately funded and Congress has never appropriated the authorized amounts specified in the Tribally-controlled College's legislation.

Defunding public education has many other effects, including the forcing of many students to work long hours in order to pay for their fees, books, et cetera, thus seriously diminishing any inclination to engage in political activity. Moreover, at the elementary and secondary levels, it has the effect of denying poorer families the opportunity for their children to engage in extracurricular activities which require fees or the purchase of special equipment no longer provided by cash-poor schools.

Defunding the public sector is, of course, only one element in the Privateer's strategy of dismantling the gains which working people made in the 1930s and 1940s. "Downsizing" and dismissing longtime employees has become a characteristic of our times, a totally arbitrary behavior not caused by anything except the politics of favoring the rich. The owners and CEOs of corporations are generally making such huge profits that there clearly is no economic reason for the savaging of employees.

All of this enriching the rich has led to great insecurity on the part of the working people of North America. The steady loss of real income, the decline in living standards, the legitimate fear of becoming unemployed or a part-timer, all of these things could be

Racism is a form of mental illness, but it is also a political weapon used over and over again by evil persons seeking to manipulate us. The "bloody flag" is being waved, but we do not have to become its victims again.

In Germany, right-wing violence against foreigners surges

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BONN—Right-wing attacks in Germany reached a three-year high in 1997, part of a broad resurgence of rightist extremism, the government reported Wednesday.

It was the first increase in far-right violence since 1992, fueled in part by a growing racist music scene and a rising number of young Germans ready to vent rage through aggression.

Right-wing violence surged 27 percent last year to 790 attacks, said the Office for the Protection of the Constitution, the German security agency that tracks extremists.

The government's estimate of the number of violence-prone right-wing extremists rose for the third consecutive year, to 7,600.

The violence, usually associated with head-shaven, leather-clad

youths known as skinhead mostly involved beatings. 29

The main targets were foreigners whom the rightists blame for the nation's ills, including unemployment.

Most of the increase was in formerly communist eastern Germany, where joblessness is twice as high as in the richer west and many young people are despondent.



BY CHEVEL JOHNSON
Associated Press Writer

Louisiana man says he was dragged

Black says 5 whites in a car grabbed him and pulled him for more than 2 blocks.

SLIDELL, La. — In another case similar to the dragging death in Texas, a black man said three white men in a car yelled racial slurs and grabbed him by the arm, pulling him for 2 1/2 blocks.

Cornelius Weaver told deputies that he was walking home from a convenience store early Saturday when the front and rear passengers of a passing car reached out and grabbed him by the arm.

Weaver, 23, suffered abrasions and bruises on his limbs and torso when he rolled away from the car after being dragged, sheriff's spokesman James Hartman said.

"He tells a story that amounts to a hate crime," Hartman said.

Weaver told The Times-Picayune of New Orleans in a story published Sunday that he feared the men wanted to rob him or kidnap him. "I kept saying, 'Please let me go.'"

Weaver could not be reached for comment Sunday.

His mother, Mary Burnett, would not speculate on whether her son was the victim of a copycat of the racial attack in Jasper, Texas, where James Byrd Jr., 49, was dragged to death a week ago. Three white men believed to have ties to white supremacist groups are suspects in that case.

"I'm just aggravated. I didn't think anyone would do anything like this here," she said.

Weaver was wounded a day after Baron Manning, 17, of Belleville, Ill., said three white youths called him over to their vehicle early Friday, grabbed him through an open window by his shirt and dragged him until the cloth ripped and he fell near the back wheels.

Former Soviet facade of tolerance eroded by Russian racist attacks

By Colin McMahon
TRINITE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT

MOSCOW—The newspaper story barely was noticed except by a fraction of Moscow's population. In honor of Adolf Hitler's birthday, the account said, neo-Nazi groups were threatening to kill an Asian a day in the city.

Police discounted the rumors, but Asian and African students who live every day amid the dangers of racism in Russia could not be so casual.

Then reports started coming in. About 20 skinheads brutally beat a couple of Asian women near the Arbat pedestrian district. A Nigerian, an Indian and a Kenyan were attacked in separate incidents.

Over the weekend at a popular outdoor market, skinheads jumped an American Marine, an African-American from the U.S. Embassy contingent.

Whether those incidents had anything to do with the published threats is unclear. But since neo-Nazi skinheads made their vow April 20 to begin killing, fear has risen among African, Asian and other foreigners of color who study, work and live in the Russian capital.

Though racism in Soviet times usually was hiding beneath the surface, it has become a more visible and perhaps more volatile social ill in Russia since the old order fell.

"I'm always on guard; it's always on my mind," said Michael Angara, 28, a Filipino who works as a purchasing manager for a Moscow cafeteria. "You have to know where to go, where not to go. I have to take precautions every minute."

Angara said the article in Neza-

visimaya Gazeta quickly became the talk among his friends.

Taiwan's Embassy ordered its citizens to stay home from school. Other missions, including the U.S. Embassy twice, also have issued warnings alerting their citizens.

The Marine was attacked Saturday afternoon while walking with an American woman, also black, through Gorbushka market at Fili Park, a popular spot to buy CDs and videocassettes.

Four men described as in their 20s and with shaved heads pounded on the Marine, knocking out a couple of teeth and fleeing when the screams of his companion brought market security forces and Russian civilians, police said.

Citing privacy concerns, U.S. officials declined to identify the victim but said he had received the necessary medical care.

A suspect in the attack had scars on his knuckles when arrested Monday. In an interview on Russian television, he called himself "Boose" and boasted indirectly about the incident.

"To be honest with you, they just seem to be attracted to my fists like metal to a magnet," he said. "Everywhere I go, they bite me on my fists."

Later, he talked about his beliefs in "genetic socialism" and purity of the Russian blood.

In the old USSR, such talk rarely was heard except around the kitchen table. Officially, the sweeping, ethnically diverse nation was color-blind, a defender of the world's oppressed against the West.

The symbol of this great tolerance was Patrice Lumumba University, named after the Congolese revolutionary. The school was

home over the years to tens of thousands of students from the Third World.

That tolerance was merely a facade, kept in place by the same system that maintained political and economic order. Jews were always second-class citizens, and people from the Caucasus and Asian republics were constantly reminded: Soviet they may be, but Russian they were not.

When the Soviet Union began to collapse, the facades crumbled. People felt free to say aloud what they had whispered, and the weakness of the justice system gave rise to criminal impunity.

As elsewhere in the post-communist world, economic troubles the growing gap between rich and poor, have frustrated young people who cannot find suitable work and go looking for scapegoats.

Though the street crime rate in Moscow is lower than in most major U.S. cities, random attacks on dark-skinned foreigners are not unusual.

The incidents sometimes start slowly but menacingly with a potential victim being asked for beer money. They then grow into verbal abuse and epithets and culminate with physical attacks.

Police often look the other way when foreigners complain, or if they do intervene, they let the perpetrators go.

"Even if you report it, the police do nothing," said Arnold Rombi, 23, a Kenyan studying economics at the former Patrice Lumumba since renamed the Russian University of People's Friendship.

"If a Russian wrongs you, and you are a foreigner, then he is always in the right."

Jailing Fathers

Does prison time for non-support help or hurt children and families?

3 whites held in race killing

Black man was dragged to death in Texas

BY MICHAEL GRACZYK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JASPER, Texas—Three white men with suspected ties to the Ku Klux Klan chained a black hitchhiker to the back of a pickup truck and dragged him to his death, authorities said Tuesday.

James Byrd Jr.'s head, neck and right arm were found about a mile from his mangled torso. A wrench with the name of one of the suspects on it was found near the body. Byrd had been dragged about two miles.

"All evidence shows it will be racially motivated," Sheriff Billy Rowles said.

Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, Shawn Allen Berry and John William King, both 23, were charged with murder and jailed without bail.

Byrd, 49, had been walking home from a niece's bridal shower Saturday night and apparently accepted a ride from the defendants. He was last seen riding in the back of the truck, police said.

King and Brewer were covered with tattoos indicating white supremacist beliefs, and all three had spent time in prison, where they apparently had ties to the KKK and the Aryan Nation, the sheriff said.

The sheriff said it appeared that Byrd

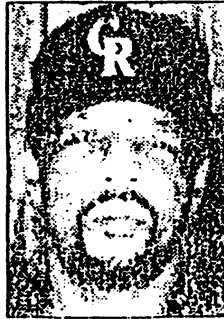
knew one of the defendants.

Rowles rejected the notion that racist groups have members in the area.

"We have no Aryan Nation or KKK in Jasper County," he said, drawing hoots from blacks at a news conference.

Jasper is a timber town of 7,800 people about 100 miles northeast of Houston.

