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SPECIAL ISSUE

#### EBONY MAGAZINE

Vol. XXX1V No. 10 August 1979

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# SPEAKING

#### CRIME PREVENTION **PROGRAM CHIEF**

Melvin D. Turner, execu-tive director of CAP-TURE-Citizens Crime Prevention, Inc., in San Mateo, Cal., offers tips on how citizens can help stop neighborhood crime: "Don't leave notes on your door. It informs a would-be burglar that you're not at home. Women should not advertise that they live alone. List the first and middle initials and last name only on your mailbox and in the telephone directory. If you ride public transportation, know time schedules to avoid waiting longer than necessary and, if possible, stand in a well-lit area.



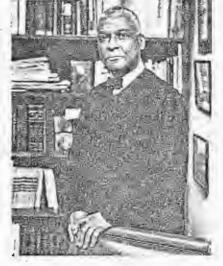
#### MICHIGAN COUNTY SHERIFF

William Lucas of Wayne County (Detroit). Mich., sheriff of the third largest county in the nation for 11 years, suggests: "The only way to solve the crime problem in this country is to develop the self-esteem of individuals, to make available to people the means to maintain their dignity and seek fulfilling opportunities that are rewarding. People have got to be able to compete in the marketplace, and if they're going to do so meaningfully, they've got to have an equal education. They must feel that their contributions to society are valuable.

#### CRIMINAL COURT JUSTICE

Says Judge Bruce Mc-Marion Wright of the New York City Criminal Court on the subject of crime prevention: "Only self-distortion can be summoned to explain Black on Black violence, coupled with self-hate. Perhaps both the image and self-image of Blacks can be altered if Blacks are given inclusive status when it comes to education and employment in America, instead of the special and negative treatment we do have. I think excellence in education must be the answer, clearly a self-help ambition. After all, affirmative action is dead."

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#### EBONY . August, 1979

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e your burgers a sprinkle and while Lif... you can shake up your salad, mys Seasoned Sall.

awry's. A cook's best friend.

# OF PEOPLE



#### ACTING POLICE SUPERINTENDENT

Acting Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, Samuel Nolan, says, "Crime prevention needs two ingredients to make it viable, the public and the police. Both must be involved or else the small number of criminals will make the large numher of decent citizens live in fear for their safety. The ultimate police force is the public itself, as the organized police departments of the country are only their appointed rep-resentatives. When the public and the police work in harmony, the community is truly a part of combined efforts in making neighborhoods better

#### MUNICIPAL PRISON WARDEN

Earl L. Wilson, warden of Holmesburg Prison in Philadelphia, says: "If Philadelphia, says: "If parents do not assume their responsibilities by showing love, setting good examples, teaching to respect the property of others, and disciplining when necessary, then we can expect more crimes and younger inmates in our prison systems. Enormous amounts of money are being spent in an attempt to reform incarcerated inmates. If some of these monies were channeted to existing or new community-based programs, this would be an asset and would contribute to crime prevention.

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EBONY . August, 1979

#### ASSOC. PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY

Dr. Alvin Poussaint, associate professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and author of Why Blacks Kill Blacks, ob-serves: "When people stop caring about each other, they lapse into a more competitive and malignant individualism that creates an atmosphere where everyone is out for themselves, and that increases the climate for crime and violence. Things that would help build a sense of community, from family support to increased involvement churches, settlement of houses and programs for youths would do much to bind the community.

### WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK

**E** XCEPT during the past decade, bigtime criminal activity has been the rags-to-riches channel for minority entrepreneurs to ownership of Cadillacs, luxurious homes, \$500 suits, and travel to championship heavyweight boxing matches in the style of a foreign potentate. Blocked from legitimate business, Blacks with the necessary acumen to count greenbacks turned to such nefarious operations as numbers, trade in stolen goods, bootlegging, prostitution, and, ultimately, drugs. In city after city across the country, the merchants with the dough were often shady characters who lived well, paid off the law enforcers, and sometimes dropped cash in the coffers of crusading Black organizations or aided enterprising Black business people who were spurned by downtown banks. This latter endeavor hardly balanced off the damage inflicted on the career ambitions of young Blacks or the quality of life for those who lived in ghettos. Once noticing the flashy living style of those "outside the law," many youths quickly sought to emulate racketeering kingpins. The other byproducts were increased numbers of convicts, high drug addiction rates, and a breakdown of family life. Glossing over this sordid phase of Black life, civil rights leaders have focused on the few legal victories in trying to achieve first class citizenship, even promoting legitimate Black capitalism.

During this year's observance of the 25th anniversary of the U. S. Supreme Court's school desegregation decision, warriors of the civil rights army discovered that progress hardly was the basis for jubilation. The picture actually was more bleak than in 1954 when many middle-class Blacks rolled down their sleeves believing that the struggle was over. To its dismay, the elite learned that two-thirds of America's Black children still attend separate and unequal schools. Besides, HEW Secretary Joseph Califano emphasized that the brunt of change could not be placed on the schools at a time when communities were becoming more segregated and Blacks were on the tail end of every chart from health to education dropouts. Almost 40 percent of Black youth are jobless with

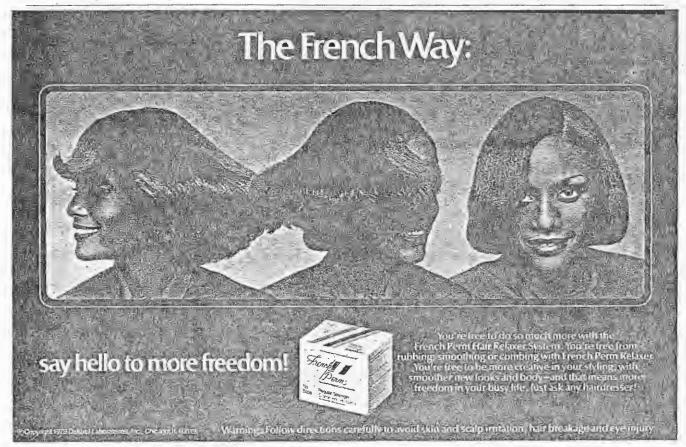
#### SIMEON BOOKER

#### Washington Bureau Chief

no solution in sight. Despite this crisis, politicians are cutting back on remedial programs because of inflation.

Fears were further exacerbated when, during a Washington panel, Dr. Andrew Brimmer, the first Black governor of the Federal Reserve Bank, warned of "a schism within the Black community," which, in layman's terms, could mean open conflict-Black havenots against Black haves. Many of those in the upper-class audience took offense at the mention of such a catastrophe, but this was not news for ghetto dwellers. The racketeering barons had been wiped out but in their place has grown a generation of young, angry and defiant street cats who "make it" at the expense of others. Where are they coping? Where else? Right in the Black communities. Those who expound Black pride seem perplexed. They are mystified by the conduct of brothers and sisters attacking brothers and sisters. Do they expect a Black teenager, unemployed and on dope, to rent a cab and mug a White person in the suburb to find money for a narcotic fix? Furthermore, any such Black-versus-White crime trend could bring swift retribution, much more ghastly than the Nixon Administration's harassing of 8,000 civil rights militants during the Watergate era.

Today's urban situation is alarming and compounded by the complacency of government. But historically, Blacks have been innovative and have been one of the few groups to show compassion for their poor. And they have options. If Black middle-class folk can spend upwards of \$100 million a year to attend national conventions to discuss Black issues, they should be able to subsidize more self-help programs to reach the disadvantaged in their own communities instead of relying entirely on government handouts. Think of the new mood in the ghettos if middle-class Blacks suddenly decided to finance and volunteers agreed to man new emergency programs, such as people-to-people, little brother and sister, counseling and prison rehabilitation services. Merely talking about Black on Black crime is like talking about the weather.





**F** OR the reader who wishes a further historical, sociological and psychological study of Black on Black crime—after having read. this special issue—numerous scholarly articles are available but a scarcity of definitive books. The suggested reading in this list has been drawn from among those read by EBONY editors while researching this special issue.

Blacks And Criminal Justice, edited by Charles E. Owens and Jimmy Bell. This book is an outgrowth of two separate conferences (1974 and 1975) sponsored by the University of Alabama through its psychology center of correctional psychology. The contributors, representing a cross section of fields in the criminal justice system, range from those who are an integral part of the system to those who plead for change, to government officials who see the inequities in the criminal justice system applied to Blacks, to behavioral scientists who have recommendations for change. D. C. Heath & Co. 1977

Black Grime: A Police View, edited by Herrington J. Bryce. Papers collected in this text explore ways to reduce crime in the Black community, particularly Black on Black crime. The papers were presented at a 1976 conference sponsored by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, the Police Foundation, and the Joint Center for Political Studies. The conference drew the nation's highest ranking Black law enforcement officials and resulted in the creation of a national organization of Black law enforcement executives (NO-BLE). Superintendent of Documents Government Printing Office. 1977

Black Perspectives On Grime And The Criminal Justice System, edited by Robert L. Woodson. In 1977, the National Urban League convened a symposium of seven Black criminologists, joined by outstanding criminal justice practitioners, lay community organizers, and exstreet gang members. Its purpose was to gain insights and knowledge for the thoughtful design of alternatives for the Black community to consider in its pursuit of secure neighborhoods. This book includes the papers presented at the symposium along with the reactions by symposium participants and two addresses given by luncheon speakers. G. K. Hall & Co. 1977

Grime And its Impact On The Black Community, edited by Lawrence E. Gary and Lee P. Brown. An overview of crime in the Black community and factors influencing it are considered in this anthology. Approaches to the problem are also suggested. The topics explored include a historical overview of crime and Blacks since 1876, Black attitudes toward crime and crime prevention, Black business and the crime of uneconomic communities, crime in an all-Black town, and the philosophical and research implications of definitions of crime. Howard University, Institute For Curban Affairs And Research. 1976

The Administration Of Criminal Justice: A View From Black America, edited by Lee P. Brown. This book presents the views of six leading Black criminal justice practitioners who attended workshops presented by the Institute for Urban Affairs at Howard University in 1973. While these practitioners were not concerned with developing theories, their explanations of crime and Blacks emphasized the underrepresentation of Black employes in the criminal justice system, discrimination in law enforcement and the role of Black employes in criminal justice. Howard University, Institute For Urban Affairs And Research, 1974

Study On The Status Of Black Griminology in The United States, by Julius Debro. This collection of writings by Blacks continually emphasizes the fact that Black perceptions of criminal justice agencies differ greatly from perceptions by Whites. This study also finds that in the 1800s Blacks were primarily involved in nonviolent crime. In the South, Blacks were arrested with little provocation and their release depended upon Whites' paying the fine. Thus, the Black offender became, in effect, an indentured servant. Violent crime among Blacks increased as more moved North into the cities. U. S. Dept of Health, Education, and Welfare, National Institute of Mental Health. 1978

Crime, Policing, Corrections, and the Social Order, by L. Alex Swan. The author's purpose, in this book slated for fall 1979 publication, is to provide a critical view of crime, policing and corrections within the context of the American social order and the Black commuity. G. K. Hall & Co. (Boston), 1979

Assault With A Deadly Weapon, by John Allen. Pantheon Books. 1977

The Black Offender As Victim, edited by Rutledge M. Dennis & Charles James. University Press of America, 1976

What The Negro Gan Do About Grime, by J. A. Parker & Allan Brownfield. Arlington House Publishers, 1974

Police Operations, by Gwynn Peirson. Nelson Hall. 1976

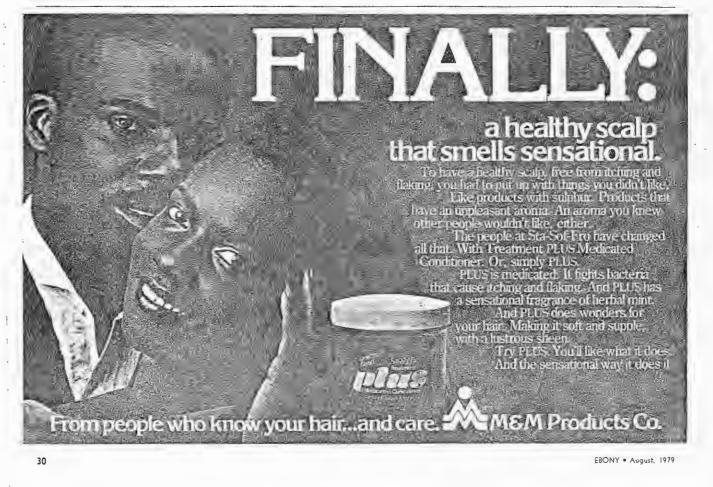
Yiolence And The Police, by Alphonso Pinkney. Prentice-Hall. 1975

Why Blacks Kill Blacks, by Alvin Poussaint. Emerson Hall, 1972

The Administration Of Griminal Justice: An Exploratory Bibliography, by Lenwood G. Davis. Council of Planning Librarians, 1975

From The Black Bar: Voices For Equal Justice, by Gilbert Ware. C. P. Putnam & Sons. 1976

Violence, Race And Culture, by Lynn A. Curtis. D. C. Heath & Co. 1975



#### BLACK ON BLACK CRIME

#### PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

# **Publisher's Statement**



"Black on Black Crime has reached a critical level that threatens our existence as a people."

