

# Prof. Pitts comments: 'Low-grade civil war'

By JESSE PITTS  
Oakland University

Of course there is no connection between race and crime. If blacks are overrepresented in blue collar crime, it is because, in the large cities, they make up the bulk of the underclass.

In Maine, the bulk of the underclass is French-Canadian or Indian. And 120 years ago, the Irish made up the bulk of the underclass.

Normally, Mexicans would displace blacks from that unenviable spot within the next 15 years or so—except, as I mentioned last week, that many Mexicans may be saved from the temptations of underclass life by their "illegal" status.

AMONG THE reasons for the great upsurge in street criminality from 1964-65, there is one which has to do with race: the social movement known as Black Power, which reached the take-off stage about that same time.

What happened was a sort of moral secession of the northern black community from the United States. The Black Power movement spawned some dedicated personalities, selfless, ready to risk their lives for black pride and black advancement. But it also had its profiteers and its scoundrels.

During the 1960s, any black man pursued by the white police could often find shelter in honest homes on the basis of racial solidarity—and this whether he was a militant or (more frequently) a thief on the run.

Martin Luther King had said that the white community owed the black people \$30 billion of pre-inflation dollars. Many petty crooks decided to collect this overdue debt themselves.

In the late '60s, at least 65 per cent of the armed robberies in Detroit were committed by blacks, and more than 60 per cent of their victims were white. Whites were chosen because they were thought to be carrying more cash but also, I suspect, because they were defined as the enemy camp. It gave robbery a touch of Robin Hood redistribution of the wealth.

Crime became a sort of low-grade

civil war, where whites were uncertain of their rights and ridden with guilt—particularly those whites who lived in the better suburbs and who write the TV shows. Furthermore, the likelihood of going to jail for any street crime fell by more than half.

THANKS TO black militancy, white guilt, economic growth and some legal help from the federal government, blacks have made great progress, especially those who were able to secure some college education. Most of them have rejoined the Union. The atmosphere of civil war has largely disappeared. Whites do not feel so guilty. Blacks are not so tense about their pride.

As whites fled the city, black thieves fell back more and more on stealing from their more prosperous brothers. Honest folk do not respond as much to the claims of black solidarity made by thieves on the run.

The police force, in fact, is not so white anymore. It is learning to concentrate, with the help of the courts, on the career criminals, who account for probably half the street crime. The targets have hardened. The citizens seem to support more their local police.

Other factors, such as urban and school decay, are not so favorable. Nevertheless, who knows? The re-imposition of social control over the underclass may be accomplished, and with it street crime may come down.

QUESTION for the students: If racial tension can increase the incidence of blue-collar crime, what about class or ethnic tensions, or tensions between the young and old? Would this explanation apply to white-collar crime?

## One moment, please

America's first transcontinental telephone call was made Jan. 25, 1915, between two pioneers in the field. Alexander Graham Bell, in New York City, repeated his famous "Come here, Watson, I need you" to his aide, Thomas Watson. Watson responded in San Francisco, almost 3,000 miles away.

## Gin theft

Eli Whitney's model for the cotton gin was stolen and manufactured by unscrupulous businessmen before he obtained a patent.



**Valentine's Day Special**  
**Save 30 to 50% on Diamond Stud Earrings**

From \$2495 to \$699.00

**GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES**

Diamond Ear Studs set in 14 Kt. Gold. Today's most fashionable look at special low prices. Perfect for double piercing or wear them alone.

SIZE (pair wt.)	REGULAR	SALE PRICE
.04 ct.	50.00	24.95
.10 ct.	100.00	65.00
.16 ct.	150.00	99.00
.25 ct.	250.00	149.00
.50 ct.	500.00	350.00
1 ct.	1,100.00	699.00

Matching pendants and larger sizes available at similar savings.

## 30 Day Money Back Guarantee

# CONNOLLY'S

4 WAYS TO SHOP • Visit Our Stores  
PHONE 652-4440 • By Mail  
ORDERS 375-9100 • By Phone

**TWO LOCATIONS**

DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER 414 Walnut Blvd. 652-4440

MEADOWSBROOK VILLAGE MALL Walton Blvd. at Adams Rd. 375-9100

**MAIL ORDER COUPON**

Please send EARRINGS (SIZE)

☐ .04 ct. ☐ .10 ct. ☐ .16 ct. ☐ .25 ct. ☐ .50 ct. ☐ 1 ct.