Authorities gave this account of the slaying:

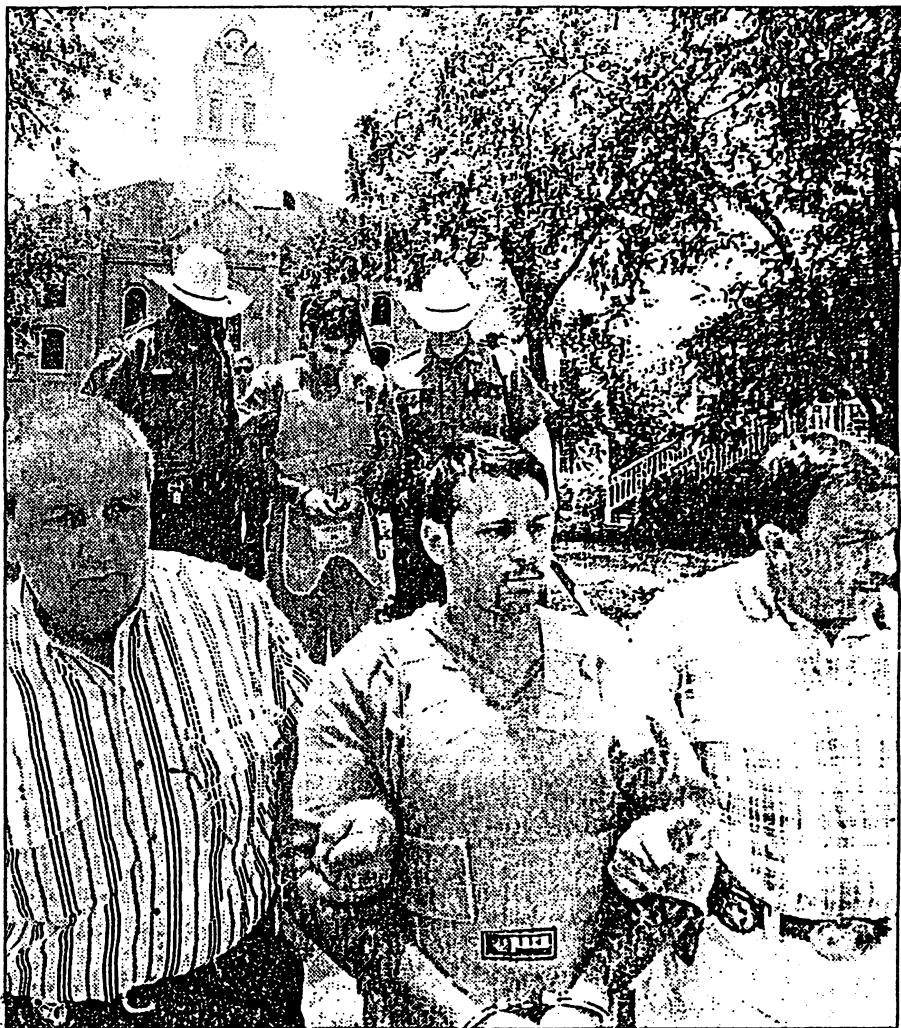


James Byrd Jr.
Father of 3

Berry told police that he and his companions were riding around in his truck when they saw Byrd walking down the dirt road and offered him a ride. King objected because of Byrd's race, but they picked him up anyway, and all four went to a convenience store. King then got behind the wheel and drove to an isolated area. There, the defendants got out and Brewer and King started beating the victim. Byrd was chained to the truck and dragged.

Byrd's body was found Sunday morning, about 10 miles away from his apartment. District Attorney Guy James Gray would not say how Byrd was chained to the truck.

Police said they have a witness who saw Byrd in Berry's truck. Authorities also said they discovered near the body a wrench engraved with Berry's name that resembles



DAVID J. PHILLIP/ASSOCIATED PRESS

John William King (front, center) and Lawrence Russell Brewer (rear, center) are taken from the courthouse in Jasper, Texas, on Tuesday. They and another man are charged with killing a black hitchhiker.

tools from Berry's truck.

FBI agents met with the sheriff on Tuesday, and federal civil rights charges may be filed, authorities said.

Byrd, a former vacuum-cleaner salesman

and father of three, didn't have a car and lived on disability checks because of an arm injury, said his sister, Clara Taylor.

"He was very outgoing, friendly towards everyone," Taylor said. "Everyone around here knew him."

RESIST



TO EXIST

Anti-Racist Action

James Kao introduces Noel on behalf of S.A.W. (Students Against Whiteness.) Noel has written How the Irish Became White, and along with John Garvey, edits Race Traitor. The project of Race Traitor, or its goal, is to abolish "whiteness" as a socially significant category. Noel has just won a National Book Award for Race Traitor.

The Civil Rights Movement "legally" abolished racism, on paper anyway. The word "white" was stricken from the constitution. Today, the New Abolitionist Project is to identify, challenge, defy, distrust and finally destroy the institutions that reproduce race, such as in racially funneling job references, tracking, red-lining, racially loaded S.A.T. - type tests, exclusionary practices of trade unions, etc. The reasons to attack "whiteness" are, number 1, it's elemental morality. Two, racism is a fundamental distraction in dealing with basic societal problems. In American politics, racism is all-pervasive. It's drummed into everybody that black males are criminals and black females are immoral. Without the poisoning interference of race, people could seriously address their real problems.

The pre-Civil War Abolitionists were the most successful of all U.S. revolutionaries. How could such a small group become so powerful?

Abolitionism began to receive ^{ORGANIZED} the input of white people in 1831, with the first issue of The Liberator. William Lloyd Garrison was the spearheading force, in this effort. He proved to be an uncompromising abolitionist. Two seminal events occurred at this time. A black man, David Walker wrote a powerful appeal to black slaves, which came just short of being a call to arms. Nat Turner's Rebellion occurs in 1831. It was the largest slave rebellion in U.S. history. The slavers responded by intensifying the repression. They drove free blacks out of the South, and those whites opposed to slavery, notably the Quakers. Fugitive slaves, plus free Negroes emigrated North. The 1830's saw a great leap forward in the formation of black social institutions in the North. This was in response to their burgeoning needs. Abolitionism developed as the product and response to development in the black community in the North. The first 3/4 of the subscribers to the Liberator were blacks. They were the source of its militancy.

Abolitionism went by two principles. The first was the unconditional, immediate emancipation of all slaves. The second demand was for full equal rights for all black people. Abolitionism emerges not as a means to oppose the slave owners, but in opposition to anti-slavery forces willing to compromise with slavery. Garrison started the Liberator to oppose the anti-slavery forces who advocated

for the "colonization" of ex-slaves. They felt these people should be relocated in some other country. Garrison at first shared these beliefs, but blacks convinced him that they belonged in this country. The slaves had actually built this country, and were now native to this country, many for many generations. The black abolitionists lectured Garrison against any form of gradualism. They advocated the immediate emancipation of all slaves. Slavery was immoral and thus must be abolished. The black people in this country had at least as much claim to America as any Europeans. Full civil rights for all ex-slaves was their corollary demand. Garrison learned his lessons well and remained steadfast in his militancy.

In 1833, the Anti-Slavery Society was founded. Abolitionism was growing. In 1834-35, mobs attacked abolitionists in northern cities in increasing levels of vitriol. This was proof to the abolitionists of the effectiveness of their uncompromising position. Why did white mobs attack them? White people were concerned that the abolition of slavery would break up the "union." They also objected to complete black equality. Immigrants were afraid for their monopoly of jobs.

In the 1840's, abolitionism underwent a political division. It split over the issue of women speaking in public denouncing slavery. The Grimké sisters were very effective abolitionist speakers. They and others defied the customs of male/female segregation. This initiative by women was denounced by the protestant churches. Some in the movement thought it would discredit abolitionism to allow women to be speaking publicly in their name. Women's liberation was then an even more blasphemous concept than full equal rights for slaves. Garrison argued for women. To him, they must be allowed to speak publicly - as abolitionists. He rejected the path of social "respectability." Abolitionism used to disrupt churches, denouncing them for their complicity and accommodation to slavery. The moderates moved toward electoral participation to abolish slavery. Garrison refused to dilute his position.

The constitution forbade abolition. Moderates felt they had to trim their sails, as to their goals. They dropped the demand of equal rights for blacks. Garrison advocated for the disruption of any and all institutions compliant to slavery. Somehow, he felt, slavery would be stopped. The country as a whole was in complicity with the federal government in perpetuating slavery. The bayonet used by the U.S. government to maintain slavery was the Fugitive Slave Law. Garrison's slogan was "No Union With Slaveholders." The militant abolitionists were trying to get the northern states to secede. They implemented this drive with slave rescue attempts and resistance by direct action, challenging the fugitive slave laws. The blacks, as always, were in the lead in these efforts.

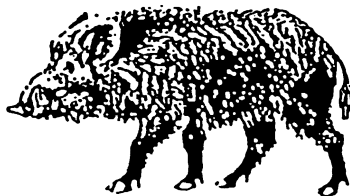
In the 1840's and '50's resistance to slavery took on many forms, such as the Underground Railroad and slave rescues, etc. These abolitionist actions were in response to blacks' initiatives. The abolitionists were a small, small minority actively working to disrupt the crumbling edifice of slavery. In 1846, the Mexican War signalled a massive land grab in the Southwest. David Wilmot wanted white workers to be "free" of slave competition and proposed this in Congress. This brought to the fore the conflict of slave labor and wage labor. Slavery marginalized the wage system. So, the push was on, not to only ban slavery from the newly extorted territories, but to exclude all blacks. So the moderate position became a Hitlerian call for racial "purity."

Over in Kansas, a civil war erupted in 1854 to decide who could "vote" on whether to be a free or slave state. The upshot had Kansas banning slavery, and also free blacks. The country was heading for civil war.