John Houturon

**T**HIS is a special issue on an explosive issue of special concern to every man, woman and child in Black America. It is a special, *in*-family issue on Black on Black Crime. And it is perhaps the most important special issue, from the standpoint of the strength and stability of the Black community, that we have published in the last I6 years.

We do not, needless to say, approach this subject lightly. As a matter of fact, this is an issue we wish we didn't have to publish. But, wishes apart, it is an issue we had to publish if we were going to keep faith with that long line of dreamers and martyrs who brought us thus far along the way.

It is our belief, and it is the basic premise of this issue, that Black on Black Crime has reached a critical level that threatens our existence as a people. It is a threat to our youths, to our women, to our senior citizens, to our institutions, to our values. And although we are not responsible for the external factors that systematically create breeding grounds for social disorder, we cannot avoid the internal responsibility of doing everything we can to solve a problem that is rending the fabric of our lives.

The facts before us are clear and dangerous:

Homicide is a major cause of death among young Black males, and most of these murder victims are killed, not by racists or members of the Ku Klux Klan, but by other young Black males.

Tens of thousands of young Black men and women, the flower of our youth, are riding conveyor belts leading from petty crime to reform schools to prisons to major crimes to death and/or the penitentiary.

Black communities from the Atlantic to the Pacific are becoming locked and divided camps, beleaguered and fearful places of bars, guards, alarms, metal gates and bolted doors.

Crimes by Blacks against Blacks are costing Black Americans and Black American businesses and institutions billions of dollars. Dr. Andrew Brimmer, former member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, says that "a significant share of the hard income and a sizable proportion of the wealth that the Black community has struggled to accumulate are being dissipated through the wastage of criminal offenses. Moreover, the cost of crime is by no means evenly distributed in the nation at large. Instead, the poorest members are far more likely to be victims—especially in cases of personal violence. Thus, the segment of the Black population which can least bear the costs of crime is most often forced to carry a disproportionate share of what amounts to a criminally imposed levy."

This is the general situation, and the situation is getting worse. For people are getting used to an intolerable situation, and indifference to Black pain and the spilling of Black blood is growing. And so today, as in the 19th century, there is no flesh in America, as Frederick Douglass said in another connection, as cheap as Black flesh.

For a long time now, many Black leaders have remained silent on this issue for fear of playing into the hands of men of bad faith who use every Black misdeed to malign all Blacks. But the facts and figures cited in this issue have nothing at all to do with the social characteristics of Black people. We are not now, and we have never been, more criminal than other groups: we are simply exposed more often to environments that have produced high levels of social frustration and social disorder in all groups. It is instructive in this connection to consider the words of Stanley Feldstein and Lawrence Costello (*The Ordeal of Assimilation*): "Throughout the 19th century, a high percentage of paupers in American cities were foreign-born. Moreover, since there was a close relationship between poverty and crime, it was not surprising that a high incidence of crime existed in immigrant neighborhoods. The notorious Five Points of New York City was an area of heavy Irish concentration. In 1860, when half of the city's population was foreignborn, about 80 percent of those convicted of crimes were immigrants."

Considering the abnormally high levels of Black unemployment and the inhumane social conditions forced on most Blacks, it is not at all unusual that some Black *individuals* turn to crime. What is unusual under the circumstances, and worthy of long thought, is that most Blacks of all ages and social conditions are decent, lawabiding people.

This special issue is dedicated to the overwhelming majority of Blacks, who are the victims, not the perpetrators of Black on Black crime. And it is addressed primarily to the perpetrators of crime who are, more often than not, victims of their own crimes and of a society that condemns them to lives of frustration and rage and emptiness. Beyond all that, it contains a message for forces and persons outside the Black community who are ultimately responsible for perpetuating intolerable social conditions that are clear and present dangers not only to Black America but also to White America.

It is against that background, and with that understanding, that we present this special issue, which is divided into three sections. The first section deals with five major consequences of Black on Black Crime. The second section presents seven major causes. The third section tells what we-you and I and all Americans of good will-must do to staunch the flowing blood of the Dream.

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### THE CONSEQUENCES

### A DIVIDED COMMUNITY

### Crime Breeds Mistrust, Uncertainty, Fear And Anxiety

 ${\bm B}^{\rm Y}$  any social, economic or psychological yardstick, Blacks suffer disproportionately from crime. Drastically over-represented in the nation's arrest and prison statistics, they are more likely than Whites to be rape, robbery, burglary, larceny or assault victims. Thus, about 85 of every 1,000 Black males are crime victims as against 75 of every 1,000 White males, according to the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA). Furthermore, the typical crime victim is a young, poor, undereducated, Black male, while the typical crime victimizer is similarly poor, under 30 years of age and has not completed high school.

But statistics do not adequately gauge the impact of Black on Black crime, do not measure the rampant fear, the shattering of families, the rupturing of community solidarity. Indeed, statistics only hint, for example, at the economic impact of Black on Black crime. Atlanta's public safety director, Dr. Lee P. Brown, reports that the nation's crime bill (excluding white collar, governmental and organized crime) was an estimated \$88.6 billion in 1974 and Blacks shared about \$13.29 billion of that total. Allowing for inflation since then, Brown calculates that crime is even more costly to the Black community today, that it directly or indirectly boosts the prices of almost everything Blacks use and hikes their tax bills.

Crime costs in other ways, too, adds Atlanta's police chief, Dr. George Napper: "A family forced to do without its chief breadwinner

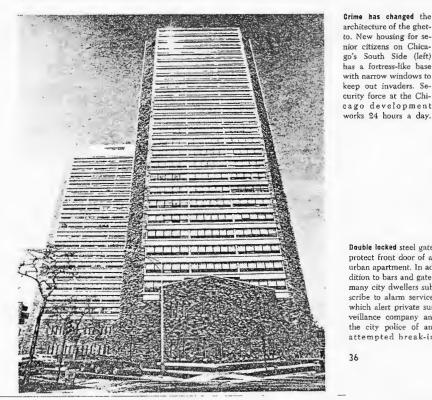
because of confinement in prison, must often rely on government assistance, handouts and, not infrequently, theft, to maintain its existence. Younger family members, seeing the criminal element in their community with material possessions which they desire, are too often enticed into the street life via drugs, prostitution and theft in its various forms."

If the economic impact of Black on Black crime is high, its social impact may be even greater. It not merely victimizes community and family, argues California State University criminologist, Dr. Benjamin Carmichael, "but in its extreme forms prevents and undermines the very formation and maintenance of these institutions, themselves. Black on Black crime serves to inhibit our trust in each other, it distracts from our commonality and makes our communities some of the most dangerous places in the city."

Accordingly, a 1972 national study revealed that 49 percent of its non-White respondents were afraid to walk alone at night. The Washington, D.C., Urban League recently found that two of every three Blacks in low-income areas of that city say they walk in fear of neighborhood crime. Meanwhile, Blacks generally are not confident that the criminal justice system can successfully control crime, reports Texas Southern University criminologist, Dr. Alex Swan. To avoid being victimized, they avoid groups of teenagers, lock car doors, install extra door locks, limit their after-dark activities away from home and avoid the police who are supposed to be their protectors.

Despite such prudent responses to the everlurking threat of victimization, many Blacks are gripped in continuous uncertainty, chronic anxiety, tension and other psychological traumas. They are more frightened by the possibility of being injured or killed in violent crime encounters rather than in home and traffic accidents which, in fact, cause far more injuries and deaths. Their fear is grounded in crime and the rumors of crime that abound in their communities.

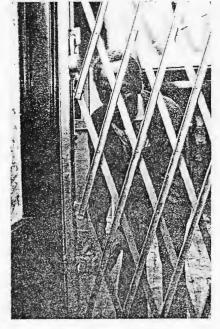
"When lifestyles are altered as a result of crime," argues Napper, "when the high level of violence causes cities and homes to become 'armed camps,' and when fear of criminal victimization grips even residents of rural communities, the end result is the disfigurement of society and the downgrading of the quality of life." Because Black on Black crime has limited the social interaction and solidarity so necessary for Blacks to develop a sense of social well-being, more and more Blacks are talking openly and candidly about the need for Black communities themselves to try bringing it under control. Thus, The Woodlawn Organization (TWO), a Black community group on Chicago's South Side, has put crime at the top of its agenda. Although TWO has been concerned about crime for some time, its public posture has been to emphasize poverty and racism as the real causes. That posture has changed, reports a TWO official, because "we couldn't tell a welfare mother who just got her check and was then bopped on the head that we were looking at the underlying causes.'



architecture of the ghetto. New housing for senior citizens on Chicago's South Side (left) has a fortress-like base with narrow windows to keep out invaders. Security force at the Chicago development works 24 hours a day.

Double locked steel gates protect front door of an urban apartment. In addition to bars and gates. many city dwellers subscribe to alarm services which alert private surveillance company and the city police of any attempted break-in.

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### PERSONAL INJURY AND MENTAL PAIN

#### More Blacks Killed On Streets Than In Vietnam

MORE BLACKS were killed by other Blacks in the year 1977 than died in the entire, nine-year Vietnam War. Most of the 5,734 Blacks killed on the battlefields of Black America in 1977 could have survived Vietnam, since the Blacks who died there (5,711) averaged only 634 per year. These astounding figures only begin to underscore the seriousness of Black on Black crime, for nearly 87 percent of the robberies, rapes and assaults on Blacks are committed by other Blacks, reports the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Most of these personal crimes of violence are against lone victims on streets, in parks, on playgrounds and school grounds, or in parking lots; are more likely to be reported to the police than crimes involving theft; and are less likely to be reported by males than females, according to University of Maryland criminologist, Dr. Julius Debro. He also finds that Black households are more likely than White households to be burglarized; that, contrary to widespread belief, households headed by persons over 65 have the lowest rates of all types of household crime, and that the larger the household, the greater the chance of victimization.

