

'Peace' People Hate Their Own

EDITOR: Marches, rallies and sit-ins are some things I have tolerated or condoned, depending on the circumstances.

It is easy to sit in the comfort of one's living room and silently agree or disagree with the many protesters seen on television news shows. Last night I finally made a public commitment by marching in a candlelight ceremony to profess my desire for peace.

As I write this letter, I believe this to be my last peace march. I still want peace. Everybody wants peace, but we shall never have it because we are basically hostile people. We can and should expect to have injustice corrected when enough people express their desires and demand justice. But we cannot have peace by demanding it when we each insist it be accomplished in our own way.

Last night I listened to young people express their love for the world. They expect peace with remote countries and people who speak different languages and who have been raised by different standards with different beliefs from their own.

I have listened to some of these very same voices express their hate for parents, brothers and sisters and other young people who have called their friends. Last night I also listened to a man from the (peace group) coalition who gave a very dramatic speech professing his desire for peace, yet he preached hate for our government and for police forces.

This man would have us believe the government is our enemy. Wake up, America! The government is not the "guy in the black hat." The government is you, me and our next door neighbor.

We cannot blame an intangible government for our many ills. In order to achieve peace we must begin by blaming it on ourselves. We learn to tolerate, accept, love and communicate with members of our own families, teachers, neighbors and the police officer who helps 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.

Letters must be typed and double-spaced. Only original copies are acceptable. The editor will not accept any carbon or mechanically reproduced copies.

The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

keep the peace by arresting us when we break our own laws, we cannot begin to hope for peaceful relations with an entire world. Stop talking peace and be peaceful on an individual basis.

B. BOSTICK
Livonia

Thanks For ONI Tour

EDITOR: I want to extend my thanks you and the Observer staff for allowing my offset reproduction class to tour your facilities Sept. 30.

Several of your employees are in the class, and acted as tour guides. Ed Wendover showed us the front end, while Ray Williams guided us through the remainder. Everyone on the staff was eager to take time to show us the operation. Fortunately, the web was running that evening, making it even more educational.

You have a beautiful plant. DAVID E. GRAINGER.

Ass. Professor Oakland Com. College EDITOR'S NOTE: College classes and high school journalism classes are being given special consideration on tours of the Observer Newspapers building. We regret that we cannot accommodate the many boy and girl scout groups who have asked for tours.

Core Issue In Housing

EDITOR: Livonia is most fortunate

having Dr. A. Edward Katz as a member of its school board as well as a resident. Here is a man who cuts to the core of the bussing proposals and suggests the real solution to achieving integrated neighborhood schools - "an affirmative program to provide low and moderate income and subsidized housing."

Dr. Katz was one of many who were involved a few years ago in the successful efforts to pass an open housing ordinance for Livonia. In spite of this expression of support for inter-racial housing, few blacks have been willing to move to an almost totally white middle class community.

Perhaps they can be more easily persuaded as an alternative to bussing, for black parents are no happier at the prospect of their youngsters being bussed away from their neighborhoods than are whites.

Former Sen. Paul Douglas has reported in his book, "In Our Time," that affluent suburbanites have used zoning codes and other devices to build life-white principalities for themselves where they can flee from their moral, political and financial responsibility to the central city.

If our nation is to survive it is imperative that blacks and whites learn to live and work together, each having respect for the other. Our racism must not be passed on to our children - they are ready to accept each child for what he is regardless of color. Let us do likewise.

DOROTHY BUCKLEY
Livonia

We Want Page One!

EDITOR: The Oct. 9 - 10 newspaper just arrived and, as usual, my husband turned to the sports section to read about three Farmington high schools' sports activities.

Well, to his amazement, Farmington High School was not even mentioned. When I was told this, the long threatened decision to write to you materialized.

How would you, as a 15 to 17-year-old athlete, feel if you eagerly read the "community newspaper" and consistently found your school shunted to the third or fourth page, stuck in a corner, or not mentioned at all? Meantime the other local schools are given grade A coverage. Unhappy and disillusioned I am sure.

It is true that North Farmington High School had a praiseworthy winner last year - but all team members of all schools trained diligently and played to the best of their abilities trying to bring honor to their schools.