In 1859, John Brown launched his mythic attack on Harper's Ferry. John was a serious student of insurrection. Two plans emerged as his strategies. At first, he wanted to seize arms to commence guerrilla war against slavery. He thought the Appalachian Mountains were enplaced by God to serve as the staging grounds for the emancipation of black people. He was accused of trying to ignite general slave rebellion. He would have loved to have instigated this, but had a more sober take on the effect of his actions. Upon his capture, he decided it was more useful to be an abolitionist advocate from the dock. The result of his actions was to terrify the South into accelerated irrationality. The South used the attack to demand from the North more than it was willing to do in support of slavery. Southern arrogance pushed the North to the wall, compelling them to resist. In 1860, the slaves, in effect, elected the president. The abolitionists were forced into hiding. John Brown, one man, was blamed for dissolution of the union. He blew the lid off the facade, alright, and died an eternal hero.

Mr. Phillips, a prominent abolitionist, was forced to go underground at this time. Two years later he was addressing a joint session of Congress. How did this phenomenon transpire? Initially, the Civil War had both sides fighting for slavery. The North wanted the union preserved. The South wanted out of the union, to pursue slavery with a vengeance. Lincoln advocated that no slavery be allowed in the new territories. The issue in 1860 was whether slavery should be expanded (South) or restricted (North.)

The war bogged down. The North and South send many poor whites to their slaughter. White wage slaves become unwilling to fight and die for northern armies. Phillips tells Congress to one, declare it an anti-slavery war and two,



recruit and arm black soldiers. Lincoln comes to realize the war can only be won as a war against slavery. He issues the Emancipation Proclamation which signals to blacks that they are now welcome in the North. A "general strike" by slaves paralyzes the South as they withdraw their labor. One hundred and eighty thousand blacks join the northern armies and fight with incredible determination. Their impetus spearheads the defeat of the southern armies. So, blacks freed the country from the slave system and the abolitionists are proven right. Their uncompromising militancy and direct action serve as a catalyst in the destruction of the slave system.

Noel Ignatiev urges everyone to study Black Reconstruction in America, by W.E.B. DuBois, for the clearest account of post civil war America.

Two points are stressed. Abolitionism developed in opposition to the anti-slavery movement and a tiny band of determined abolitionists cast their weight at a crucial moment in history and proved effective.

Slavery was eliminated, but racism remains entrenched. Race Traitor's focus is on race. Race is politically pivotal and opens up the challenge to all the other social and economic issues that scream to be addressed.

"Possessive investment" is historically accumulated wealth. This is a white thing. "Accumulated family wealth" is something some whites have, but not blacks. Race gets reproduced. It is passed on from generation to generation. Racism "does not exempt whites from exploitation - it reconciles them to it." Noel urges modern day abolitionists to creatively employ the tactics which proved so successful in the mid - 1500's.



"MAKE YOURSELVES RIGHT AT HOME"



I would like to begin a discussion on the destruction of slavery and the importance of the black soldier. I've read several books and I would like to hear some comments. I thought ARA would benefit by reading the presentation I gave to my union. We are a multi-racial union that is sometimes very motivated for social causes.

We live in a time when most people take things for granted. Even the founding of our union many take lightly. We weren't there for the fight. We didn't see the 10 steelworkers murdered by the Chicago police on Avenue "O" in 1937.

We weren't there to strike for the 8 hour day. We didn't see the execution by hanging of the executive board in 1886.

We weren't there to suffer 4 years of bloodshed during the Civil War. Was your brother one of the 30,000 Black soldiers killed in the fighting? There were all totaled 180,000 black soldiers who served in the Union.

We should honor these heroes and martyrs who gave us their lives for the betterment of humanity. We should honor all the people who struggled against slavery. This is Black History Month.

One of the most important figures was Frederick Douglass. Who was he? What made him the best known spokesman for ending slavery?

His contributions were:

1. for 16 years was editor for the North Star. The paper was supported and financially backed by abolitionists at home and abroad.
2. traveled to Ireland and England twice to talk about the destruction of slavery.
3. Met President Lincoln and several other presidents giving advice.
4. moved to Wash D.C. and continued to play a role in national politics until his death in 1895.
5. prominent male supporter for women's suffrage. (right to vote)

A dozen years before the Civil War broke out Douglass began printing the North Star. In the very first edition in bold headlines he declared **RIGHT IS OF NO SEX-- TRUTH IS OF NO COLOR**. His paper received lots of national and international support. In fact the paper wouldn't have survived without strong financial support.

In the paper he constantly talked about how the nation and the slave were bound together. When war broke out, he had a clear message. The North must hate slavery and the slave holders to win the next battle. Boldly he printed two resolutions for ending the



war: 1.) Abolish Slavery and 2.) Form a Liberating Army of the ex-slaves. They will fight better than anyone can believe.

38

He also gave us a world wide perspective of the civil war. He said that this is a war the world is watching. "We must stand in our appointed place and do this great service for mankind." "The world has not seen a nobler and grander war than that which the loyal people of this country are now waging... not merely to free a country or a continent... but the whole world from slavery."

It was nearly 2 years from the start of the war when President Lincoln gave the emancipation proclamation. It was celebrated as a glorious day in the abolition movement... Jan 1, 1863. The abolitionists had always talked about how the "fate of the nation and slavery were bound together." For the first time, black freedom and equality were hitched to the nation's survival. For the first time black soldiers would be allowed to fight for their own freedom.

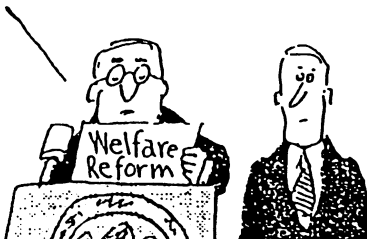
In the spring of 1863, he went on a speaking tour urging blacks to "fly to arms, and smite with death the power that would bury the government and your liberty in the same hopeless grave."

The day dawns. The morning star is bright upon the horizon! The iron gate of our prison stands half open. One gallant rush from the North will fling it wide open, while four millions of our brothers and sisters shall march out into liberty. The chance is now given you to end in a day the bondage of centuries, and to rise in one bound from social degradation to the plane of common equality with all other varieties of men. Remember Denmark Vesey of Charleston; remember Nathaniel Turner of Southampton, remember Shields Green and Copeland, who followed John Brown, and fell as glorious martyrs for the cause of the slave.

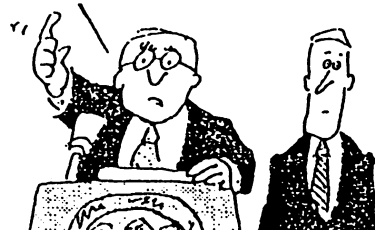
Before emancipation Douglass had a lot to say in criticism of Lincoln and the government. He said they were blind. The issue was slavery and they didn't want to deal with it. He said many times why does the Union fight with its white hand and keep its black hand tied. All of this changed because the North needed the black soldier to win the war.

In the summer of 1863, Frederick Douglass obtained a meeting with President Lincoln. He brought with him three grievances from the Black soldiers. There had been a massacre of unarmed black soldiers at Fort Pillow who had surrendered. He wanted a statement of equal retaliation of Confederate prisoners that would be made for every black soldier murdered in such fashion. The second issue was the denial of commissions of blacks. No black soldier was allowed to be an officer and this discrimination was hurting moral of the soldiers. The third issue effected all black soldiers was their demand for equal pay.

WE HAVE DISCOVERED THAT
WHAT THE POOR LACK...



... IS NOT MONEY BUT
MORALITY



demonstrated their demand by writing letters and petitions. Many others refused the unequal pay as a way of protest. One company of black soldiers went to the commander's tent and stacked their rifles. The discrimination had become too much and they wanted to be heard. William Walker spoke for his company and refused to take back his rifle and was later court marshaled and executed in front of his men.

The grievance of equal pay continued for 17 months. It was finally passed as a bill before Congress in July of 1864, and would be made retroactive. During this time, with good but naive intentions the Gov. of Massachusetts had offered black soldiers from his state the difference and they said "NO." His soldiers in the 54 and 55 Regiments said they weren't fighting for money but for equality. "The principal of equality is not found money but in dignity."

I think this is one of many important lessons the black soldiers taught us during the war. An anonymous soldier from the 54th Massachusetts Infantry stationed at Morris Island, South Carolina wrote to the Boston Journal a letter and the last paragraph reads:

"Imagine our surprise and our disappointment, on the receipt by the last mail of the Governor's Address to the General Court, to find him making a proposition to them to pay his regiments the difference between what the United States Government offers us and what they are legally bound to pay us, which, in effect, advertises us to the world as holding out for money and not from principle- that we sink our manhood in consideration of a few more dollars. How has this come about? What false friend has been misrepresenting us to the Governor, to make him think that our necessities outweigh our self-respect? I am sure no representation of ours ever impelled him to this action."

Fighting for the principal of dignity will be remembered as a lesson of the Civil War. Equal pay was won by the black soldiers during the war. Our nation could come out of the dark ages of slavery. The right to vote was passed four years later after the end of the war and it also was won in the battlefield against slavery.

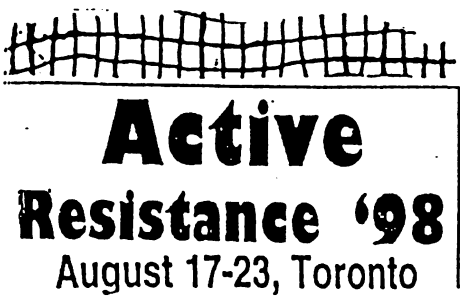
In closing I want to say, we are a multi-racial union and we must never be divided by race or we will lose our union. We are a multi-ethnic country and we must defend each other. In unity we have strength and a loud voice against our exploiter the company and its bosses.