☐ 14 Kt. WHITE GOLD ☐ 14 Kt. YELLOW GOLD

Enclosed is Check or Money Order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ALL ORDERS SHIPPED BY REGISTERED MAIL WITH INSURANCE

Or charge to my ☐ Charge Card or ☐ VISA

CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

# The Pine Lake Mall is Rolling Again



Exciting things are happening at the Pine Lake Mall. New management. New stores and services. New promotions.

You're really going to enjoy shopping at the Pine Lake Mall. (Especially if you think shopping centers should be scenes not herds.)

And if you're a merchant looking for a great new location, see us — this mall is really going to get rolling.

**Pine Lake Mall**  
CORNER OF ORCHARD LAKE & LONE PINE RDS.

For leasing information, call Kenneth Raznick Company, Inc. (313) 353-6600 brokers protected

## Men 30, women 1

A typographical error in Prof. Pitts' article last week made the prison population ratio of men to women 3-1. The correct figure is 30-1.

# Don't just fly to Florida. ENJOY DELTA



Enjoy steak and champagne in Tourist. Were serving free champagne to adults in Tourist on all winter nonstops from Detroit to Florida, including our thrifty Night Coaches. You also get a sizzling charbroiled filet mignon on all brunch nonstops.



Enjoy a "Suntan" Dream Vacation. 8 days, 7 nights, \$96 to \$285 plus air fare. Includes Miami Beach or Ft. Lauderdale hotel, extras, too. Price depends on where you stay. Add applicable taxes. Effective to April 15, 1978.

Enjoy Delta's money-saving fares. No other airline beats our low fares to Florida. Fly any night without restrictions and save 20% off regular Day Tourist on Delta's Night Coaches.

Enjoy the expert service of your Travel Agent who'll help you plan a great vacation, make your Delta reservations, handle all the other details. You can also get your flight reservations by calling Delta at 355-3200. Delta and your Travel Agent accept all major general-purpose credit cards.



**Delta is ready when you are**

Enjoy extra comfort on Delta's Wide-Ride L-1011 TriStars. You fly in a livelier room, cabin that's a full 8 feet high and almost 19 feet wide. With your own re-channel stereo.



Enjoy service by the Delta professionals, like Flight Attendant Janis Prater, below.



Enjoy choosing your Delta flight from Detroit.

To Miami 10:00am and 10:00pm are Delta's nonstop times. You can also fly straight thru on two other daily flights. Day Tourist and Night First Class \$117, Night Tourist \$94.

To Ft. Lauderdale Our 9:30am nonstop is the only TriStar going. And our Night Coach nonstop is a thrifty \$94. Day Tourist and Night First Class \$117.

To Tampa/St. Pete Take the only Wide-Ride TriStars—nonstop at 10:05am or 10:00pm, or one-stop thru at 5:35pm. Day Tourist and Night First Class \$105, Night Tourist \$84.

To Orlando/Walt Disney World Join us for brunch on our 10:15am nonstop. Or choose from six other flight-times a day. Day Tourist and Night First Class \$103, Night Tourist \$82.

West Palm Beach The only thru-jets going. Leave at 10:05am. Or take our Night Coach thru-jet at 10:00pm for only \$80. Other flight-times, too. Day Tourist and Night First Class \$113.

All fares, service and tour rates subject to change without notice. Vacation accommodations subject to availability during certain holiday periods; rates are per person, double occupancy.

# 103 Sales

Find savings of 10% and 20% in all 103 settings of Drexel and Heritage at Gorman's Troy.



Sale No. 48: Bishopsgate, by Drexel.

The look of Old England, that's Bishopsgate. It's a warm, relaxed style in richly grained oak. And now, this beautiful bedroom setting is at these beautiful 20% savings.

- Dresser..... now \$510
- Mirror..... now \$148
- Night Stand..... now \$220
- Door Chest..... now \$535
- Double Bed..... now \$223

**GORMAN'S TROY**  
The Drexel Heritage Showcase

1465 W. Big Beaver Road at Crooks Road, Troy. • Phone 649-2070  
Open Daily 10 to 6, Mon., Thurs., Fri. 11 to 9, Sat. 10 to 5:30.