

Moratorium Debate: Pride Vs. Improper Propaganda

Moratorium Lights Pride

EDITOR:
As I sat at the War Moratorium Conference at Schoolcraft College last Wednesday, I could not help but register, perhaps instinctively, in my mind that here certainly was a reason to be proud of my white, suburban neighbors.

The social flaccid (racial shared learning, sex education) coupled with our monetary preoccupation as evidenced in school millage defeats had soured me to the point where I was morally ashamed of my fellow "over 30" suburban brothers.

The sincere response to the three evening speakers was evidenced by our much berated and misunderstood young people of today. They, with their mod fashions, long hair, and abundant love for mankind, are our real hope for the future of this country. I only hope we all listen to what they have to say.

RAY POSTER,
Livonia

Mother Protests Teacher's Action

EDITOR:
I have sent the following letter to the Plymouth Board of Education:

Dear Members,

Can you tell me, please, by what authority a teacher in the Plymouth school system can decide not to hold a home economics class and instead substitute a slide presentation on Vietnam?

This is what happened last Wednesday in Plymouth High, and I do not like it. I sent my 15-year-old daughter to school to attend, along with all her other classes, her home economics class. I did this with parental authority and I do not wish this authority circumvented by ANY teacher.

The idea of a supposedly adult teacher playing on the

emotions of a 15-year-old child with a slide presentation such as this to win her over to the teacher's point of view on Vietnam is revolting. I pay this teacher's salary to teach home economics not for an hour of political indoctrination.

Please see that my prerogative as a parent is not again usurped in this manner.

MRS. EILEEN COOK,
Plymouth

What Next For Catholics?

EDITOR:

Just an answer to some of these Catholic people that are so much in favor of the kids going to their aid and think they have the right to judge and call people bigots for not supporting aid.

You already have bus service which is unconstitutional. You use public schools now and get bus transportation from your private school to the public school. You receive book and food aid.

What I am wondering is not just aid to your school but what will you next because you think your sons and daughters are something else.

Let me tell you that there are three families on our street that don't show our family an example that they learn about God and the love of your neighbor. I think this is the answer. When private school students show that they really are better trained and brought up I'll gladly pay for their education.

PHILLIP A. STEWART
Redford

Library Staff Says Thanks

EDITOR:

All members of the Livonia Library Commission and I want to thank you and the Livonia Observer staff for the wonderful library page in the Oct. 8 edition.

The photographs and text on the page were excellent and well balanced. This type of public exposure will certainly help the library and the community.

STANLEY BIEN
Chief Librarian, Livonia

Do You Need Library Card?

EDITOR:

Your article, "Too much study might mean ineffective learning," in the Sept. 17 issue, I found very enlightening.

Imagine my surprise when I continued reading about the library. Have you been to your neighborhood library with your children lately?

Livonia, Michigan 48152

Dearborn Heights and surrounding areas do not use library cards and haven't for years.

Let's get our communities on the right track with correct information. We'll be glad to

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words.

Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.

Please type or write plainly.

The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

give you a tour of our library at any time.

MRS. LOUIS KOVACK
Wayne-Westland Library

EDITOR'S NOTE: The lady librarian has a point. The article was a general information piece, which was why parents were advised to check on library card requirements. But it is not often that the individual person has or takes the opportunity to serve his fellow man. Just such an opportunity came when I became quite disgusted with our school board and educational leaders.

I was very convinced then and am still convinced now that they were punishing our children and their parents for failing to pass a millage. That punishment taking the form of half-day classes.

I contacted a local Livonia attorney, Ken Morris and his associate James McCarthy, and asked them to look into the legality of half-day schooling. By now it is history that there were others in Livonia who were also concerned about our children and half-day classes.

I was quite convinced that because Mr. Morris was a local citizen who had several children that would be put on half-days he would obviously be more concerned and would frankly do a better job.

The past events have of course proved that I was right, it was the Morris-McCarthy legal briefs on which Judge Kaufman made his historic decision.

I am quite knowledgeable on this subject as I was the only Livonia who was concerned enough to be at the appeal hearing and also the Court of Appeals hearing in Lansing.