Important books used in my presentation were:

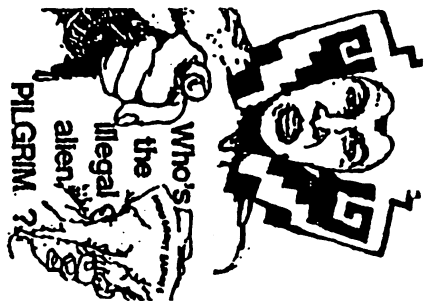
- Frederick Douglass' Civil War by David W. Blight
- Frederick Douglass and the Fight for Freedom by Douglas T. Miller

A Grand Army of Black Men edited by Edwin S. Redkey
Slaves No More: Three essays on Emancipation and the Civil War

Dave
Vance



**Active
Resistance '98**
August 17-23, Toronto



Who's
the
illegal
alien
PILGRIM?

Perception vs. Reality: The Life of a Slave 40

Last summer, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill began publishing 100 first-person narratives from Southerners dating from 1660 to 1920. The project was part of a two-year effort to create a database of primary source materials documenting the cultural history of the South. The documents, which are available on the Internet (<http://www.sunset.unc.edu>), include diaries, autobiographies, travel accounts, slave ownership titles and regional literature from the university's Academic Affairs Library.

Following are two excerpts that can be found on the project's Web site. The first is from an autobiography by a former slave, the second from an anti-abolitionist novel.

I was born a slave. My recollections of early life are associated with poverty, suffering and shame. I was made to feel, in my boyhood's first experience, that I was inferior and degraded, and that I must pass through life in a dependent and suffering condition. The experience of 43 years, which were passed by me to slavery, was one of dark fears and darker realities. John Hawes was my first master. He lived in Hanover County, N.C., between the Black and South Rivers, and was the owner of a large plantation, called Hawes' Plantation.

Mr. Hawes was a very severe and cruel master. Once a year he distributed clothing to his slaves. To the men he gave one pair of shoes, one blanket, one hat and five yards of coarse, homespun cotton; to the women a corresponding outfit, and enough to make one frock for the children. The slaves were obliged to make up their own clothes, after the severe labor of the plantation had been performed.

The plant food given out to the slaves was one peck of corn a week, or some equivalent, and nothing besides. They must grind their own corn, after the work of the day was performed, at a mill which stood on the plantation. We had to eat our coarse bread without meat, or butter, or milk. Severe labor alone gave us an appetite for our scanty and unpalatable fare.

During the planting and harvest season, we had to work early and late. The men and women were called at three o'clock in the morning, and were worked on the plantation till it was dark at night. After that they must prepare their food for supper and for the breakfast of the next day, and attend to other duties of their own dear homes.

In the month of November, and through the winter season, the men and women worked in the fields, clearing up new land, chopping and burning bushes, burning tar pits, and digging ditches. They worked together, poor, cold, and suffering from the bitter cold and wet of those winter months. Women, wives and mothers, daughters and sisters, on that plantation, were compelled to toil on cold, stormy days in the open field, while the piercing wind and driving storm benumbed their limbs, and almost froze the tears that came forth out of their cold and desolate hearts.

One of the earliest scenes of painful memory associated with my opening years of suffering, is connected with a severe whipping which my master inflicted on my sister Sarah. He tied her up, having compelled her to strip herself entirely naked, in the smoke house, and gave her a

THE PLANTER:

THE EXPERIENCE

THOMAS H. JONES,

THIRTEEN YEARS IN THE SOUTH.

A SLAVE

BY A NORTHERN MAN.

FOR FORTY-THREE YEARS.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

WRITTEN BY A FRIEND
AS RELATED TO HIM BY ANOTHER FRIEND.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

PRINTED BY BARNES & GARDNER, PHILADELPHIA.

Barnes & Gardner, Boston, 1853

Title pages for two first-person narratives (one from a planter, left, and one from a former slave) that are part of the University of North Carolina's documentation of the South.

terrible whipping — at least so it seemed to my young heart, as I heard her screams, and stood by my mother, who was wringing her hands in an agony of grief, at the cruelties which her tender child was enduring.

From "The Experience of Thomas H. Jones, Who Was a Slave for 43 Years," which was "Written by a Friend, as Related to him by Brother Jones" (Barns & Chandler, Boston, 1853).

It had been the unvarying rule of my father, that no Negro child was to be taken from the personal care of its mother until 10 years old; and no old man or woman be required to work after 70. This rule was to be religiously pursued. It has been, and will be; and under it we have a dozen or more old people, all things considered, more comfortable than I expect to be, should I live to their age.

By a provision in my father's will, the system was to be forever continued, of allotments of land to each family of Negroes, equal to an acre for each member, between 10 and 70, with time to work it equal to half a day in every week; that the Lord's day might never be desecrated by secular employment.

In addition to their allowed exemption from labor for their owners, by early rising to their prescribed tasks, they could gain more than ample time for all the purposes of their own culture. By this pleasant arrangement, which is usual among the planters of my acquaintance, the enterprising and industrious portion of the Negroes, by early rising, have the most, if not all of every afternoon in the cropping season to

work their own grounds; or if this is not required, to do extra work, if they choose on the plantation, for which they receive full pay. In fact, several fine fellows on my plantation, by the aid of the exemptions of their family, for months together, eat their breakfast after finishing their day's work. The Negroes prefer late breakfasts.

The cabins, or rather cottages, of all these are, at the least, as comfortable as their master's mansion; and if they are so disposed, as well supplied with extra comforts, which they are not less able than he to procure. The income of several of them this year will be not less than from \$50 to \$75.

In addition to their ample allowance of meat, bread, and vegetables, my Negroes may supply themselves at pleasure, with fish, clams, oysters, &c., or with game from the woods or shores. Their living is therefore not only abundant, but if they choose, luxurious. The ugly fear of want, they know nothing about. In a bad season, many a planter may find himself embarrassed to provide ways and means; but no such embarrassment ever reaches them. Whatever else may fail, their food and raiment must not fail, though ruin descend on the master. Nothing is more common, than a stress of circumstances in unfavorable seasons, to make it necessary for the family of whites on a plantation, to deny themselves many a common indulgence, that the Negroes may not be denied any of their usual comforts.

From "The Planter; or, 13 Years in the South," by "A Northern Man (David Brown)" (H. Hooker, Philadelphia, 1853).



I thought the show "Why Can't We Live Together?" with Tom Brokaw, was a tunnel-vision glimpse at the situation, more interested in making the host look good, than answering its own question.

Getting ignorant whites to say stupid things is just about the easiest thing to do there is. Just let them open their mouths. Why are so many whites mindlessly racist? Who benefits from white flight racism? That's what he should have been investigating.

This country was built on the backs of black slave labor. Racism has always been a basic force in the accumulation of wealth - controlled by white corporate America. The founding fathers were founding SLAVE OWNERS!! Racism exploits blacks ruthlessly and renders whites ignorant and docile, working against their own best interests - genuine human development, inter-racial understanding and co-operation and the empowerment to improve the human condition. Racism does not exempt whites from exploitation - it reconciles them to it! It also poisons their personal and social development.

Aside from native Americans, who have been genocidally marginalized, black Americans are the only true Americans. They were here the longest of any group, worked the hardest, contributed the most, culturally, spiritually, economically, socially, politically, etc. and are still oppressed to no end! Why??? It is because it is very profitable to the monied interests to rip-off blacks and have whites act as their deluded pawns. Wages are kept down through racism and worker solidarity is minimized. Racism is a basic impediment to the understanding and addressing of all of society's outstanding economic and social dilemmas. Progress comes through its abolition.

A brief look at our own history is very instructive in seeing what can be accomplished when blacks and whites work together for social advancement and why the powers that be so fear such a coalition.

Before the Civil War, a tiny number of white Abolitionists joined with blacks to struggle to destroy the slave system. Their efforts served as a catalyst which hastened the ignition of this inevitable, seminal conflict. By 1863, as ever increasing numbers of poor northern whites refused to be impressed and slaughtered, Lincoln came hat-in-hand to the Abolitionists for a solution to this quagmire. The country was nightmarishly disintegrating. They told Lincoln, at a joint session of Congress, to number one, declare the war, a war to end slavery and number two, to train and arm black soldiers to fight it. Black soldiers spearheaded the defeat of the southern armies through incredible tenacity and bravery. Thanks to them, the Union was saved.

As for the specifics of racism and housing in Chicago's south suburbs, the changing of towns from all-white to predominantly black, is a very clear example of how capitalist profits from racism. White flight, unnaturally accelerates the turn over in housing. Who profits? The banks, the mortgage companies, land speculators, the home building industry, the real estate industry, all taxing bodies and others with capital having a stake, benefit to a higher degree than they normally would because of the racist generated increased turn-over of single-family housing.

Tom Brokaw assiduously avoided to mention of this reality, I guess, so as not to step out of the parameters of allowable discourse and ruffle the feathers of corporate sponsors. I thought the dismissive treatment of nearby towns was very inadequate and rather deliberately deceptive, in order to neatly fit things into his simplified scenario. His saug holler-than-thou sense of self-importance was too much for him to disguise. He's a liberal, alright! I wonder where the hell, he lives? Probably it's a multi-million dollar enclave with ludicrously intense security. He may very well have a few black neighbors. If he does, they're millionaires too, who've long since forfeited their memberships to the black community. Maybe he plays tennis with Clarence Thomas. Big deal!