The criminologist estimates that actual crime volume is at least three times larger than the total compiled by the FBI's annual Uniform Crime Reports. "We know that if we are going to attack crime," he continues, "we must now concentrate our efforts on young people and try and get them to report incidents of criminal behavior. It is important for old people to know that they are relatively safe within their own homes and that it isn't necessary to barricade themsefves in their homes for further protection."

Debro notes that perceptions of Black crime vary in different sections of the country. "In the North," he reports, "violence is still seen as a way of life . . . on the East Coast [perceptions lead] to a feeling that the victim is just waiting to be victimized because there is no other choice . . . On the West Coast, the perception . . . is not one of fear for Black on Black crime but one of acceptance that it will occur and that very little will be done to combat [it] . . In the Southwest, both in Houston and in Dallas the fear of crime [is] not as strong as the fear of police

**Dead victims** of crime like the one being removed from street by Chicago policeman (right) were more numerous in Black communities in one year than all the Blacks killed (a total of 5,711) in entire Vietnam War (below), which lasted nine years. . . . Most Blacks [see] the police as an occupying force which [has] little concern for human lives among Blacks and Mexicans."

The South, however, differs markedly from the rest of the nation, Debro continues, since it is "generally a place in which citizens can walk the streets at night without worrying about the fear of crime." He notes that crime has decreased in Atlanta since (and because) its political leadership changed from White to Black. Debro relates this reduction and the fact that juvenile gangs do not exist in the city to "a) a Black concerned police department, b) the relationship of the police department with tenants and tenants' associations, and c) the police department acting as a referral service." All of this suggests that the ultimate solution of Black on Black crime will require extensive Black leadership.





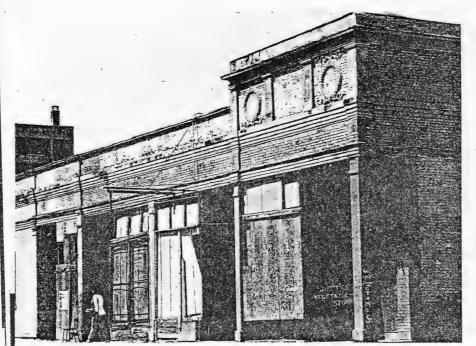
### DISINVESTMENT

Crime Drives Businesses And Jobs From The Community

"A SIGNIFICANT share of the hard income and a sizable proportion of the wealth that the Black community has struggled to accumulate are being dissipated through the wastage of criminal offenses," laments the famed economist, Dr. Andrew Brimmer. The waste he refers to includes the higher costs of shelter, food and other necessities, the mortgage monies lost because of ghetto "red lining" by financial institutions, and the public transportation curtailed in low-income neighborhoods because of threats of violence against transit operators. Also, businesses move away because

of low profit and high overhead from theft and pilferage and those who remain charge exorbitant prices for goods and services.

Because beleagured Black businessmen are often forced to shorten their store hours and absorb the rising costs of burglary alarms, window bars, iron gates and other security devices to thwart criminals, crime may be eroding more than one-third of their net earnings, Brimmer speculates. Although his estimate does not include staggering losses from robberies, Brimmer contends Black on Black crime helps account for the failure of a signifi-



cant number of Black businesses.

Mayor Tom Bradley gives in detail some broader economic and psychological effects of Black on Black crime in Los Angeles: "The flight to the suburbs of some businesses and industries has left blocks of abandoned buildings with broken windows and gutted interiors. As these firms left, they took thousands of jobs-often too far away for the Black employes to follow. The abandoned buildings became attractive nuisances, and encouraged more vandalism and destruction. . . .

"The physical and psychological impact on [businesses] that remained was devastating. The nearby residential neighborhoods began to see boarded up, abandoned houses. Those who cared about their property got out, if they could. The blight swept through entire neighborhoods like a destructive cyclone.... The economic loss, direct and indirect, was devastating. The physical impact destructive and the psychological effect indescribable. The losses through vandalism and fear of crime at night caused most of the theaters and other places of entertainment to close....

"Schools suffer the typical vandalism and break-ins experienced nationwide. I heard last week that the loss from vandalism alone was enough to buy all the books required in all the school systems in the country for a full year. What a wastel Some schools have become worse than jungles, unsafe for teachers or students, unfit for human habitation and unhealthy for a learning environment.

"Gang fights are daily-gang killings number almost 100 in one city alone. Such neighborhoods thus become like wartime 'no man' lands. A place of terror and fear for old and young alike. A community already suffering from blight and high unemployment loses jobs, services and hope. The process is like a cycle from which there seems to be no escape."



permanently closed businesses have been disastrous results of rampant crime within the Black community. This in turn has boosted the cost of living for community residents.

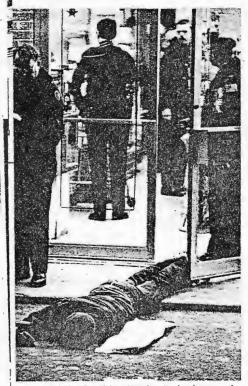
Abandoned buildings,

### LOSS OF TALENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES

### Crime Is Destroying A Whole Generation Of Young Blacks

W HILE some young Blacks are concerned about college entrance examinations and whether they will get a good summer job, many others spend the majority of their time standing on street corners or "casing" neighborhoods trying to decide who to rip off next or which business will be an easy target. For these thousands of Black youths, crime is a way of life, a means of livelihood.

Crime is destroying a whole generation of young Blacks who never get an opportunity or just don't take the time to develop their own talents and skills. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, there were 1,639 murder victims in 1977 between the ages of 15 and 19, and 702 of these were Black. But crime also destroys talented young Blacks who perpetrate violence on other persons and on property. Of the 1.8 million persons under 18 who were arrested in cities in 1977, 24.6 percent were Black. About fifty-four percent of those in this age bracket arrested for murder or non negligent manslaughter were Black, as were 59 percent of those arrested for rape and 64.2 percent of those arrested for robbery. Young Blacks accounted for 53.4 percent of those arrested for violent crimes and 29.7 percent of those arrested for property crimes. (Even though these statistics indicate that a disproportionate number of young Blacks are arrested for various crimes, they do not reflect



The hody of a slain robber lies in the doorway of a Memphis grocery store. In 1977, 53.4 percent of those under 18 arrested for violent crimes were Black.

a contraction of the 2.2

the number of youths actually convicted for these offenses.)

Some of these young people begin as mischievous children who steal from neighborhood grocery stores or from their classmates at school.

Such is the case of Bennie Bates. Bates, the son of a minister and a "decent, hard working" mother, grew up in Esplanade Gardens, a middle-class enclave in the midst of New York's most wicked zone-the 32nd Precinct. In 1973, he and his brother witnessed the shooting of a 14-year-old youth in their apartment. "After that, Bennie just started going downhill," a friend says. Numerous arrests on petty charges followed as Bates became more and more involved in street activity. "We knew him," says New York homicide Det. Jeddy Gates. "He was just one of a hundred kids out here on the streets hustling the best way they know how.' On June 18, 1975, Bates, 19, moved up to bigger things. He and two friends invaded the home of a small-time jewelry dealer named Ian Richardson. The motive: robbery. In the process, Richardson was murdered. His pregnant girlfriend. Helen Thomas, 30, was also killed, shot in the head and stomach. A visitor at the time of the robbery, Ethylene Carne, 64, was stabbed in the back with an 18-inch knife and later shot to death. Ms. Thomas' 7-yearold son was shot, and another visitor, Myrtle Green, 30, was stabbed. Both survived. Bates was convicted of second-degree murder in August, 1976, and the youth is presently serving a 15 years to life sentence in a New York state prison.

Black criminologists agree that criminal elements already present in a community may entice youngsters to engage in criminal activities. Dr. Benjamin Carmichael, in the book Black Perspectives On Crime And The Criminal Justice System, says that successful young criminals project a glamorous lifestyle that serves as a prototype for both other crimmals and conventional youths to imitate. "For these youths, peer status is measured in terms of one's willingness and ability to use deceit, cunning, daring and coercion to commit essentially petty and non-violent crimes for profit," says Dr. Carmichael. Dr. George Napper, Atlanta's chief of police, argues that the lack of quality education and inadequate schools also influence juvenile delinquency. "Schools in which the teachers have no real interest in the students, or, worse yet, are afraid of them, become breeding grounds for crimes such as drug abuse, assaults and theft."

In the largest urban areas, youths turn to gang activity. According to the Chicago Police, from 150 to 175 gangs with 4,000 to 8,000 members terrorize the city's neighborhoods. Officials say that about 50 percent of these gangs are Black. Most gang members are in their early teens, and some join as young as age eight to begin criminal acts which lead to shoplifting, burglary, armed robbery and even murder.

In 1977, 1.8 million juvenile offenders were taken into custody in this country, and 80 to 90 percent of these were Black youths says Chicago criminologist Dr. John Thornton, director of the Residential Apprentice Program, a half-way house for 13 to 16-year-olds. Dr. Thornton says that Black youths are more likely to be channeled through the juvenile justice system rather than White youths because the community fails to provide the necessary support to Black families. "Many White youths never go to court, but are instead channeled through various programs, or are released to their families after the intervention of religious leaders or school teachers," says Dr. Thornton. "But many Black youths needlessly end up in institutions when they only need counseling and guidance.

"This loss of talent is devastating," says Dr. Thornton, who has also authored a book, *Behavior Modification: The Road To Genocide.* "I work with these kids everyday and I have not seen any juvenile who did not have a great deal of talent. But they are arrested and labeled, and that label brings certain negative treatment and alienation that prevents them from integrating into society, and this ultimately leads to genocide. That talent is never tapped, never developed."

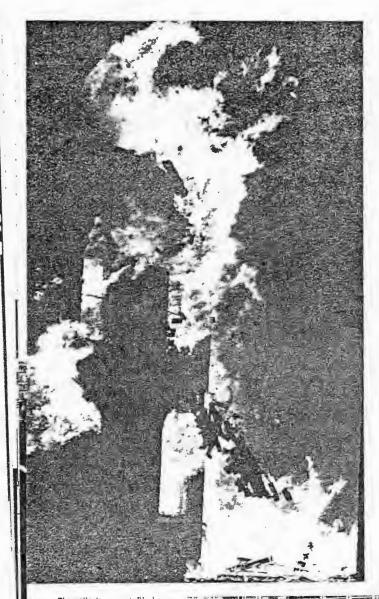


in large urban areas, thousands of talented young Blacks are involved in gang crimes. In Chicago, a Blackstone Rangers member is arrested by police.

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### LOSS OF PROPERTY

### Property Crimes Cost Blacks Billions Annually



**P**ROPERTY lost in burglaries, robberies, car thefts, vandalism and arson is one of the staggering consequences of Black on Black crime. Blacks accounted for nearly 31 percent of those arrested for property crimes in 1977 and a great percentage of these crimes were against other Blacks, according to Howard University criminologist Dr. Gwynne Peirson. "Blacks tend to stay in their own communities to commit crime," he says. "It is safer there because Blacks are still reluctant to report crime and the police are less interested in investigating crimes in Black communities."

Understandably, then, many Blacks avoid leaving their homes unattended for fear that a neighbor might tip off a burglar. Elderly citizens lock themselves into their homes at dusk, but are still fearful of robberies despite the iron bars and massive locks on their doors and windows. And many buildings are damaged by vandals who set fires to apartments, hurl bricks through windows and even steal plumbing and carpeting.

"Black people are affected inordinately by crime in their communities," says Dr. Peirson. "Blacks live in depressed conditions. Their property is more valuable because they don't have much to begin with. They are not protected by police and when property is stolen, it is not recovered. So Blacks are forced to play the game and get property in the manner they lose it—through illegal means."