I want the people of Livonia to know that these two attorneys, Morris, McCarthy (who is not a resident but is a very concerned parent) and myself have expended our own funds to perpetuate the case to the point it is at now.

I am now not only disgusted with our school board and educational leaders but I am very disappointed with the letters of

a group called Livonia Parents For Education.

They have openly stated their displeasure at the fact that there were two lawsuits even though the judge's decision was not based on their attorneys' complaint.

They have held rally after rally asking the citizens to donate money to pay for the legal fees involved in taking our school board to court. I was pleased to see the people turn out and give generously to such a worthy cause.

What disturbs me most of all are the rallies which were held after Judge Kaufman joined the two lawsuits, the money that was collected and the fact that the people were not told that these rallies that they now had four attorneys, not two, representing them (the people of Livonia) in their fight with the school board.

Yet this group claims no political motives and claims that their only concern is that our children go to school full days and have asked people to donate money toward this end (twice since the suits were joined).

They have not in any way called or even offered Mr. Morris or Mr. McCarthy any compensation even though the legal papers necessary for the appeal and the court hearing in Lansing were filed by these two attorneys. Even the Supreme Court hearing papers, which I delivered to Lansing personally, to the Supreme Court, attorney general, the Court of Appeals and Robert Thrall, the school board attorney, were all prepared by attorneys Morris and McCarthy.

I got involved because I believe that our school board is wrong and that they are showing extreme bad faith with the people of Livonia, stating that their perpetuation of a costly lawsuit will lead to state control of our schools. This is a lot of hogwash and they know it.

The plain truth is this: This just would not happen. They would not back down on their decision to punish the kids and to let us know that they are the boss.

The only exception to this is the obvious actions of Trustee John Stymek. Had Mr. Utton and the board really wanted to, your kids and mine could have been back on full days long before now.

DALE WELLING
Livonia

Parochial Foes Blast Stempien

EDITOR:

"Citizens Against Parochialism" are thoroughly disappointed by State Rep. Marvin Stempien's intersecting partisan politics into the issue of parochialism.

We conducted our petition drive on a strictly non-partisan level. No person was ever asked his political or religious preference for we feel that parochialism is an issue of concern to all citizens.

Unfortunately, State Rep. Stempien has seen fit to discount and belittle over 10,000 signatures and the efforts of the citizens against parochialism by launching a personal attack on our committee chairman, Robert Swanson.

Our state representative by his attack has chosen to ignore the fact that over two-thirds of the people contacted oppose parochialism. In our opinion, he has avoided the fundamental purpose of our scheduled meeting.

At 9 a.m. the agreed meeting time, our committee was prepared to present our petitions. However, for reasons

unknown, our state representative delayed his appearance for several minutes although he had been in a nearby room for some time. It was his decision to delay.

When the TV cameras were brought in to cover the House Education Committee hearings, Rep. Stempien then appeared and demanded that the press be excluded during the presentation of the petitions. We felt that it was improper to exclude the press and deny the public their right to be informed.

We then asked our State Sen. George Kuhn, who was also present, if he felt the same as our state representative or if he would be willing to accept the petition to front of the press. Sen. Kuhn stated that he had no objection to the presence of the press and accompanied us into the meeting room.

While the petitions were being presented to Sen. Kuhn, our state representative was in the hallway being willingly interviewed on television.

Between his TV interviews,

Rep. Stempien entered the meeting room and literally snatched the petitions from the hands of Sen. Kuhn. He again denounced our chairman and read his prepared statement.

If our representative had entered the meeting room at the agreed time of 9 a.m., accepted the petitions and read his statement, the entire pre-

sentation could have been completed in five minutes and no problems would have arisen.

CITIZENS AGAINST PAROCHIALISM
Bob Swanson, Chairman
Gloria Sladek, Vice-Chairman
Lester Osterander, Vice-Chairman
Joyce LeMaster, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Farmington Road
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wish to announce the addition of Dr. Stanley J. Muciek as a member of its clinic to conduct a general practice of medicine.

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