There is an inspired, radical, instructive, alternative for the understanding and explication of what racism means, does and says - and how to fight it! Modern day Abolitionists have a journal to focus their efforts around, called Race Traitor, credo is "Treason to Whiteness is Loyalty to Humanity." The best of the first four issues was compiled into book form and has recently won a National Book Award. If you desire personal intellectual enlightenment and moral development, I urge you to look into it. The book is fifteen dollars and the journal is twenty dollars for four issues. Their address is Box 603, Cambridge, Mass. 02140-0005.

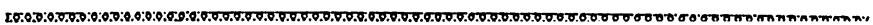


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- Struggle, Tim Hall. p.o. box 13261, Detroit, Mi. 48213-0261
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Chicago Anti-Racist Action
c/o Autonomous Zone
1573 N. Milwaukee, #420
Chicago, IL 60622 USA
773•252•6019

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June 25, 1998

Dear Comrades and Friends,

As anti-racist activists in Chicago, many of us are involved in supporting the work of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC), and its affiliated projects. Two major aims of our Puerto Rican comrades are independence for Puerto Rico, and the freedom of fifteen prisoners of war and political prisoners currently incarcerated here in the US for fighting for the freedom of their country. Those of you who attended the first ARA Delegates' Conference in Chicago during June, 1997 were able to learn more about these struggles, as the PRCC was the site for our meetings that weekend.

People affiliated with the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, along with like-minded activists around the US, are currently mobilizing for a major demonstration in Washington, DC, on July 25. This date marks the 100th anniversary of the US invasion of Puerto Rico, and has been chosen as a strategic moment to demand freedom for the prisoners and an end to 100 years of US colonialism. The attached leaflet explains further the ideas and the practical details of this activity.

We are writing you today to encourage broad participation by Anti-Racist Action groups throughout the US. A year ago, at the Delegates' Conference, the ARA Network officially endorsed a demonstration at the United Nations in New York in June of 1997, and raised nearly \$200 simply by passing the hat among delegates. It is our hope that similar support will be shown for this summer's action in Washington. We encourage all ARA chapters to send as many people as possible to DC. If you are located near any of the cities listed with contact numbers on the leaflet, please call them to find out more information about travel plans: several caravans are planned from different cities. Also, any money raised would greatly benefit the organizing efforts. Please contact the city nearest you for more information, or send it to us (checks payable to the Autonomous Zone); all money we receive will be forwarded immediately to the Chicago organizers. Chicago Anti-Racist Action plans to send several people and raise money to cover travel expenses for at least one other person from Chicago.

Please contact us if you have questions regarding ARA participation in this project. Otherwise contact the city nearest you for more information. We hope to see you in Washington on July 25.

for an end to white supremacy!
Chicago Anti-Racist Action

YOU'RE NOT NORMAL ZINE ISSUE #6
YES THE NEW ISSUE OF THIS DIY ZINE IS OUT NOW FOR \$2. THIS TIME AROUND WE
GOT INTERVIEWS WITH TCM 451, DECIMATION OF AUTHORITY, ANGEL, DIRTHEAD,
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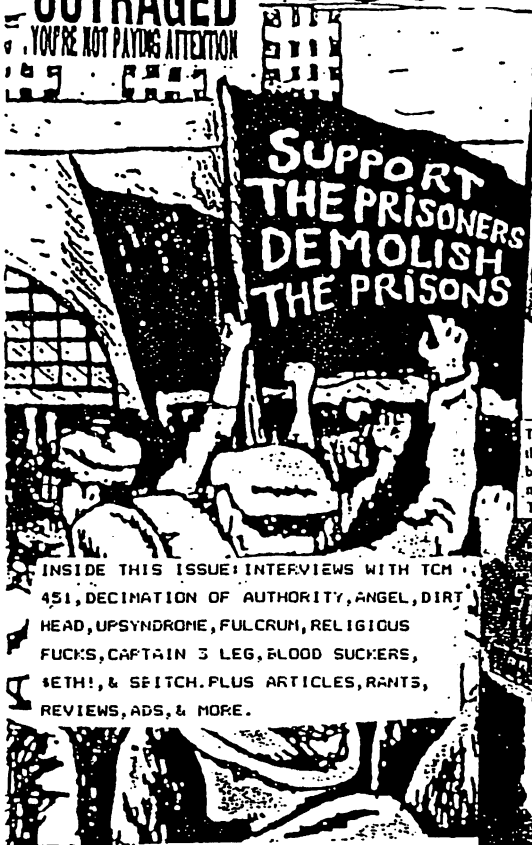
YOU'RE NOT NORMAL

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IF YOU'RE NOT
OUTRAGED
YOU'RE NOT PAYING ATTENTION

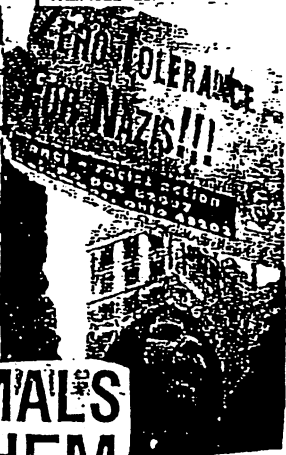
ISSUE #6

**STOP ANIMAL
TORTURE**
BOYCOTT
PROCTER & GAMBLE



This 'zine is, and always has been, inspired by the international DIY conspiracy against boredom, stupidity, and general mainstream monotony. **HOMOPHOBES CAN GO FUCK THEMSELVES!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: INTERVIEWS WITH TCM, 451, DECIMATION OF AUTHORITY, ANGEL, DIRT HEAD, UPSYNDROME, FULCRUM, RELIGIOUS FUCKS, CAPTAIN 3 LEG, BLOOD SUCKERS, 1ETH!, & SPITCH. PLUS ARTICLES, RANTS, REVIEWS, ADS, & MORE.



GET INVOLVED—
do a zine set up a show, start a band, organize a collective, make a film, make friends, go to shows, but most importantly—**DO SOMETHING!** we're always willing to help so drop us a line.

BE KIND TO ANIMALS DON'T EAT THEM



TAKE BACK YOUR LIFE DOUBLE CASSETTE COMPILATION IS FINALLY OUT ON YOU'RE NOT NORMAL RECORDS. THE BANDS ON THIS 2 HOUR COMPILATION ARE: DISPIRIT, PETROGRAD, ARMISTICE, ABSTAIN, VILENTLY ILL, DEPRESSOR, DIRTHEAD, MORBID VONIT, MORTICITE, DECIMATION OF AUTHORITY, DENIED & DESPISED, HELLNATION, DETESTATION, DEMOCRACY TEST, SUPPRESSION, SHADOWED VEIL, WARFEAR CHAOS, VIOLENT HEADACHE, STOP THE PRESSES, ERACISM, IDI AMIN, KUNG FU RICK, MAJESTIC FILTH, J.N.D., AND AGATHOCLES. THIS RELEASE ALSO COMES WITH A HALF-SIZE 32 PAGE BOOKLET FULL OF BAND INTERVIEWS, LYRICS, & ARTICLES. THIS 2 TAPE SET IS AVAILABLE FOR THE LOW PRICE OF \$5 TO: SEAN LANBERT/2835 DELAWARE AVE. APT. #11/KENMORE, NY 14217/USA

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 14217/USA. ASK FOR FREE DISTRD LIST OF DIY TAPES, ZINES, & RECORDS.



Thousands of skinned mink carcasses from the fur trade and other animal bodies fill this Montana landfill.

Welcome to the first issue of ABOLISH. This newsletter is put out by the PERSONS UNKNOWN anarchist prisoner support group. We had one previous newsletter called "Fyre In The Sky". We were on hiatus for a while, but now we are back with renewed enthusiasm. As we stated in FITS, we desperately need to raise some funds to publish literature, so we hope to accomplish this with our benefit tape THE DISGUSTING TRUTH. It features some very dedicated and committed bands like Detestation, Armistice, Victims Of Tradition, The Tribe and Decimation Of Authority. It costs \$5ppd. and comes with a lyric sheet and some other contacts for other prisoner support programs. We were very anxious to put this out, so we couldn't wait for all the bands who said they would help. So we are putting out another benefit compilation tape soon. Any interested parties please get in contact.

WAR ON DRUGS

The so-called "War on drugs" gives a tougher sentence for those caught with rock cocaine, crack and marijuana (which are most commonly found in poor, black areas) than people caught with powder cocaine and heroin (generally more "white" area drugs). So, those in poorer neighborhoods are given tougher sentences, than the good all-american white kid looking for a good time. The law takes different sides when you are different in anyway. Maybe someone should check the blindfold on the liberty statue.

TERMINOLOGY

Don't let the term "corrections" fool you. Prisons don't correct, they corrupt. Some prisons have reading programs and GED classes, but with the horrible re-occurring trend of chain gangs in Alabama and the attempt of privatization of prisons to turn out manufactured goods. Where does this lead the prisoner? How does menial work get a person to leave a life of crime? The truth is, it doesn't and it pushes them closer to that second time around in jail.

That is all. We should be doing these more regularly, so drop us a line and buy our tape.