Dr. Peirson and other criminologists emphasize that Blacks bear a disproportionate share of the cost of crime to the nation.

In 1976, 131 of every 1,000 Black households were burglarized as compared with 84 of every 1,000 White households; 14 of every 1,000 Blacks were robbed as were six of every 1,000 Whites. Of the property losses from serious crimes, arson took the highest toll in 1974. Arson is a violent crime that killed 1,000 persons and injured 10,000 others in 1975. In 1974, there was an estimated loss of \$1.3 billion due to arson, which was greater than that for many of the other major property crimes, such as robbery, which accounted for \$142 million in property losses; burglary, \$1.1 billion; larceny, \$816 million, and auto theft, \$841 million.

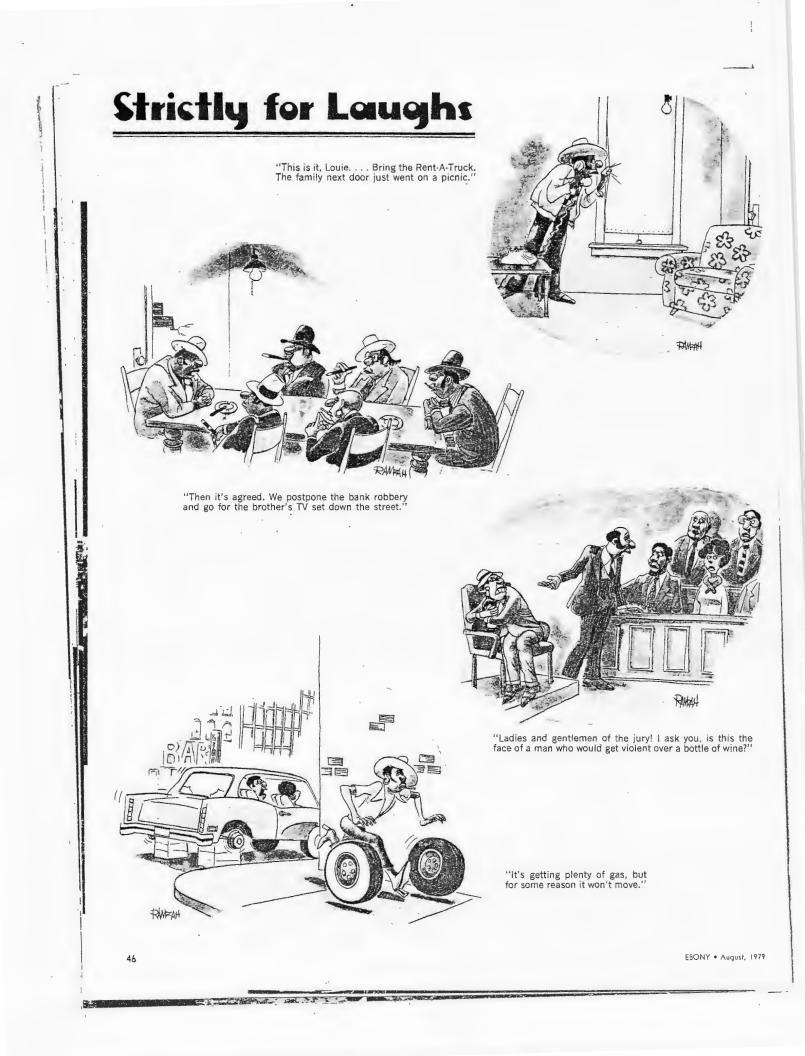
There are no current national statistics telling exactly how many arsons are perpetrated in Black communities. However, if the arson rate in Chicago's Black neighborhoods is any indication, the percentage is high. According to Bruce McElrath of the Chicago Police Arson and Bomb Section, there were 427 arsons in Chicago in the first three months of 1979-44 percent in Black neighborhoods.

In an arson report compiled by the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, vandalism was pinpointed as the motive for 80 percent of the arsons committed by juveniles, a group that constituted about 60 percent of arson arrestees in 1974. The report states: "Vandalism and malicious mischief are the common causes ascribed to fires set by juveniles who seem to burn property merely to relieve boredom or as general protests against authority."

The nation's poorest Blacks are more likely to be victims of property crimes such as burglaries, car thefts, vandalism and arson than affluent Blacks. Above, an apartment building set afire by arsonists burns in Memphis. In 1974, \$1.3 billion in property damage was attributed to arson. Thousands of automobiles are stolen each year, many from unattended parking lots such as this one at a middle-class housing development.

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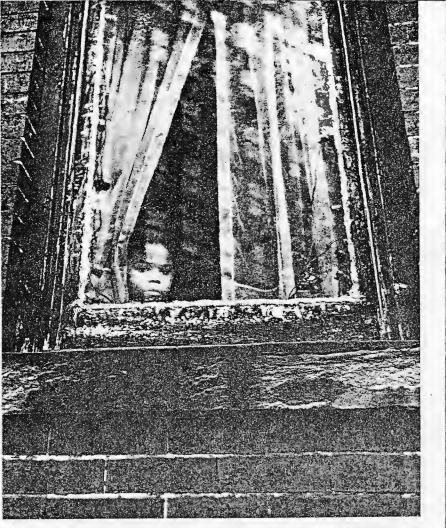
Locks and chains are symbols of the Black community whether in affluent or poor neighborhoods and little children like the girl in the ghetto window (right) will find blight like that shown below in parts of most urban areas.

### DESTRUCTION IN THE CITIES

#### Crime Plays Big Role In Creating Urban Blight

THE woman was talking to a newsstand dealer on a South Side Chicago corner about her friend: "I can't blame her. They broke in her house. They took two of her cars off the street and so she just moved to the suburbs."

She was talking about Black on Black crime and how it is forcing worthy citizens out of Black neighborhoods. She could also have talked about how crime is causing Black businesses to close, factories to move out of town and even poor people to live behind bolted doors. And she could have come to the conclusion that poverty, racism and Black on Black crime can destroy Black communities.











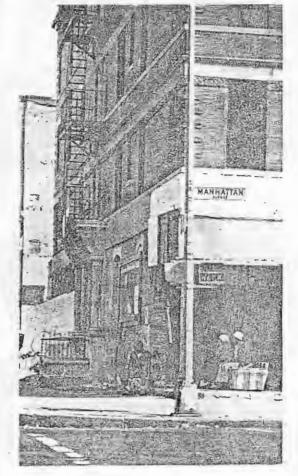
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Grime had a lot to do with the razing of much of the Pruitt-Igoe housing project (Building C-15 falls in the photo at top) in St. Louis, Crime and disrepair had more than halved the population of the project known as the last resort for the poorest of poor. A gutted building in Harlem (right) and a vandalized gas station and junk-filled vacant lot in Chicago attest to the destruction of cities.

Continued on Page 53



### The Morton "County Fair" Sweepstakes

OFFICIAL RULES I. To enter, you must either fill out an official entry form, or on a plain 3"x 5" piece of paper, print the words, MORTON COUNTY FAR to-gether with your name, address, zip code and grand prize category you wish to enter. ALSO, YOU MUST STATE YOUR CHOICE OF GRAND PRIZE CATEGORY ON THE OUT-SIDE OF THE ENVELOPE and mail to the Notorton County Fair Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 612, Howard Lake, MN 55393. Morton reserves the right to disqualify any entries that are not legible or are mutilated in the mail, or fail to specify a grand prize category both on the entil and the envelope. Mechanically reproduced entries will not be accepted. 2. NO PURCHASE REOUIRED. Enter as often

2. NO PURCHASE REQUIRED. Enter as often 2. NO FORCINGS REQUIRED. Enter as otten as you wish for any of the grand prizes, but each entry must be mailed in a separate envelope. All entries must be postmarked on or before Sep-tember 30, 1979 and received no later than October 15, 1979. Morton is not responsible for any entry delayed or lost in the mail.

October 12, 1973, Montoh is not responsible for any entry delayed or loss in the mail. 3. Winners will be selected in random drawings from among all entries received by an independ-ent judging organization whose decisions are final. Drawings will be held on October 30. 1979, All 5.122 prizes will be awarded. If suffi-cient entries for any grand prize category are not received, a random drawing from all entries will be held to award these prizes. The 3.000 serving tray prizes with the Morton Girl Design will be awarded from a drawing of all remaining entries. Winners will be notified by mail. The number of entries received by October 15. 1979. Only one prize to a family or household. All other entries from the same family or household. All before the substitution or exchange of prizes. Liability for taxes is the sole responsibil-ity of winners. Prizes must be redeemed by October 30, 1980.

4. The grand prize categories consist of: JEEP<sup>®</sup> CHEROKEE "S": One (1) 2-door Jeep<sup>®</sup> Cherokee "S" with air conditioning and other deluce accessories.

CASH: Six (6) cash prizes of \$2,500 each.

TRIP: Five (5) prearranged trips for two to the 1980 Mardi Gras in New Orleans for five (5) days, four (4) nights, selected by Morton, in-cluding air fare, lodging and a \$400 food and entertainment allowance.

MICROWAVE OVEN: Fifteen (15) Panasonica "The Genius" Microwave ovens (Model "The Genius" NE7910).

FREEZER & FOOD: Ten (10) G.E. \* 21.1 cubic-foot upright freezers, with a \$200 frozen food allowance (Model CA 21DW).

GAS GRILL: Ten (10) Charmglow<sup>3</sup> deluxe out-door grills (Model 4000). QUILT: Twenty-five (25) handmade double bed-

size quilts HOOKED RUG: Twenty-five (25) hand-hooked 4' x 6' oval rugs in your choice of three colors, FOOD PROCESSOR: Twenty-five (25) Cuisinart® Food Processors (Model CFP9).

In addition, five thousand (5,000) Serving Trays with the Morton Girl Design will be awarded as prizes in a random drawing among non-winning grand prize entries.

Employees of Morton Salt, its affiliates, sub-sidiaries, advertising and promotional agences, and any other supplier who is involved in the production or handling of sweepstakes mate-rials and their respective families are not eligible to participate.

6. The sweepstakes is open to residents of the United States, including residents of Florida, Sweepstakes is void in Howard County Mary-land, Minnesota, Ohio, Utah, and West Virginiar and where prohibited or restricted by law.

7. For a list of grand prize winners, send a sepa-rate stamped, self-addressed envelope to Morton Winners' List, P.O. Box 2272, Maple Plain, MN 55348. A winners' list will be filed with the Sec-retaries of State of Florida, and New York.



A restaurant that catered to Blacks went out of business on Chicago's near South Side. Black businessmen are frequently the victims of high crime rate in Black areas as the cost of operating continues to rise.





Two abandoned plants on Chicago's South Side once provided work for Blacks in city. Urban blight and crime have driven many small industries to suburbs, forcing Blacks to drive extra miles to work daily

\$6,500 in prizes Awarded Monthly

Over



#### Draw "Lucky"

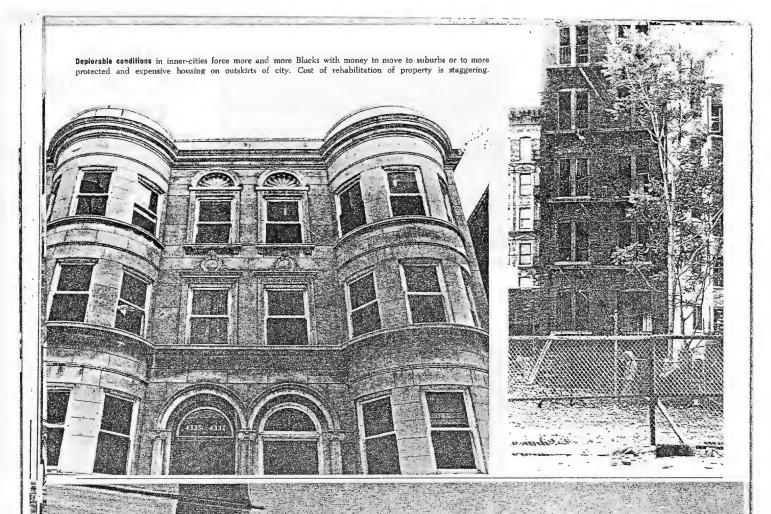
You may win one of five \$1,170.00 Art Scholarships or any one of seventy-five \$10.00 cash prizes.