This week's article showed rudeness and indignity to two of Observerland schools. Livonia Stevenson received a mere mention in the prep schools football article and Farmington High School wasn't mentioned at all!

You gave better coverage to Pontiac Northern and Southfield Lathrup - and they aren't considered "Observerland" schools.

So, Mr. Editor, please give all the schools in Observerland equal news coverage, good and bad. If you have beefs or quarrels with school and sports personnel directing these programs, don't make the team members and students of the schools be denied the courtesy of equal, fair reporting.

In answer to the first question you'll ask - yes, I have a son playing football for Farmington High School and am very proud of his team and all varsity and JV teams in the many other sports played at FHS.

MRS. (JIM) MONTY DAVIS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Football games in Observerland are played on Friday afternoon and evenings, Saturday afternoons and evenings and some Sundays. We make up the weekend editions of the Observers Friday, long before any football games are completed and thus all reports are in the Wednesday editions.

Other than that the weekend sports includes cross country meets and perhaps one or two girls swim meets. We try to have stories on all events, but we can't report before the event.

Incidentally, the Observer Newspapers circulate in Southfield and thus Lathrup, Southfield and Brother Rice high schools are in Observerland. We hope this clarifies matters.

Naturally, the teams playing the top games are given top consideration. We realize there is as much interest in any single game as any other, but we have 21 high school teams in Observerland and believe that every single one gets recognition more than once as the season progresses. We try to pick the major games for our front page and hope you realize that it is impossible to schedule 25 stories with pictures on one page. It's just like having all seats at a football game on the 50-yard line.

What Did Court Say?

EDITOR: In your bussing article on page eight of the Wednesday, Oct. 13 editions of The Observers, you chide your straw man for not reading the Constitution lately. The statement leads me to believe that you have access to the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court

decision (Brown vs. Topeka, Kansas Board of Education) which you must admit has not been readily available to the public in the present crisis. Would you be so kind as to publish the decision in its entirety? Not your interpretation or anyone else's - just the straight facts.

If this document is to have such a binding effect upon our lives, we the people should have the opportunity to read it.

Since this decision affects all suburbs and since yours is a suburban newspaper I can think of no greater service you can perform.

WILLIAM BAUMGARTNER

Plymouth EDITOR'S NOTE: The Supreme Court Brown opinion is far too lengthy for us to run. It would mean forcing virtually all other news out of the paper. The opinion's gist is: "Separate but equal" schools are "inherently unequal."

'It Just Isn't Safe' There

EDITOR: In regard to the last paragraph of "Bussing: What Rights Do Parents Have?" (Oct. 13):

Shame on whoever let that paragraph be printed when I attended college classes - such logic would get an "F" and a laugh - and now I think H.S. students would experience the same -

If this is the shallowness of the situation then "God pity us!"

For years my parents have entertained Negroes in their home. Some of my best friends & fellow workers have been & are Negroes.

In graduate school I got experience in Manhattan's lower east side (though my address was 520 Park Ave.) I've worked in Detroit's inner city. The blacks are more scared & have bigger locks on doors than I do.

It just isn't safe in those areas. I went in right after the riot but you're more likely to get shark bit in the ocean than in the Northwest YMCA pool - I don't like to drive downtown Detroit & I don't want my kids there any more then necessary.

A year ago my wife & I drove through Harlem. It wasn't like driving on Mid-dieblt. Now don't make me

drive in Detroit. If you want to make it better & safer lets do something. For Gods sake such paragraphs as that last one give the bigots evidence of some so called liberals stupidity.

RICHARD C. GLASS

Farmington

'Change Homes With Coloreds'

EDITOR: Instead of so much bickering on bussing, some solution should be arrived at. The suburban whites who want bussing should change homes with the coloreds who want the bussing. That way everyone would be happy.

The time used for meetings and fighting by mail could be used to try and get our prisoners out of Vietnam. Petitions to President Nixon urging immediate action to end Vietnam.

When they say - only nine boys killed in Vietnam. Those nine were some mothers dear sons. Only nine is a ridiculous statement.

I experienced nearly losing two sons World War II. Lost my only brother World War I. I do not approve bussing, but this is going too far. Mrs. McCabe is one mess. Seeking free publicity.

MABEL OSBORN

Livonia

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