PERSONS UNKNOWN

PO Box 4501
Crofton, MD 21114

Any group of people who are vegetarians or vegans and who carry out actions according to A.L.F. guidelines have the right to regard themselves as part of the A.L.F.



art by Jeff Sanders



Beeples rescued from a laboratory. Beeples by the A.L.F.

ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT GUIDELINES

The Animal Liberation Front carries out direct action against animal abuse in the form of rescuing animals and causing financial loss to animal exploiters, usually through the damage and destruction of property. Their short term aim is to save as many animals as possible and directly disrupt the practice of animal abuse. Their long term aim is to end all animal suffering by forcing animal abuse companies out of business. It is a nonviolent campaign, activists taking all precautions not to harm any animal (human or otherwise). Because A.L.F. actions are against the law, activists work anonymously, either in small groups or individually, and do not have any centralized organization or coordination.

How Does it Make YOU Feel?

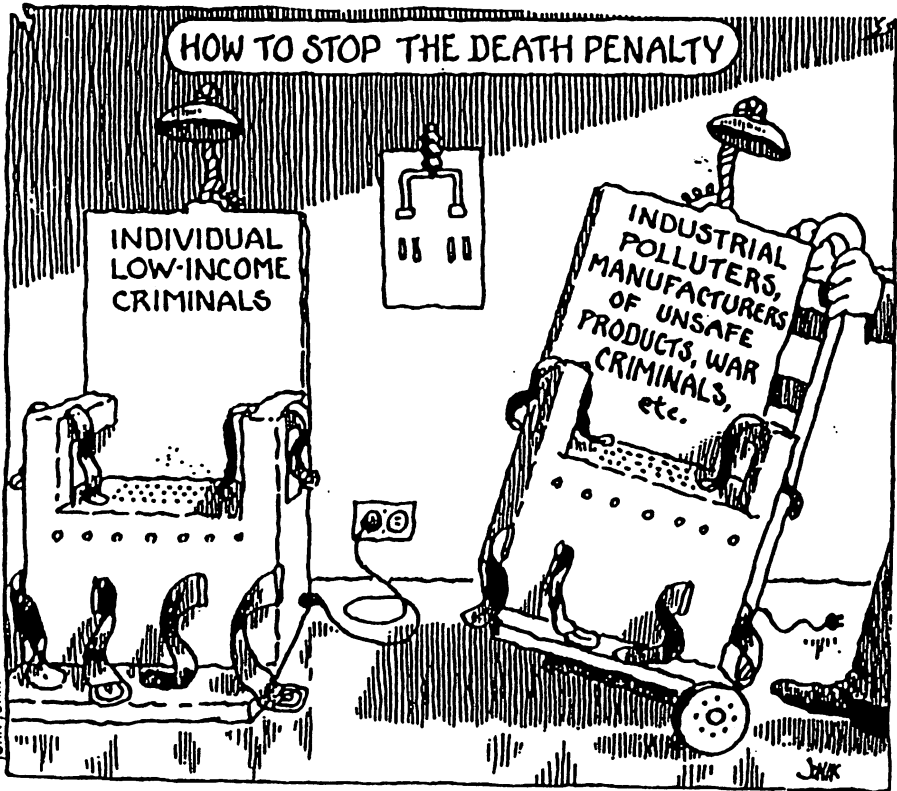
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RACE

'Two Societies'

THIRTY YEARS AGO, THE Kerner Commission on Civil Disorders warned: "Our nation is moving toward two societies, one black, one white—separate and unequal." A 30th-anniversary update, prepared by the Eisenhower Foundation and due for release March 1, identifies some progress since 1968, but concludes that the "prophecy has come to pass." Some evidence:

- The unemployment rate for

young men in inner cities is over 30 percent; the national rate is under 5 percent.

- The U.S. income gap has widened to the point that the top 1 percent of Americans have more wealth than the bottom 90 percent. The poor are disproportionately African-American and Hispanic.

- One in three young black men is in prison, on probation or on parole.

- States now spend more per year on prisons than on higher education. Ten years ago the spending priorities were reversed.



ASSOCIATED PRESS P

Students from the Bandung Institute of Technology burn a table in front of the campus Tuesday in West Java. About 1,000 students called for economic reforms and demanded President Suharto's resignation

Police fire into crowd, kill six at Indonesia student protest

President Suharto keeps his word to use force in response to unrest.

By Ali Kotarumalo
Associated Press Writer

JAKARTA, Indonesia — President Suharto's security forces finally made brutal reality Tuesday out of his threats to crush growing unrest, firing live ammunition into throngs of student protesters in Jakarta. Six students died before the eyes of their horrified companions.

At least 16 other people were wounded, some seriously, doctors and university professors said. It was by far the toughest police action yet in weeks of intensifying protests sparked by the worst economic cri-

sis of Suharto's 32-year rule.

Witnesses said officers fired continuously for several minutes — first rubber bullets, then real ones — after students beat up an undercover intelligence agent sent to spy on them.

"The police went crazy. They beat us up. They chased everybody while others were firing," said Iwan Karimun, an economics student.

The killings were likely to set off a backlash against the 76-year-old leader, whom much of the nation holds accountable for soaring prices and joblessness.

So far, the retired five-star army general, now attending an international conference in Egypt, has resisted mounting pressure at home and abroad for democratic reform.

Last week, Suharto warned that police and military troops would use

force to quell unruly student protests.

Hundreds of police surrounded the Trisakti campus after nightfall as grieving family members identified the dead at the Sumber Weast Hospital morgue.

A long line of students later paid their respects to the dead as others showed reporters casings from which they said was live ammunition.

"The student protests will go on and might become bigger," said the university's law dean, Adi Andjoo, a retired Supreme Court judge.

Student leaders in Jakarta and other cities vowed large-scale protests in response to Tuesday's bloodshed.

And at least two protesters were injured when police shot tear gas and plastic bullets into a crowd of 300 people in the Kupang.

Judges get more power ^{SO} to crack down on youths

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — Judges will have new tools to discipline young lawbreakers under a bill that has cleared its final legislative hurdle.

It will allow judges to impose both adult and juvenile sentences on young offenders. The adult sentence would be suspended and later erased if offenders obey all the terms of the juvenile sentence. The adult sentence would take effect if they run afoul of the law.

The dual-sentence provision is part of a 300-page bill aimed at revamping the juvenile justice system, which critics say is too easy on young criminals.

The Legislature passed the bill in February, but Gov. Jim Edgar proposed some changes in an amendatory veto last month.

Edgar said the bill would slap harsher adult sentences even on youngsters who commit small violations, such

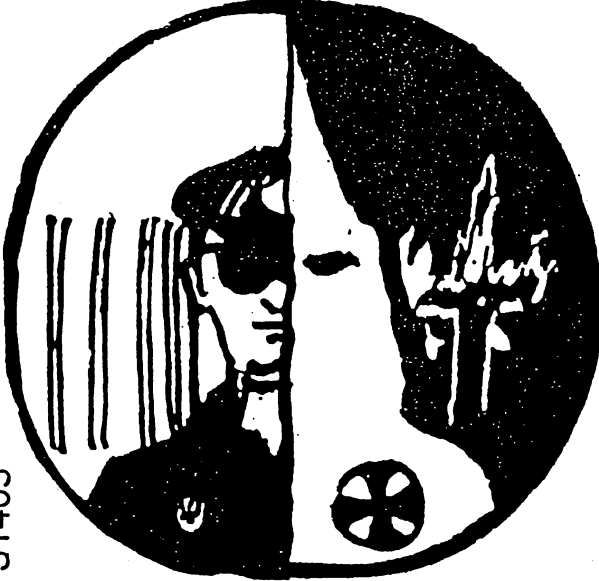
as missing an appointment with a probation officer in the new version, the governor gave more discretion to judges in such cases.

The Senate accepted Edgar's changes 57-0 two weeks ago and the House followed suit Monday, 112-0. The law will take effect Jan. 1, said Edgar spokesman John Wilber.

