

Readers' Forum...

Thoughts Differ On Shared Learning Program

Agrees With Vote On Shared Learning

EDITOR:

In answer to Bill Canfield, Kay Swanson, and Edna Mann letters in the Nov. 6 issue regarding the Shared Learning decision by the School Board, First, I want to say I agree with the decision and I compliment the four who voted No. I am sincerely opposed to Public Aid to Parochial Schools.

Mrs. Mann, to say I read "The People on Second Street" by Jenny Moore and note especially page 217. Here she states "No one makes friends with a program; it takes a person and that person must be there for a long time, living in the slums and ghettos."

She states that "Friendship is a fragile thing and barriers seem so much easier to throw up than to break down that establishing a connection with another human being is a tenuous business at best."

I would suggest a Shared Learning program with the Inkster Public Schools. It would seem much more suitable to the proposed one.

Kay Swanson, since when are we as individuals restricted as to our friends and acquaintances. What Church do you attend? Take a good look at your organizations wide spread programs. I am certain that you could help with an established program or even start a program of your own by just exerting a little effort. Do we always have to rely on the Public Schools for learning experiences and to the over-worked public school teachers,

for programs? I am not certain that this type of program would truly help our children or those in poverty-ridden areas. How many TVs do you own? Where do you spend your summers? The ghettos, as presented in "Life Magazine," would lead me to believe that a more strained relationship would result when a small child in the poverty area learned that we owned thousands of material things that they might never possess.

Hate, envy, and jealousy plus general unhappiness is the slum dwellers' plight. Do you desire to make it worse? Don't be lazy. Start your own personal Shared Learning program.

Mr. Canfield, your belief in the program makes me sincerely pleased. Since you are not one of these fearful, hostile, prejudiced and hate-ridden people who you spoke of, why don't you set about changing things personally?

I say the same to you, a friendship is not forced. I am still happy that we are free to choose our friends and we can still choose freely the church of our choice. This is a very glorious country and to you all who would like to better it. Make it personal.

Teach your own children the A-Z of respect for all races, creeds, nationalities, and economic groups. Don't put your responsibility into another's hands.

Programs at school are our business, and when we stop thinking that it is, the system as we know it will fall apart.

MRS. E. MULL
Livonia

Board Decision Big Disappointment

EDITOR:

I am very ashamed and disappointed with the result of the Board of Education's vote concerning the "Shared Learning" program.

Through these 16 years of my life, never once have I had the opportunity to talk with, or be a friend to a Negro. Then along came this idea of "Shared Learning."

I began to dream of how wonderful it would be to be able to share my education, my hopes, and my views with the Negroes and receive theirs in return.

And who knows? Maybe this idea would spread to a national level. Then, hopefully, in a few generations, this whole ugly mess of racial prejudices would be merely an unpleasant memory. I guess it was all just wishful thinking, though.

As I pick up the pieces of a shattered dream, I have but one thing to say...

May God bless those who support the "Shared Learning"

plan, may heaven help those who don't.

A DISAPPOINTED STEVEN-JON JUNIOR

He Opposes Shared Learning

EDITOR:

I moved to Livonia a couple of years ago. My children had shared learning in Detroit to the point where they had to run home from school; carry no money, and always pushed around by future bums.

I think arrangements can be made for Bill Canfield, Kay Swanson and Edna Mann to put their children in a station wagon and take them to Detroit for the experience they want. But not force other children to do the same.

DONALD DEMAN
11033 Levon Rd.
Livonia

Parents Concerned About Nankin Forum

EDITOR:

On Thursday, Oct. 31, at Nankin Mills Junior High, a political forum took place.

There was a spokesman for each party registered in Michigan there to give his party's platform. Besides the Nixon, Humphrey, and Wallace representative present, there were also Worker and New Policy Party better known as the Black Panthers.

The Black Panther representative spoke advocating LSD, marijuana, and student control. This representative was not only given his allotted 10 minutes, but also additional time for his devious words. At the end of his speech, he passed literature out to the students advocating his party.

When the forum ended, the students were asked to de-

stroy this literature. I happen to have a copy of this poster which was brought home by a student. This trash contains profanity -- the worst four letter words in the English language.

It is against the law to mail such profanity, but yet it was handed out to 13 and 14 year olds. Why was this allowed?

How can we, as parents, bring up our children to be good American citizens if our schools are allowing and advocating forums such as this to be part of a Junior High curriculum?

What can be done about this? What is going to be done about this?

CONCERNED PARENTS
Mr. and Mrs. Russell J.
Stille Jr.
Westland

Sing Our Anthem

EDITOR:

I am writing this to you, but it concerns everyone. I have an idea about the National Anthem and who should sing it.

When we hear the National Anthem sung, we want to be able to recognize it, and hear the words. Though it may not be a piece of art or a good piece of music.

Why should a singing star or anyone else sing it?

With all the Little League baseball teams around Detroit and the suburbs, why not have a different team sing it for each day of the series?

Also, would it break the stadium to give that team free passes for that day? What a thrill it would be for them. Aren't they our future Tigers?

Sure, it would probably be off key, but who would worry about it, as it would sound

more like our National Anthem was intended to be sung. We at the stadium and radio and TV land would understand it for what it is and what it stands for.

I say anyone coming from another country, should sing it as is. If they don't like it, they can write an Anthem their way, or if they don't like our ways of doing things they didn't have to come here.

Here are a few things I think should be left alone and not changed. Our Anthem for one, the Holy Bible, and also leave our favorite Christmas songs alone.

These were good enough for our grandparents, and theirs before them.

Oh sure, why should the older people live so long? Only God and troublemakers can change this.

We're here, and there always will be some of us around. A FARMINGTON HOUSEWIFE

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