Draw "Lucky" any size except like a tracing. Use pencil. Every qualified entrant receives a free professional estimate of his drawing.

Scholarship winners will receive Fundamentals of Art taught by Art Instruction Schools, one of America's leading home study art schools. Our objective is to find prospective students who appear to be properly motivated and have an appreciation and liking for art.

Your entry will be judged in the month received. Prizes awarded for best drawings of various subjects received from qualified entrants age 14 and over. One \$25 cash award for the best drawing from entrants age 12 and 13. No drawings can be returned. Our students and professional artists not eligible. Contest winners will be notified. Send your entry today.

MALE THIS COOPON TO ENTER CONTEST			
ART INSTRUCTION SCHOOLS Studio 9G-4300 500 South Fourth Street Minnespolia, Minnesota 55415			
Please enter my draw monthly contest.	(PLEASE PRINT)		
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Occupation	Age		
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County	Zip		
Telephone Number			



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Yes. Slender® Bars are so deliciously munchy and crunchy, you won't believe you're eating a diet bar. They come in 4 mouth-watering flavors – chocolate, vanilla, cinnamon, and chocolate peanut butter. Two bars make a nutritious, satisfying meal of only 275 calories.

#### They taste like you're cheating, but you're not.





### HARLEM TRAGEDY

### Death Almost Destroys Family

After Michael, she tried to forget; then they shot Joey

#### By Ron Harris

**O**N A freezing night in December 1973. Joey Thomas, 16, huddled with his weeping mother, Gloria, amidst the usual crowd of shooting and stabbing victims, overdose cases and miscellaneous injured gathered in the emergency waiting room of New York City's Harlem Hospital. Behind faded green, swirging doors-down a corridor and up a flight of well-worn stairs-his 14-year-old brother, Michael, lay bleeding on an operating table, his stomach ripped open by a .33-caliber bullet put there by one of three youths in an apartment at 147th Street and Seventh Avenue.

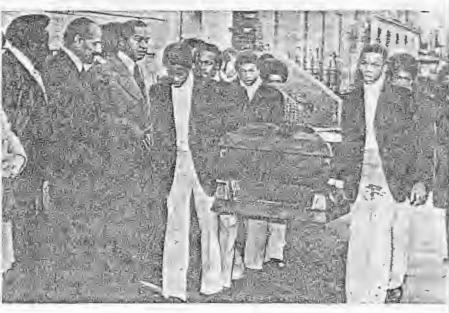
Somber friends lined the walls of the sullen gray room, occasionally stumbling over sleeping vagrants slouched on the floor, while wellmeaning relatives tried unsuccessfully to g.ve handfuls of Valiums to Joey's mother.

"I'm gonna kick Michael's butt when he gets out of this hospital," Joey mumbled angrily to his mother. "I'm going to set him straight. I'm going to hip him to what's going on in these streets." Joey's mother nodded and lightly touched his hand. The words were oddly re-

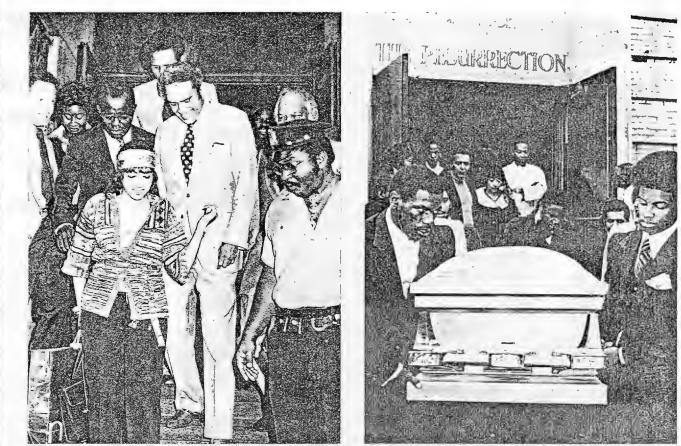
The tragedy of Gloria Williams' family began with the pre-Christmas slaying of her youngest son, Michael Thomas, 14, (below) who wanted to be a priest. At his funeral (above and right), the remaining son, Joey (l.) comforts his mother. Joey was next to die.



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The night Joey was slain, Ms. Williams, director of community affairs for WCBS-TV, attended a dinner (left) for Secretary of the Army Clifford Alexander (c.). Six days later, she and husband Evrard Williams (c., right) buried her last son. "It was all so similar," she says. "Three people with a gun, 147th Street and Seventh Avenue, Harlem Hospital."

assuring. But little Michael never got out of the hospital. He was buried six days later.

It was 2 a.m., Oct. 1, 1977, when Joey's mother returned to Harlem Hospital's waiting room. Nothing had changed. The burns still were strewn across the floor, bloody patients still anxiously awaited treatment and the same sad color hugged the hospital walls. This time Joey did not sit with her. He was down the corridor-the same corridor down which hospital attendants had wheeled Michael four years earlier. Joey lay bleeding on an operating table behind the swinging doors, his handsome face shattered by a bullet through his left eye-the handiwork of three thugs who had shot him an hour earlier on the corner of 147th Street and Seventh Avenue. Again, weeping relatives gathered to console one another.

"When that boy gets out of here, he's gonna get it," said Evrard Williams, Joey's stepfather and his mother's second husband. "I told him about going back into that neighborhood. I'm gonna set him straight." Gloria Thomas Williams did not respond this time. Joey was her oldest, and last, son. Surely, the streets of New York would not make claim twice, she thought. She sucked hard on a cigarette and prayed. Like Michael, Joey, 20, voted the most popular kid in his graduating high school class, never left the hospital.

For Gloria Williams, Joey's death was like a nightmare come back to haunt her. "It was all so similar," she says in a near whisper, "three people, one with a gun, they all knew each other, 147th and Seventh Avenue, Harlem Hospital." And that ominous phrase. "When that boy gets out of here . . ."

In an area of Harlem where crime has cut like a jagged blade into the lives of its residents, Mrs. Williams and her family have suffered more than most. The loss of two sons in a bizarre chain of events almost as ironic as they are tragic has left her bitter and cynical, her family deeply scarred. Her only remaining child, Michelle, 21, has grown cold and hardened from watching her brothers—one a year older and the other a year younger-stripped from her sides. "I just don't have the compassion for things as I once did," she says.

The boys' maternal grandmother suffered a paralyzing stroke shortly after Joey's death. "The last killing took too much out of her," says her husband, who wishes to remain anonymous for fear of gang reprisals. "Joey was her heart. I don't think she'll ever get over it." Their paternal grandmother died in Chicago the day after returning from Joey's funeral. "The emotional shock of it was too much for her," says the boys' father, Joseph Thomas Sr. "Joey's death killed her. There's no doubt about it." Joseph Sr., 47, has watched his restaurant business dwindle because he can't bear being there to attend to the necessary chores. "There's always something there that reminds me of Joey," he says.

As Gloria surveys the losses, she sees an entire family battered and torn. "The victim is not only the dead person," she says. "It's the entire family, because more often than not, the whole family falls apart."

The crumbling of her family began five days before Christmas of 1973. Michael, a cheerful kid who wanted to be a priest, arrived home from school that afternoon and dutifully telephoned his mother at WCBS-TV, where, as director of community affairs, she was getting some last-minute work done in the midst of seasonal office parties. "I was going to pick him and a couple of his friends up after work so we could get him a new coat for Christmas," she recalls. Michael had gone into his room to change clothes when George Harris, 18, stopped by. Beneath his coat, strapped across his chest was a leather shoulder holster with a silver, pearl-handled pistol resting securely in its pouch.

"What's that for," asked Michelle. "I've got to get them before they get me," Harris replied. The words made little sense to Michelle, but she didn't probe it any further. Michael and Harris rode the building elevator up five floors to Apartment 17K, home of Caesar and Bennie Bates. Their mother, described as a "good, hard-working woman," and father, a minister, were not home. Harris pulled out his gun and began showing it to the curious trio.

Details are vague, but the facts are that a few moments later Michael

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and a second at the second second



With heads bowed, (from left) Ivan Johnson, Derek Ellis and Leroy (Chilly) West are hooked for Joey's murder by homicide detectives (from left) Jeddy Gates, Bob Jones and Joe Leake. Johnson was convicted of second-degree murder. West and Ellis were acquitted. Ellis was later convicted of killing a man one month after Joey was shot.

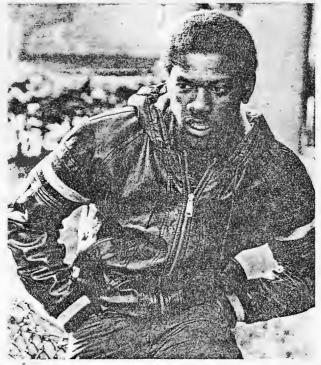
lay on the kitchen floor with a bullet in his stomach from the gun that George Harris had fired. The panic stricken trio hoisted Michael from the floor and half carried, half dragged him out of the apartment and down the hall to the elevator where they left him.

The day after Christmas, Michael was buried. "It's strange," Gloria says. "He was the youngest, but his funeral was the family's first." Harris was arrested, convicted of negligible homicide and sentenced to four years in prison. He was released in less than a year. (Six months ago, in a shootout which police say was the result of a drug-related kidnap attempt, Harris accidentally shot and killed his younger brother, Robert, in front of the same building where Michael was shot.)

With Michael's death, the family structure began to quake. "Gloria went into complete shock," says her best friend and next door neighbor of nine years, Rose Harris, 71. "She just sat, and sat and sat and sat. The spirit just went out of her."

"I had this 'I didn't care' attitude," attests Cloria. "I really didn't care about my job, but my bosses at CBS understood. For six months I was unable to put in a full day's work. You see, everything was built around my kids. My husband and I weren't getting along well at all, so, I poured everything into them. When Michael was killed, I went off. In fact, the whole family went off. You see, I was always the nucleus, and when the nucleus went off center, everything went haywire." Joey and Michelle took it especially hard. "At first it felt like I was

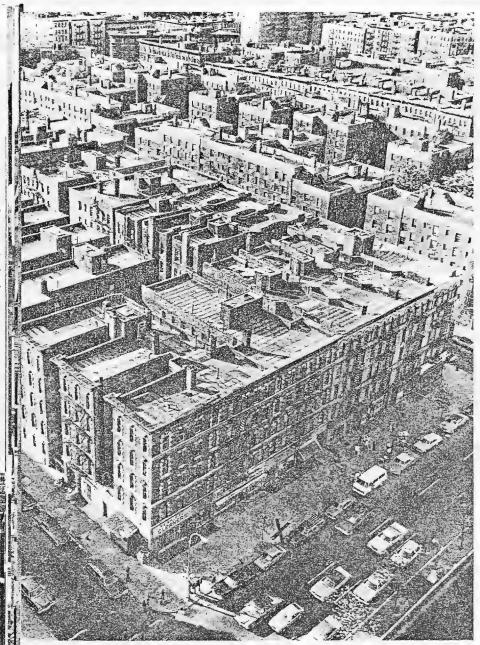
Joey and Michelle took it especially hard. "At first it felt like I was going crazy," Michelle recalls. "My grades fell off in school. I didn't care about anything." Emotionally weakened, Gloria fell prey to the "sharks." "After Michael's death, my house was always filled with people offering condolences," she recalls. "Then I started noticing that things were missing. They were stealing from us like crazy." There was hate mail. Business associates anxious to move up the corporate ladder began spreading malicious rumors that she was drinking too much, that she stayed in bars all night. "When that all hit, it was blinding," she says. "When I finally came out of it, it was like coming through a dark tunnel into the light."