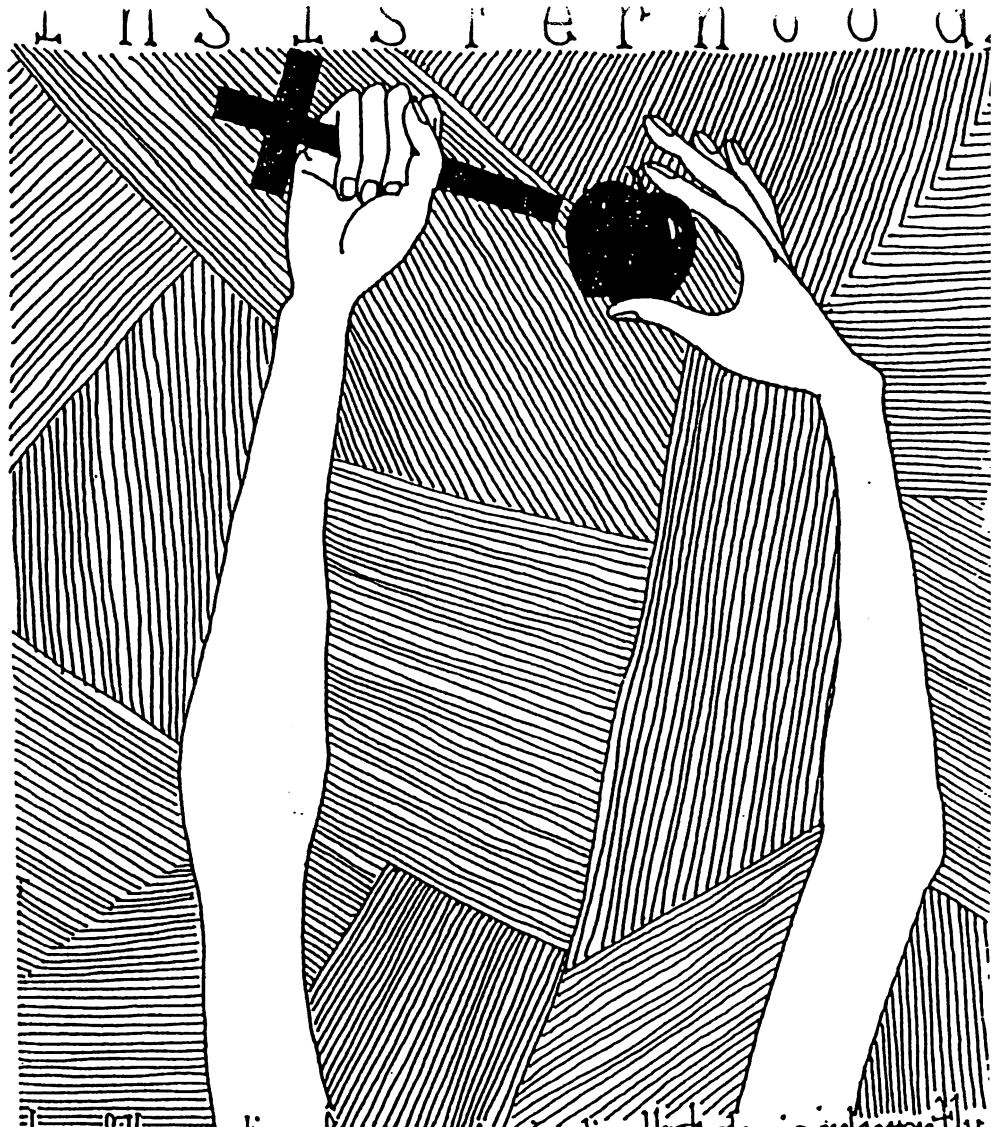
The bill also creates mediation panels to bring non-violent offenders face-to-face with their victims. So the penalties would be linked directly to the crime, such as making a youngster paint a garage the youth had defaced with graffiti.

Other provisions increase the maximum probation from 19 to 21, create a statewide database to track juvenile offenders and extend victims' rights laws to victims of juvenile crime.

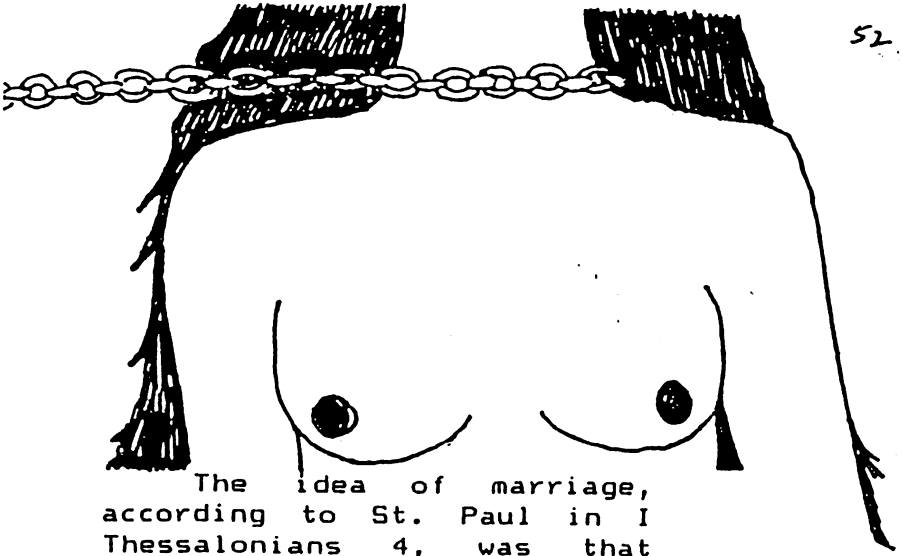
Raze the Walls!
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Sheriff wants half-cent tax for new jail



story of the creation of woman also implies that she is inherently inferior to man. the story of the Fall proves her moral weakness. the serpent misleads the woman, as the less intelligent; and then she misleads her husband. Thus the woman is the cause of human misery. what follows is proof: quotes from the bible that teach hatred against women. for centuries women have tried to prove their worth and been denied on the grounds that humans created only as helpers are not entitled to rights. what follows is "proof"



The idea of marriage, according to St. Paul in I Thessalonians 4, was that everyone should "possess his vessel in sanctification and honor". "Possessing one's vessel" unfortunately is for many Bible readers a formulation of the husband's relationship to his wife: she is a passive object, providing only necessary relief of his physical desires. After all:

8 For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. 9 Neither was the man created for the women; but the woman for the man.

(The above is from I Corinthians 11) I want to find the humor in this so badly, after all, it's absurd, but instead I find myself trembling with anger. All I can do is find out more and spread the word. So, don't believe it. If you need the Bible, then take it, but don't take it literally, women are not inferior, to men or anyone. Women were not created from or for man.

The state of Illinois is spending tons (of our) money trying to bulldoze and pave over everything! Instead of trying to facilitate natural growth or standing by and leaving us be, the state sees fit to bully the citizens with massive sprawl projects - forcing "development" down our throats and lowering the quality of our lives.

This pave over the cornfields, concrete pouring, strip mall making, neighborhood abandoning, pollution generating agenda, has got to be stopped! Enough already! Fix the roads, bridges, trains and airports you already have. Make life livable for people in existing communities. Don't build an airport that is not needed and won't be used! These projects only benefit the construction firms creating these concrete/asphalt gridlock suburban nightmares. Funny how they happen to be the main campaign contributors, isn't it? The disgrace of letting speculators run roughshod over the land is no longer tolerable! This relentless drive for profits at the expense of everything else, coupled with the collapse of the educational system, a legitimate sense of community and connectedness, offers for our children's future, little besides a polluted, commercialized, alienation and an overcrowded prison cell.

Do you enjoy watching your home getting bulldozed? The state is doing it to people! "Eminent domain" they call it. Or maybe, you'll just have to spend thousands to soundproof your house. Start planning on spending the rest of your lives indoors, however. The shrieking aerial assault of a nearby airport ought to do wonders for your breathing, your nerves and your kids' ability to concentrate in school, as the unregulated air pollution soothes your throat! Maybe you enjoy loud truck traffic and passenger car congestion. Perhaps it's the franchise sameness and glut of advertising to keep us from experiencing a natural, human life, that you find so stimulating!

The "progress" the state proposes is actually its opposite. The state is in fact, the largest contributor to the decline of our society! People must take matters into their own hands and begin to build for a sane future. The weapons of mass construction must be neutralized by grassroots efforts.

Thankfully, proposals and ideas are being offered for consideration. The state, of course, turns an arrogant, dismissive ear to them. The politicians are strangely deaf (although never mute!) We either have to force them to seriously listen and act upon these ideas (exasperatingly difficult under a system where the politicians are strung out on campaign money and are in the pocket of big business,) or we need to cashier them, ala Aldo. We need leaders with a strong commitment to the genuine needs of their fellow citizens and not under the grip of fat cats looking for huge construction contracts.

Grassroots groups are forming like, well, wildfire! Parents are finding

Ruin forests

themselves having to take over the funding responsibilities from school officials, 54
mired in layers of bureaucracy and inadequate funding from the state (while
the state boasts of massive revenue surpluses!) The state, tied up in knots by the
suffocating influence of millions of laws, restrictions, qualifiers, regulations and
rules, can't find a way to adequately return the tax money we send them. So,
they find ways to squander it, while they enrich themselves and their big shot
buddies.

There are groups fighting polluters, who are dumping many kinds of poisons
into our air, water, food and soil. Other citizens monitor companies and
government who can't be trusted to do anything but steal and pollute. Sadly,
the system we are presently stuck with is not based on honesty or need, but
rather greed and legalized theft.

The committed citizens need to take it upon themselves to become involved
in solutions. Complaining or trying to ignore the situation, plays into the
stumblebum hands of our politicians and the merciless corporations causing our
problems (as they realize soaring, record profits.) Join and contribute to one or
more of many grassroots groups working for local livability. Empower yourself!
Feelings of helplessness and fear will vanish, once you set to work and start
making a difference. Join groups fighting off landfills, dumps, incinerators,
and potentially catastrophic nuclear power plants. We must stop poisoning our
world and relearn how to live harmoniously with what we have. More and
more "things" mean nothing when the world can no longer breathe! Building
super highways to oblivion while the fossil fuels run out, is no sane future.
Wasting and discarding communities is really nothing short of massive criminal
activity and should not be tolerated! This whole mindset of disposable
everything does not portend a viable future. If you love your children and their
children, you will stand up and fight for their future!!!

We need to leave our children an ecologically sound, environmentally
friendly, livable world in which to experience life in all of its wonder. At the
present rate of the abandonment of established neighborhoods, to pave over
cornfields, while pollution goes unchecked and finite resources of clean air,
water, forests, mineral deposits, etc., are ravaged without regard to the future,
solely to maximize profits for a very few well-connected companies, while the
schools and infrastructure get neglected into deterioration, while the prison
population soars, is the ticket for societal disaster!

