

# How Readers Split On Cross-Bussing Issue

## If Bussing Is The Way...

I live in Garden City. I am white and I have two children who attend elementary school. My conscience will not allow me to support Supt. Don Shader and the Garden City Board of Education in their stand against bussing.

Naturally, I would prefer to have my children attend neighborhood schools; but if bussing is the only way to guarantee quality education for all children, regardless of race and color, then my children will be bused.

Bussing is, at best, an imperfect solution. But as a teacher who has taught many years in a predominantly black school system, I feel that any immediate solution, even an imperfect one, is

better than none at all, if it will insure black children the same rights my white children enjoy.

MARION KUCLO  
Garden City

## Stand Up And Be Counted

EDITOR: Regarding the Livonia school board's cautious action on anti-bussing: Board members criticize other board members for not presenting information soon enough for study before asking for an anti-bussing resolution, and the board tables another issue that could affect our children. Is time needed to study whether Livonians should give up the quality education we paid for, or should we make our stand and then study legal ways to maintain our education?

For many years this board and all that came before it have said, "Come on, citizens, if you care about your children, pass our millage request and give your children quality education." Most of your pleas were heard, millage approved and education in Livonia was kept at a quality level.

Now this board has to study

the issue of bussing into sub-standard districts to decide if they are against bussing our children. Although we may not be put into this bussing problem immediately, it will come, if not the inner city of Detroit, then to Inkster or any other district with financial instability and sub-standard education.

We citizens have the right to know whether this board will take a legal stand to protect our children's education. I commend the board members who have declared their position and let the citizens know where they stand.

I think it is time for the rest of the board to stand up and be counted. No tabled issues. Will this board fight for our children's education?

MRS. ELSIE WILSON  
Livonia

## 'No Fear' Of Bussing

EDITOR: As a conscientious career mother who cares about her four children, I wish to offer some random thoughts on bussing students between school districts.

Bussing may be an imperfect, incomplete, short-term solution, but it is one step in the right direction.

Children have been bused out of their neighborhoods to religious schools and, also, to maintain segregation for generations, and this upset few citizens. The rare incident of having to retrieve an ill child was handled quite easily.

Perhaps attendance in a neighborhood school in this shrinking, fast-moving world is too confining socially and intellectually to properly prepare our children for realistic adult living. Life is not so home-oriented as it once was.

I would have no more fear

## 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.

for my children attending a Detroit or other area school than I have for them in our Livonia schools. We have fights, thievery, drug incidents, property destruction and discipline problems right here in this "white" suburb.

Face it, Livonians. Neither we as citizens nor our elected officials have taken one step toward sharing what we have with those less advantaged. Our open-housing ordinance is utterly worthless as a genuine tool for the integration of Livonia. The courts have observed this and now we may very well be forced to take some positive action.

Contention between races is so destructive, but it will fade one day. The amalgamation of the races can come none too soon for me.

MRS. MARY J.  
KOZAKIEWICZ  
Livonia

## 'Black Children Are No Worse'

EDITOR: This is an open letter to Mayor McNamara.

Mr. Mayor, racism is intellectually dishonest. Bussing to achieve integration is not! We have a chance now to begin to solve a terrible evil — illegal segregation of our schools.

Our children may soon have an opportunity to learn firsthand that black children are no worse than they are. What a giant step that would be toward racial harmony.

We who love our children must be willing to let them help solve a problem which has been tearing at our moral fiber for centuries. We want what is highest and best for our kids, morally and intellectually.

Segregation hurts our children because it creates valid human relationships, thereby breeding ignorance and fear. That's what we have had to live with. It's not good enough for our children!

You say children should not be asked to solve problems we adults have not been able to solve. Rest assured no problem will be solved in the kind of racist society we adults have been guilty of perpetuating. Somewhere it has got to stop.

Mr. Mayor, I think you greatly underestimate our kids. Because we adults have trouble seeing past the color of a person's skin does not mean our children are equally blind.

What's the old saying? "A little child shall lead them!"

KAY WILSON  
Livonia

## Bus Out Tax Bill

EDITOR:

I really can't understand what all the furor is about in regard to the possibility of bussing out of Livonia. I, for one, am all for it.

That is, just as soon as one of the parents of the bused children will take over the responsibility of my \$1,000 tax bill.

DONNA POLLINS  
Livonia

## Write Your Congressman

EDITOR:

If we are a government of, by and for the people and we are against bussing, we will take time to write to our representative in Washington and tell him to sign discharge petition for House Joint Resolution No. 620. This amendment can then come before the people and the people can again be given a voice in running their government.