A murder contract has been placed on the head of Bobby Joyner because of his testimony at Joey's murder trial. "Damn a contract," says Joyner, 27. "I've had three or four put on me before. Joey would have done the same thing for me."

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Where Joey was killed (marked by "X") is across the street from where Michael was slain four years earlier. The year of Joey's death, 18 people were killed on a corner just one block away.

She made it through primarily with the help of Homicide Det. Evrard Williams who was assigned to investigate Michael's death. "As I talked to her about the case, I could see these vultures all over the place trying to pick her apart," says Williams, 36. "We talked a lot. first about the case, then crime, life, politics—you name it and we talked about it." They became friends, then fell in love. They were married on Valentine's day, 1976, and moved to Riverdale. Gloria Williams was finally getting her life back in order; a new husband, a new home, a new sense of being. Then Joey was killed.

W HEN Gloria and her family first moved into Esplanade Gardens in 1967, it was a step up, "the whole middle-class syndrome of moving into a nice neighborhood," she says. And Esplanade was nice. It still is—fashionable high-rise apartments, two swimming pools, play area for children and lots of hard-working families. But in the years shortly before Gloria and her two remaining children moved out, the surrounding area had deteriorated so badly that Esplanade had become an island of "safety" in a sea of murder, robbery, narcotics traffic and vicious street gangs.

The apartments stand near the heart of the 32nd Precinct, New York's most wicked zone. It is a square mile of urban badland that law enforcement officials have dubbed "Dodge City." And rightly so. In the last five years, 430 men. women and children have been shot, stabbed, beaten, bludgeoned or otherwise battered to death there. Last year, 69 people were



Michelle, sister of slain youths, was hospitalized twice for emotional strain resulting from their deaths. "It felt like I was going crazy," Michelle, 21, now says.



Rose Harris had the task of twice telling Ms. Williams that her sons had been shot. "Gloria was just getting over Michael when Joey was killed," neighbor says.



Joey was murdered in front of "Ma Rose" Rogers' grocery. "I couldn't believe it was Joey," she says. "Not Joey. He was such a good kid; working two jobs."

killed in the community of 110,000, and so far this year, 38 people have been murdered at a startling rate of one every four days.

It was in 1977-when an orgy of street violence between gangs and young pushers so frightened residents that a backfiring truck would send them ducking for cover-that the 32nd gained its infamous reputation. During that period there were 50 shootings and 18 murders on one street corner-147th Street and Eighth Avenue. It was that same year that Joey Thomas was killed.

On Friday, Sept. 30, Joey cashed his paycheck from Burger King earlier in the day, finished working his second job as a porter at his father's restaurant and had dinner with friends at a small restaurant on West 145th Street. Everybody who knew Joey liked him. He was

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the exception to the popular belief that all kids in Harlem wind up in jail. A basketball and football star, spotless record, sunny personality, fine family; Joey had plans to study veterinary medicine at Cornell University.

"Wasn't nobody like Joey," says Bobby Joyner, whose only other friend, Darrel Welbon, 17, was gunned down by six ski-masked men New Year's day last year along with a 12-year-old youth on the orders of a 31-year-old man who wanted Welbon's 15year-old girlfriend. "He wasn't like me, strong on the streets. He couldn't kill people like me, but he was strong in another way."

After dinner, Joey walked briskly uptown and met Shari Carter, 14. at the corner of 147th Street and Seventh Avenue in front of a grocery store owned by a woman he fondly called "Ma Rose." They were quietly chatting when around the corner rolled a trio of friendly faces.

One was that of Ivan Johnson. Johnson headed a stick-up crew that for months had terrorized the community, extorting money from drug peddlers, numbers runners, after-hours club operators and merchants. For the past four days, he and his crew had embarked on a shooting spiree, sparked by the death of his cohort, Michael (Dondi) Houze, 19, killed when he and Johnson had attempted to hold up a local drug dealer. Johnson and six members of his crew had drunk Dondi's blood the night of the shooting and sworn to avenge his death.

Joey knew Johnson well. In fact, after hearing on the streets that a contract had been placed on Johnson's life, Joey remarked to his mother one night. "I hope they don't get my man Ivan." Joey had seen the three earlier that night in Ma Rose's grocery, where they had slapped hands and kidded. This time there were no warm greetings.

"Do you have any bank?" they shouted at him, the code word for money. Joey stared back in disbelief. "If it had been anyone else, Joey would have handed over the money," his mother maintains. "Joey made it a point to stay out of fights. But these were guys that he knew."

This was one fight Joey could not avoid. "Get out of here," one of the men screamed at Shari. "Joey's going to die." One of the men hit Joey and he went down. Then, one of them coolly stepped forward and fired a bullet into Joey's left eye. Ma Rose heard the shot, spotted a body on the street and called the police. "I couldn't believe it was Joey," she says. "Not Joey. He was such a good kid." Ma Rose's weekend of grief had just started. One day later, her 18-year-old daughter was pushed to her death out of the window of a Harlem apartment.

As word of Joey's death swept through the community, friends were shocked—and enraged. The day after the slaying, someone caught up with Derek Ellis, 18, a member of Johnson's gang believed to have been involved in the shooting, and pumped three sub-machine gun slugs into him while his mother looked on. Joey knew Ellis well. Ellis and Johnson had taken his sister out on her 16th birthday. Ellis survived this shooting.

As sorrow had encompassed Gloria after Michael's death, rage raced through her veins following Joey's shooting. "It was different this time," she says. "I was determined that I wasn't going to let these punks get away with killing Joey." Finding witnesses to a shooting in Harlem is always difficult, and Joey's was no excep-

> Esplanade Gardens, where Michael was killed, is in the 32nd Precinct, the "murder capital" of New York where 430 people were killed in the past five years.





tion. But with Gloria, her husband, and CBS applying pressure in the right places, and with the aid of Joey's comrades-Bobby Joyner and Alexander Cook-Johnson, Ellis and Leroy (Chilly) West were brought to trial.

The key witness in the case was Shari Carter. Then came Joyner and Cook. As the case began to form, threats against the witnesses spread through the street. Shari Carter and her family had to be noved into another community for safety. Contracts were placed on the lives of Joyner and Cook. "Joey was special, and I testified because I know he would have done it for me," says Joyner. "To hell with a contract."

Gloria's husband, however, remains wary. "Bobby and Alexander put their lives on the line for my family," Evrard says. "That means a helluva lot. If anything happened to them, I'd have to do something about it." By putting the witnesses on the stand. Manhattan Asst. District Atty. John Fried was asking them to break a street code of silence. "These witnesses did a very courageous thing," Fried says. "There was a lot of pressure on them from their peers. I was impressed."

Gloria made regular court appearances during the trial to offer support to the witnesses. "She was there every day," Fried says. "She was trying to be a good soldier, but you could see it was a drain. She was reliving a part of her life she had tried to forget."

Even with witnesses, vigorous prosecution and community support, only Johnson was convicted of Joey's shooting. Ellis, however, was convicted of another killing and sentenced to the maximum of 25 years to life imprisonment. West is in jail awaiting trial on a number of robbery charges. Johnson was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison for Joey's murder.

The trials are all over now, but the painful memories are fresh in the minds of Gloria Williams and her family.

"I described myself as a humanist before," Gloria says sadly. "Now, I'm an individualist. I have regrets. I regret that I passed on certain values to my children, values that at the time I thought were good. When Joey turned 18, Bobby offered him a gun as a birthday present, but Joey turned it down. That's the way he was raised. Now, I wish he had had a gun that night. By teaching my kids those values I almost feel I may have made them victims.

Perhaps the best indicator of how deeply the deaths of Michael and Joey stole into the lives of Gloria and her family is a picture that sits at the bedside of Michelle. It is a picture of Joey—in his funeral casket. "I look at that picture every day," says Michelle, who, because of her brothers' early deaths, feared that she would not live to the age of 21. "It's there because I want to think about it. I want to think about it every day."

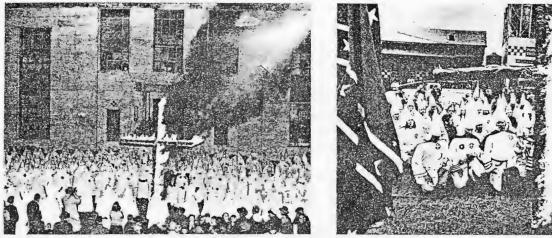
> With the aid of her husband, Evrard Williams, Gloria struggles to overcome the death of her two sons. "You keep going," she says. "You have to keep fighting."



#### THE CAUSES

### **RACISM AND OPPRESSION:**

#### Still The Bottom Line On Community Violence



The scenes above bear a haunting similarity, though they occurred more than three decades apart. Swainsboro, Ga., Klansmen (left) burn a cross in front of Emanuel County Courthouse in 1948. In May, about 100 Klansmen burned a memorial cross in Decatur, Ala., after two KKK members were shot at in an earlier confrontation with Blacks.

**D**ESPITE the progress of the 1960s, despite the complex network of laws designed to alleviate injustices in the areas of employment, housing, health care and voting rights, and, with them, the almost desperate desire on the part of Whites to wash their hands of the legacy of slavery ("Why should I be responsible for the acts of my forebears?"), racism and oppression continue to define the existence of millions of Blacks in America.

Indeed, they are alive and well and living in America today as they were 200 years ago. Only their forms have changed. Granted, the obstreperous behavior of a minority of militant Whites in groups like the Ku Klux Klan and Frank Collin's neo-Nazis still invokes images of the deep South during the first half of the century. Racism and oppression in America today, however, are less vocal but still vigorous. The effect works its cancer in ways that crush the spirit of Black youngsters. by imbuing some Black people with a sense of self-hatred, of predetermined failure and powerlessness. It dictates substandard housing, poor health care, an embarrassingly high unemployment rate, inadequate police protection, and a justice system which is weighted heavily against the poor.

And Black people are angry. Their anger, internalized and long simmering, finds its outlet in aggression against other Blacks—in criminal activity in the community and in unbridled attacks upon the nearest person—often a family member or friend. Wrote Dr. Alvin Poussaint, author of Why Blacks Kill Blacks, in an EBONY magazine article: "It is as if, in a sheer mood of desperation. Blacks seek to become a part of the White mainstream and obtain so-called manhood by turning to physical brutality and petty crimes against one another. Violence can be a potent drug for the oppressed person. Reacting to the futility of his life, the individual derives an ultimate sense of power when he holds the fate of another human being in his hands."

Dr. George Napper, Atlanta's Chief of Police, agrees. "The kinds of frustrations that result from being unable to find a job will find an outlet in aggression against one's wife or husband or other loved one. It's a very important thing to look at, in terms of material goods being staud-



Nazi hate groups—like this one which picketed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s visit to the White House in 1965—have enjoyed increased activity and increasing ranks in recent years. Like their connerparts, the Ku Klux Klan, they are the embodiment of racist sentiment and oppression toward Blacks, Jews, Catholics and all other minorities.