There are ways to fight for your own dignity, sane solutions to grave and
complex problems and help insure a legitimate future for our children. There
are many awful social cancers that must be addressed and overcome to
strengthen these people-powered efforts. Racism, sexism, homophobia -
bigotry of every stripe must be meticulously studied and overcome. These are
really tools of the state to keep citizens from realizing their full potential. We
must rise above these scourges and include all of our citizens in workable;

Rogers Park ARA

legitimate solutions. All these restrictions and laws of the state are hinderances to progress. They are in place, so the system of theft stays in place and the rich can get richer. Let's not forget. This country was founded on human slavery, where only white, male, land owners could vote and make decisions. Today's mess is a direct result of our undemocratic history! Don't expect the state to provide solutions when they've been the source of the problems and the main impediment to recliying them! These days the "upper" 1% controls more than the "lower" 90%! This outrageous gap is widening, daily. They don't care about us. They do control the government, business, the courts and police apparatus, though. Do they care about human beings???. Remember the hundreds of billions of dollars (of tax-payer money) that was bequeathed by the stroke of the legislative pen for the rapacious savings and loan, recently? Just the other day, I read that some guy was given 38 years in prison for stealing four cookies!!! It's not too difficult to figure out for whom this system is set up and who has to work and pay for the privileged few! To fight this menace and work toward a sane future is the responsibility of every citizen. The system is not fair, but that is the reality we are stuck with and we have to deal with it. It may very well be, that we may soon have to prepare the tea for dumping into the harbor!

Join a grassroots group, fighting the good fight for all of us! Don't just stew in your anger, rage and sense of helplessness. Funnel that energy creatively and usefully. It can be done! Don't let the powers that be convince you that nothing can be done and this world can't be changed for the better! A genuine commitment to an honest effort is the first step. The more you learn, think and do, the easier it becomes to realize your creative gifts and self-generating powerfulness! You will be amazed at how much good you can do, and how others will respond to your leadership. You will learn valuable knowledge as to how the system works (or doesn't,) how individuals can have a strong impact upon creating real citizen-friendly solutions, as you gain self-respect, confidence and a sense of solidarity with others fighting, too.

At these times of societal decline, our duty as citizens is more crucial than ever. We have to do it, ourselves. We cannot rely on the government to see to it that progress is achieved. They have failed! It is our turn to roll up our sleeves and provide genuine leadership, direction, proposals and a legitimate sense of purpose. We are not beholden to campaign contributors, PAC money, the addiction of office-holding, corruption, greed or out-of-control egotism.

It is up to you! You can complain and do nothing as this society slowly goes down the drain, or you can get involved, discover talents you never dreamed you possessed and meet inspiring, committed people, working for honest, workable solutions.

We have an over-riding obligation to insure a legitimate future for our children - or die trying! Join, call, write to, contribute, support and work with one of these grassroots groups fighting for dignity and our sovereign rights. LET'S GO!



Airport land

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In response to the editorial on April 1 about the airport, I would say the real beneficiaries of the city's efforts to block the Peotone plan are the forest preserves, Monee Reservoir, the surrounding towns and the people who live there.

This is not open space, ripe for exploitation, but rather, legitimately cared for land. It is maintained in an environmentally respectful manner. Some people earn their livelihood from this land and have for generations. We should think about how the government forced the Native American people off their land. First the Indians and now the farmers and homesteaders. Who will be the next victims?

Supposedly this is being done for the "public good." Well, I know what is good for me — seeing politicians who promote dumb ideas being fired by their constituents.

Michael W. Bernard
Crete



**Napalm
train tracks
back to
California**

Anti-Sprawl

Shut This Airport Nightmare Down
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FROM PEOTONE TO GABRINI - STOP FORCED RELOCATION

The state is trying to bulldoze homes and farms for an unwanted, unneeded airport and tollroad down in Will County. Meanwhile, the city is bulldozing housing and evicting citizens, living in Chicago.

The tax dollars wasted on these boondoggle construction projects are sorely needed to rebuild communities, create affordable housing, genuine health care, useful jobs, legitimate education and improve local transportation needs!

The bulldoze and pave over the farmlands agenda of land speculators and powerful construction firms lowers the quality of the residents lives, just as the city is doing to the citizens of color, creating more homelessness, so that the land can be "redeveloped."

Forced evictions without the input of affected citizens is wrong and must be stopped by a united coalition of similarly beseiged grassroots groups!

Smart growth alternatives, such as improving existing infrastructure, strengthening the freight systems, support for the agricultural sector and protecting regional open-space assets are being proposed. This Citizen's Plan provides for useful projects, needed by citizens, from our tax dollars.

STAND (Shut This Airport Nightmare Down) p.o. box 433, Monee, IL 60449
South Chicago ARA (Anti-Racist Action) p.o. box 721, Homewood, IL 60430

"Don't go there. They'll catch! Those black people carjack, steal, rob, kill, beat, rape and account ya!"

"What are you saying? That they're not human beings?"

"Don't you watch the news? They're nothing but trouble. Stay away from there! Stick with your own. You can't trust 'em, out there."

"You're sick. You sound like a Nazi propagandist getting the troops psyched up to invade Russia. Should we organize into armies and go kill all these people, or what???"

"Don't get me wrong. I'm not prejudiced or nothing. But believe me. For your own good. Those people can't be trusted. Stay away from 'em!"

"Those people' are human beings who love their children, work hard, suffer immensely with great dignity, are surprisingly decent under the onslaught of this pervasive racism, experience their emotions honestly and don't return Whitey's sick paranoia and fear. They don't hate blindly, like you!"

"I told you. I'm not prejudiced. I watch sports. It's the nineties. There's no discrimination. They got it better than us, now. They won't work. They want welfare. They disrespect whites, drive fancy cars, and don't care how they live. They're all on dope."

"No, you're not prejudiced. You're just Buck Stupid! I'm supposed to believe all this garbage and that's gonna enhance the quality of my life? So, if I have this major flaw in my character, that being to willingly allow my brain, heart and soul to be poisoned by racism, this is going to improve my life? So, the U.S. goes to Iraq, kills everybody and starves the rest, we cheer like morons and then we worry about and fear what the "Black People" are gonna do? That's utterly insane! It sounds like the recipe for societal suicide, to me! You and all your 'not prejudiced' friends are diseased!"

"You listen to that black music too much. Look atcha! You're turning against your own kind."

"No, pal. They are my own kind! It's called the human race. Being a racist only serves one purpose. It divides workers and keeps them from uniting to confront their real enemies."

"Who's our 'real' enemy? We killed off all the Comies!"

"Dad, who laid off half the guys at your plant? Why is the company off to Mexico?"

"It's those damn Japanese! And the Mexicans takin' all the jobs. We gotta send 'em all back!"

"Dad, your boss is your enemy. And his boss. I'm not gonna believe this stupid crap, if for no other reason, I want truth to beat in my heart! I want logic and reason to reign in my brain. I'm not gonna hate blacks. I'm gonna love blacks! I'm gonna learn from blacks! I'll be a human being to them and enjoy their company. I'm gonna join with them whenever I can. They're for real. Why should I limit myself to the cesspool of 'white' culture and what goes as 'thought'? I want to be fully human, not some whining, ignorant, knee-jerk racist fool! I'm not gonna accept racism as a guiding principle in my life. You know how returning Vietnam veterans threw away their medals, like the draft-dodgers burned their draft cards? Well, I'm through! I'm not 'white' anymore, Dad! I want to grow!"

"We've lost you. You'll have to move out. Get out! I knew this would happen! It's 'cuz you listen to all that 'black' crap!"

"Yeah, I know. The house of cards falls when you finally get a glimmer of the real truth. Shove your 'Big Lie,' Dad. I hope you can crawl out of that anti-human filth, someday soon. Goodbye, Dad."

Knowledge Is Power

I work at a day camp in a not-so-poor suburb of Chicago. There we often let the kids draw pictures of things of their choice. One little boy chose to draw a swastika. Another counselor questioned him as to what that meant and he replied, "It means people who kill people." Apparently his 16 year old brother taught him to draw that symbol which brainwashes his young 7 year old mind.

The scary part is that this boy looks up to his brother. He follows his example and thinks that a swastika is a good symbol and will keep drawing it. The boy is misinformed and that could lead to much worse problems when he gets older. That is why it is important for kids to learn right away that it is not cool to be ignorant. It is the responsibility of people everywhere to teach children to be open-minded and empower them with education.

Unifire

by Bridget Kevin

July 1, 98



We are all but one in the same
destined at birth to venture through life
upon its unknown path
Its triumphs, Its defeats
like the stars, although each one different,
We come together as one to form an entire galaxy -
HUMANITY

We all taste the Sweetness of love upon our lips,
the bitterness of sorrow which leaves a bad taste upon our tongue
inside every human, beats a heart
contained full of emotion
a mind, with visions and dreams
we all feel the sting of anger in our eyes
the dizziness of confusion, as it lingers in our brains
the tickle of laughter dancing in our throats,
the hope for our children. the hope for our lives
the hope for tomorrow
today, we come together in a peaceful battle
against the utter stupidity of

HATRED
IGNORANCE
RACISM

hand in hand, we take these steps closer to
UNITY
as we are all but one in the same