We also must write to our state senator and ask him to oppose the school redistricting bill SB 305. It only takes a few minutes and is cents to write these letters.

How about getting friends and relatives in other parts of Michigan to do the same? Write to friends and relatives in other states and have them tell their representatives to sign the discharge petition.

This is following the request of Mrs. Irene McCabe, who is not a racist, but feels like Sen. Griffin does, that bussing is wrong for many reasons. If you agree, take a stand! Your letters will be the turning point in this issue!

MRS. WILLIAM  
BAUMGARTNER  
Plymouth

turning of the "bussing" screw. Are the blacks and whites of this land to be set at one another's throats, while our scapegoat children bleat for help?

And please, Mr. Editor, show your genuine interest in our country and our children by publishing constructive, not inflammatory thoughts on the issues.

LORRAINE MABRY  
Garden City

EDITOR'S NOTE: "No Reason For Hysteria," was published on page one of all editions. We attempt to print all letters, whether or not they agree with our point of view.

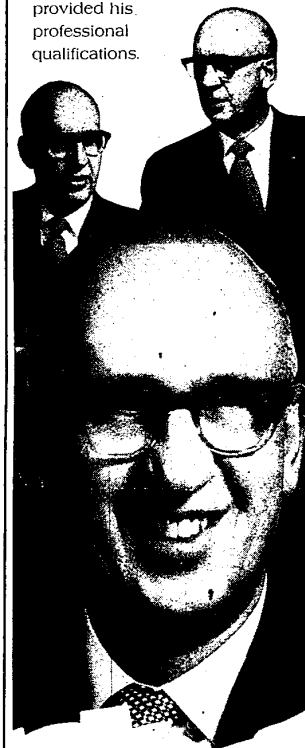
## Auction Night

The West Suburban Stamp Club will hold an auction night Thursday, Oct. 21, at 7:30. The club meets in the Plymouth Community Credit Union, 500 S. Harvey.

## New Role

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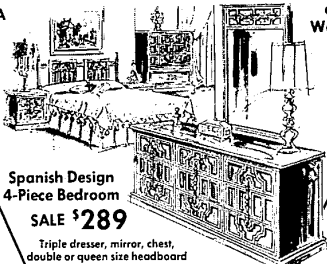
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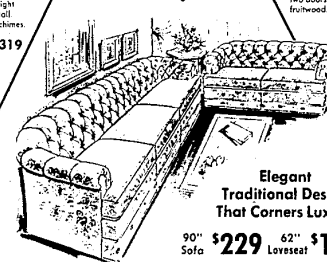
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## Let's Vote On Bussing

EDITOR: Where has our freedom gone?

They say our land is best, but bit by bit they are allowing them to take away our freedom.

Not too many years ago we would open the school day with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag of this great country. Then we sat back and let a handful of people take away that freedom. They never did put it to a democratic vote. Rise up, America, and don't let them take away any more of our freedom.

When we went out to buy our home to raise our children in we started by checking to see how close to schools they were and how good they were. We pay our taxes to the school district that we live in to keep our schools up.

But now because of a handful of judges, they want to take more tax money and time to bus our children out of the school district, and bus outsiders in.

If this land is to be free, then put the bussing to a democratic vote. Let the people decide where our children are to be taught.

If we let them take away this freedom, what will it be next? Maybe our church, our sports or free speech. America, rise up and save our precious freedom now. Voice your opinion and save our country.

DONNA J. GIBSON  
Redford Township

## Real Life

### Archies Here

EDITOR:

I shuddered to read the letter headlined, "I Don't Owe Negroes Nothing" in the Oct. 6 issue of Observer Newspapers.

The purpose of this publication escapes me. Are you telling your readers that some whites don't like blacks?

Are you telling us that these whites are ignorant and prejudiced? Are you perhaps saying that because this bigoted man has spoken out against bussing that those who oppose bussing are to be herded into the same sad category?

Or are you merely getting your jollies at someone's expense? The television program, "All in the Family" comes to mind. Archie Bunker is laughable, true, and pitiful, too. He generously slanders all, smearing his "Polack" son-in-law, "Wops", even his own cousin who came to visit and stayed too long.

Thousands of real life, fearful, venomous "Archies" are residing in our suburbs, making the TV one pale imitation. But, like Archie, they remain blind in their ignorance. Laughing at them does not enlighten them.

Bussing is an issue of utmost seriousness to the majority of your readers, black and white. And its spectre is bringing out the hate and ignorance that lies in wait under our skins, white and black. The sense of pressure, fear, over hysteria is growing, caused by the

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