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Continued on Next Page



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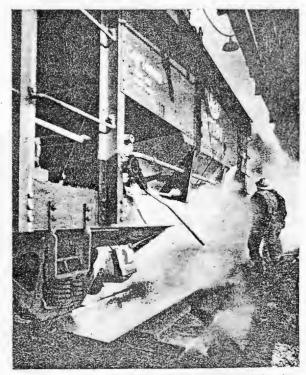
#### RACISM AND OPPRESSION continued

ards by which people measure themselves, measure their existence and their sense of being. To the extent that one is not able to have those kinds of things, there is a great amount of frustration, and often it is taken out on the people you love most."

When legitimate roads to personal achievement and material rewards are blocked or narrowed, whether by poor education, the unavailability of all but the most menial jobs, or other obstacles on the path of upward mobility, Blacks, like other ethnic underclasses, often resort to illegal means, be it prostitution. fencing stolen goods, or drug trafficking. But, unlike the experience of most ethnic immigrants who have moved upward in American society, Blacks have remained locked on the bottom, generation after generation.

In his book, Dark Ghetto, Dr. Kenneth B. Clark writes, "The problem of controlling crime in the ghetto is primarily one of changing the conditions which tend to breed widespread violence rather than one of reforming the individual criminal. An apt analogy here may be to compare ghetto pathology to an epidemic. To prevent epidemics, necessary public health and sanitation measures are taken; one does not attempt to control the epidemic through the impossible task of trying to cure individuals. Yet the tendency has been, in terms of ghetto crimes, to concentrate on imprisonment of individuals rather than to seek to destroy the community roots of crime itself . . . And behind and beneath all of the crimes in the ghetto is the specter of unemployment, broken families, and poor education. The rise in venereal disease and illegitimacy has its source in large measure in the despair of the ghetto's young people, who seek gratification wherever they can find it as escape from the harsh realities of the many forms of racial rejection."

Clearly, then, incidents of crime and violence cannot be wholly dismissed as isolated examples of inherent criminal tendencies. Rather, institutional racism, coupled with years of oppression, can be summoned to trace the causes of Black on Black crime.



Despite the upward mobility of many Blacks, a large percentage, like the workers above, are confined to low-paying, menial and often dirty jobs with little hope of advancement. These jobs provide only marginal subsistence for poor families.

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### UNEMPLOYMENT

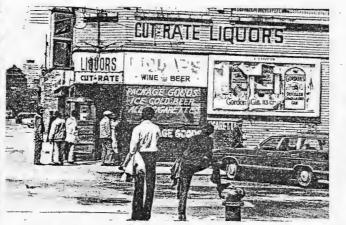
### The Majority Of First Offenders Are Out Of Work

MOSES Williams, 20, spends most of his afternoons these days on street corners in Los Angeles' Watts section with several of his buddies, who, like himself, have neither steady employment nor much hope for any. "Look," he tells a visitor, "I've had a couple of jobs, but they didn't last long. I stood in line once for a job [at a fast food restaurant]. They said they had 20 jobs to fill. There must have been 200 people waiting to apply for those 20 jobs. I applied, but I didn't get hired, and neither did any of my friends."

Williams, a high school dropout with no skills, learned before leaving school that he could get by almost as well, and sometimes better, by hustling in the streets than by working a job that pays minimum wage. Thievery and "boosting" have become more than a means to survive. For Williams, it has become an art and a way to alleviate boredom. And he admits he's good at it, having been caught only twice in his eight-year criminal career. the man in Atlanta who were forced to steal the necessities that the middle classes take for granted, the vast majority of Black youth between the ages of 16 and 24 now have no hope of finding and keeping a job. And the vicious cycle of poverty, unemployment and crime does not only affect the vast underclass of chronically unemployed. It exacts its toll on every man, woman and child in America.

Dr. Alex Swann, a criminologist and chairman of the sociology department at Texas Southern University, calls the crimes of robbery, mugging, burglary and thievery "survival crimes" and estimates that 48 percent of all unemployed Black youths will commit them. They are, he says, the activities of a class of people who have been left out, or failed, by the prevailing economic system, a system that currently holds about 45 percent of Black youth out of jobs.

"I don't think there's any question that unemployment leads to crime, and the impact of that situation plays heavily on Black youth, who are





To the unschooled observer, idle jobless who wile their time on street corners appear to be disinterested in seeking work. The photo at right belies this widely held belief, as thousands of job hopefuls swarmed the Cadillac plant in Detroit three years ago after rumors-that were false-had spread that the plant would be seeking applicants.

In Atlanta last year, a man without a job found Christmas fast approaching and with the prospect of no money to buy presents for his children. He prepared to burglarize an apartment inhabited by two women. After he gained access, he was surprised to find the residents at home. He shot and killed both of them.

Statistics reported by the Christian Science Monitor in March, 1975, showed that during the marked increase in unemployment during the recession in 1974 and 1975, the majority of first-time offenders were unemployed. Even today, prison and jail officials report that the majority of inmates—as many as S0 percent—had no jobs at the time of their offense.

In Syracuse, N. Y., and several other cities last year, a federally funded jobs program placed substantial numbers of disadvantaged youths in jobs, and authorities noted a corresponding decrease in crime.

Because of limited studies designed to measure the exact correlation between unemployment and crime, the experts agree that lack of gainful employment has a direct bearing on the rising criminality in the Black community as well as others. Dr. M. Harvey Brenner, an economist at Johns Hopkins University, found that for every 1 percent increase in the national unemployment rate, property crimes rise an average of 6 percent, while homicides increase as much as 4 percent. Dr. Brenner called these figures "extreme underestimates" and are based on crimes reported in country as a whole. Further, he notes, the reverse is true—that when unemployment goes down, so, too, does the crime rate.

Studies by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration show that the most likely victim of a crime is not White and middle-class but a Black, young, poor and uneducated male. Like Moses Williams and disproportionately involved in those types of crimes," says Dr. George Napper, chief of police in Atlanta. Moreover, many of the unemployed poor who have families to support may find temporary relief in criminal activity. "The cost of living goes sky high in the Black community. Pilferage and shoplifting have an impact on what you pay for," Dr. Napper says. And those high costs affect the Black community disproportionately. In a report by economist Arthur Brimmer, crime cost the Black community alone \$13.29 billion in 1974.

Not only does unemployment often lead to crime, crime leads to unemployment. When businesses move out of the inner city, jobs leave with them—jobs that could be filled by the hard-core unemployed in areas where employment is needed most. When a person is convicted of a crime, his chances of finding work upon release from jail are more difficult than for another who has a clean record. And when chronic unemployment becomes a way of life, many find that crime does, indeed, pay—often more than minimum-wage, dead-end jobs. Crime becomes preferable to employment, Dr. Napper notes.

The burden of paying for unemployment-related crime rests with American taxpayers who bear the costs of public assistance, social work, police services, jails, public defenders, court costs and jobs programs. Says Dean Robert L. Green of the College of Urban Development at Michigan State University, in his book, *The Urban Challenge:* "Putting and keeping people in jail is expensive, just as putting and keeping people out of work is expensive. The most economical way to handle crime is to offer full participation in society to all strata of people. It is cheaper to return people to the community with proper support than to keep them unemployed and living in one of the most expensive hostelries on earth, prison."

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### HARD DRUGS

### Addicts Are Responsible For Much Of All Criminal Activity

**O**LLIE sits, his chin resting on his cupped hand, in a pose resembling that of Auguste Rodin's celebrated sculpture, *The Thinker*. But, unlike that splendid art work, Ollie's stooped frame, furrowed brow and desolate eyes depict the ravages of street life.

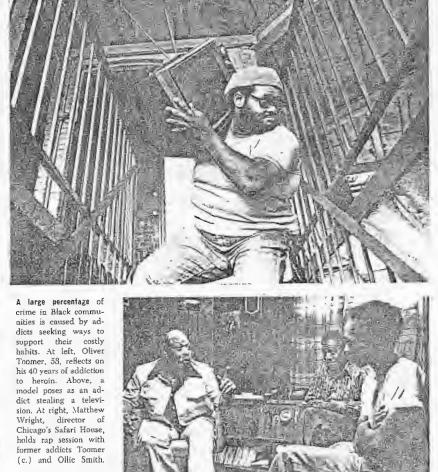
Ollie's demeanor is calm, but, as he reflects on 40 years of a crippling addiction to heroin, his expression turns morose. Like thousands of other addicts, Ollie discloses tales in which crime is usually connected to survival. They are tales of murder, muggings, purse snatchings, drug dealing, prostitution, theft and other crimes by Black addicts primarily against Black victims to support costly \$100 to \$300-a-day habits.

"I started shooting up when I was in high school and supported my habit by gambling," says Ollie. "I'm a professional musician and I also made some money playing gigs. I've never been much of a thief, but when my habit became more expensive, I resorted to professional stickups."

It is estimated that heroin users commit about 19 percent of all property crime in the U.S., according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. They commit about 100,000 robberies, larcenies or auto thefts each day, plus an undetermined amount of crime involving bad checks and credit cards. This costs society about \$10 million per day. Additional costs are generated by some 111,221 addicts (out of a total of 450,000) who participate in federal treatment programs. Blacks comprise 48 percent of that total. Addicts who are unable to support their habits by jobs, public assistance, friends or family, resort to crime. Their primary victims are those in closest proximity—family members and neighbors. "Blacks are readily available to have crimes committed against them," says a 38-year-old addict now in treatment at Chicago's Safari House drug abuse center. "It was easier for me to rip them off than to go into a White community where I would be too obvious. Locks never stopped me because there are all kinds of ways to get around them—like lock cutters for instance. Sure, I got busted but I always got out of jail. When I returned to the streets, I'm sure neighbors saw me taking stuff out of someone's house. Sometimes they'd call the police, but most times they'd just say, 'Well, hell, it didn't happen to me, so forget it.'"

The stolen goods addicts burter for hard drugs include television sets, electrical appliances, cameras, jewelry, clothes, golf clubs, etc. according to Dr. Beny J. Primm, executive director of the Addiction Research Treatment Corporation (ARTC) in New York City. Dr. Primm, who directs six clinics and one skilled treatment center and has been in the business for 15 years, explains that in the complex street economy, the addict either sells the items directly to "customers," or sells them to a fence who pays him between 25 and 40 percent of the value. The fence is part of a drug network which involves some ten gradations from the farmer in Mexico or Southeast Asia who cultivates the opium poppy crop, to the street dealer in Harlem or Detroit.





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Presently there appears to be an opening for the position of top dog in the drug world. "After the demise of the French connection in 1972, Organized Crime had pretty much gotten out of the business because they couldn't control Mexican heroin like they did in France," says Richard Bly of the Drug Enforcement Administration. "No one powerful organization has a stranglehold on drug traffic right now. There are for the most part, a bunch of small-timers who can scrape together enough money for a plane trip and a courier. But there are indications that Organized Crime is once again starting to send out feelers to Southeast Asia where heroin is very cheap."

Blacks at the top are negligible because they lack the required contacts and resources. One major Black drug trafficker, New York's Leroy (Nicky) Barnes did manage to break those barriers and gained international notoriety by leading an organization which yielded about \$200 million a year from heroin and cocaine. The joy ride screeched to a halt recently when Barnes was sentenced to life imprisonment.

In a study on crime and drugs conducted in five inner cities using a population of 1,000 with Blacks comprising about 80 percent, Conrad Maugé of ARTC describes the heterogenous addict population by dividing it into three groups. It includes: a) the non-criminal addict who has never been arrested (17 percent), b) the criminal addict who had been arrested after the onset of addiction (28 percent) and c) the addict-criminal who had been arrested prior to addiction (55 percent). "Violent felonies dominated in the later category with assault, robbery and weapons possession the greatest, followed by thefts and property felonies," Maugé says.

These cities wage a continuous battle to halt drug-related crimes. In Detroit, for example, an average of five to seven drug raids are conducted daily, according to inspector William Dwyer of the Detroit Police Department. "Last year we had in excess of 1,400 raids and arrested over 5,000 persons," he says. "Out of that number, 3,800 were charged on felony warrants."

However, drugs continue to flow into Black communities and crime is rampant. Matthew Wright, director of the Safari House drug abuse center in Chicago, views the problem as a blight caused by society's ills. "We perpetuate crime in this system," he says. "Until such time as there is a camaraderie between all supportive agencies like the judicial, welfare and community-based organizations, we will be plagued with this problem. If we attack the problem that contributes to drug abuse, we can then eliminate the effects--crime."

Illegal Means Of Support During Period Of Addiction				
Primary Illegal Means of Support	N = 472	Percent		
Stealing	268	36.1		
Armed Robbery	40	5.4		
Burglary	50	6.7		
Forgery	25	3.4		
Dealing	247	33.3		
Prostitution	54	7.3		
Pimping	6	0.8		
Gambling				
Gambling ("Policy" or "Numbers")	31	4.2		
Gambling (Cards, horses, dice, etc.)	21	2.8		

Taken from "An Exploration Of Possible Sub-groups Indigenous To Heroin Addicts" by Conrad E. Maugé.





urban settings including 117th and Frederick Douglass Blvd. in Harlem, where police often conduct drug sweeps (above). At left, are Dr. Beny Primm (r.), director of New York's Addiction Treatment Research Corporation, and his associate, Conrad E. Maugé. International drug trafficker Leroy (Nicky) Barnes (right) stands before courthouse where he received life sentence. His organization grossed 5200 million yearly.



### **URBANIZATION AND FAMILY BREAKDOWN**

### Most Agree On A Correlation Between City Life, Crime

THERE is a debate going on among criminal justice experts. They are trying to find to what degree urbanization and its concomitant problems of crowded housing, family breakdowns and urban anonymity are responsible for the nation's high crime rates. Most Black professionals take the correlation between urbanization and crime to be self-evident. All one must do, they say, is look at the South of 50 or 60 years ago—a time when most Black people still lived off the land, and with the assistance of their extended families tried to eke out an existence that, for all its troubles, was comparatively free of crime.

One glance at the staggering crime rates of many poor, Black, urban communities is sufficient evidence that *something* went wrong. And one of the things that went wrong, some Black experts say, was the *urbanization* of the many Black people who, after the two major wars of this century, headed to large, mostly Northern cities in search of a Promised Land. Instead, they found crowded housing, communities devoid of family or friends, welfare lines, Northern racism and daily stress. Many psychologists say that any combination of these insidious conditions can turn a susceptible person to a life of crime.

Billy W. Pugh, president of the Black Probation Officers Association of Los Angeles County, maintains that urbanization created a climate for crime by breaking up the extended families that were a prime source of financial and psychological support for Blacks in the rural South. "Since World War II, the Black extended family has been disintegrated," argues Pugh, who works with juvenile delinquents and their families. "Before Blacks moved from the South, they used to rely on the extended family very heavily. If a man had to go to another state temporarily for employment, he could leave his children in the care of relatives who maybe lived on a farm. And if anyone ever ran into financial difficulties, there were generally plenty of cousins, aunts and uncles who could help out."

Not so in the "Promised Land," where the Black migrant from the South often found no job nor any relative to lend a helping hand. The result, says Pugh, was welfare—that two-faced institution that, on the one hand, deters crime by offering money for the necessities of life, and, on the other hand, fosters crime by removing the incentive and drive that make a person feel complete. Welfare, which because of its shortcomings and its contradictions is one of the nation's most abiding urban problems, sometimes has a way of creating a cycle of crime by depriving Black youngsters of positive role models, says Pugh. "Welfare made many Black people 'agency-dependent,' and, in some cases, took away the individual's need to be resourceful. He didn't even have to seek out family members for help. Then the children . . . . would have no model to look up to, no one to see . . . . doing constructive things. And so, the kids might turn to street-level activities that might land them in jail."

One doesn't have to be a country bumpkin to walk into a congested, Black urban neighborhood and be overwhelmed by the multiplicity of pool halls, storefront social clubs and community organizations located there, not to mention the scattered cliques hanging out near the bars and playgrounds. Some experts say that this diversity can contribute to crime—not necessarily by confusing the residents, but by making it difficult for families (and other "legitimate" social groupings) to "control" the behavior of their members. "In an urban environment, the social control factors tend to be less effective . . . because of the diverse lifestyles," says Lloyd Sealy, a professor and chairman of the Department of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration at John Jay College in New York City. "In this kind of setting, it is difficult to impose negative sanctions on those who may be adopting criminal behavior." He warns that urban families have to work especially hard to achieve the kind of closeness necessary to control behavior.

Dr. Lee Brown, the Atlanta Public Safety Commissioner who is also one of the nation's few Blacks with a doctorate in Criminology, complains that he and other Black criminal justice professionals have a long way to go in convincing the powers-that-be that urban



In the old South where several generations lived on farms, families were closer knit, children were constantly under supervision. Because they lived off the land, they usually had food and most women could cook. Extended family took care of all chores.



In big eities where often all adults in family go to work each day, young boys hang out in groups at playgrounds and vacant lots. Youngsters are often steered into juvenile gangs and crime.

Welfare systems that remove incentives and drives that make an individual feel complete can push some into crime. Reform of welfare systems are sought by recipients (right) as well as the experts.



conditions play a crucial role in spiraling crime rates. "We have a lot of work to do, a lot of research to do to convince people that the root causes may be in the system itself. Many people still believe there are no root causes. They feel the answer to the problem is bigger jails. That's totally ridiculous. Medicine, for example, does not only react to disease, but attempts to prevent it from returning. We have to begin to think that way when we're talking about crime too."



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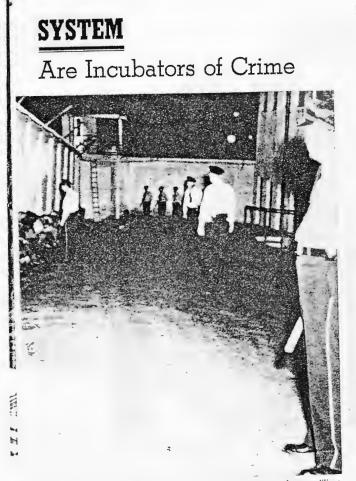
After protesting against what they called poor food, prisoners in a St. Louis prison

WHILE in high school. Don often bragged to his brothers about the fashionable clothes and other items he would heist. As arrests and stints in county jails piled up, Don still boasted, and also began rattling off criminal schemes learned from other prisoners. His favorites were elaborate plots—to bilk banks involving credit cards, bank books and crooked tellers. Don only shrugged when a relative once asked, "Why are most of the people who know these things in jail?" Last year, shortly after being bonded for shoplifting, he was charged with using a stolen savings passbook to withdraw \$500, and was sentenced to two to four years in a New England state prison.

From prison, Don (not his real name), now 23, writes: "... You wouldn't believe what I've seen. Faggots galore. They look just like women. Yesterday, two dudes argued over one and cut each other up with razors. There was blood all over the place ... Last week, guards found a White boy cut up in the yard. He got over 300 stitches ... Luckily, there are many people I know from (my home town), so no one bothers me ... The guards are petty and lay for you to do the slightest thing out of line so they can throw you in the hole."

Don recently became eligible for parole. He will leave prison with more criminal knowledge and less humanity, primed to commit more crimes. Like Don, other Black prisoners-most of whom have ripped off other Blacks-leave jails better prepared for crime. Prisons exacerbate Black on Black crime.

Blacks are about half of America's state prison population and higher (about 60 percent in Illinois) in some states. About 75 percent of men in prisons are repeaters. Some studies show that the less time a person spends in jail, the less likely he is to return to jail. Black sentences generally are longer, and Blacks are more likely to return to prison.



are guarded closely. Uprising was one of many against poor prison conditions.

It starts when they are young. "I see teenagers come in here on skid-bids (short sentences) for stealing, then come back in one or two months charged with sexual assault and armed robbery," says a corrections officer in a Connecticut county jail. There is almost a "family type atmosphere," he jokes. "How are you not going to know a prisoner when you see him all the time."

Old, overcrowded prisons with mostly White guards worsen crime-causing conditions for Blacks. Over 35 percent of all jails are over 50 years old, according to one study. Between 1972 and 1978, the prison population increased 12 percent to 158,394, while the number of prisons decreased to 3,493 from 3,921. Estimates of the number of Blacks employed (nationally) as corrections officers are hard to obtain, but minorities account for about eight percent of correctional employes, according to one study.

White corrections officials oversee prison populations which are becoming increasingly Black. So, prisons are preparing more and more Blacks to commit Black on Black crimes. "When the institutions were primarily White, we were concerned with such problems as work habits, schooling, therapy, counseling, etc.," according to Julius Debro, professor of Criminology at the University of Maryland. "Now we are hearing terms such as fixed sentences, optional programs, etc. This new strategy I refer to is a form of institutional racism designed to insure that when the Black offender returns to the community, he is worse off than when he was committed."

Prisons are "human warehouses" which "don't have the money or facilities to rehabilitate," says Mary Hardy, national secretary of the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice. "There isn't a whole hell of a lot you can do to stop criminal behavior in prisons without psychiatric help (and many other things). And even then," she says, "many times Blacks don't listen." "Thanks" Momma

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## A DOUBLE STANDARD OF JUSTICE

Injustice Fosters More Black On Black Crime



Andy Wright (left) was the last of the "Scottsboro Boys" to leave prison (in 1950.) The nine youths were railroaded through court and on to death row for allegedly raping two White women. In 1972, Elmer Branch, charged with the non-fatal assault of an old White woman, had his death sentence reversed by the Supreme Court decision declaring then-existing death penalty laws unconstitutional. The widely separated cases show the duration of the double standard of justice that exists in America.

THE pattern has been an appallingly familiar one for many years. A Black man is accused of raping a White woman and he ends up either on Death Row or in the penitentiary for the rest of his life. He's caught in the very act of raping a Black woman, pleads that the woman "invited me," and returns very shortly to his Black community to rape again.

A Black armed robber shoots and kills a White storekeeper and a judge sentences him to 50-100 years; he shoots and kills a Black storekeeper and, if the police decide to gather enough evidence to arrest him, gets a "slap on the wrist" sentence after "copping a plea."

Criminologists, sociologists, experts of all kinds, agree that this "double standard of justice" continues to operate in almost every section of the U.S. and is a major factor in the increasing seriousness of Black on Black crime.

Traditionally, the nation's criminal justice system has placed higher values on White lives and White property—and especially White women—than on Black lives, Black property and Black women. It still does. Traditionally, the system has told Black criminals that they will be dealt with far more harshly when they step out of the Black community and rip off Whites. The grand outcome is that the criminal justice system implicitly and explicitly encourages Blacks to take out their frustrations and rage against other Blacks.

That justice is far from color blind is supported by a diverse number of statistics, studies and surveys: About 85 percent of all persons executed for forcible rape have been Black. About 55 percent of people murdered are Black but 80 percent of death row inmates have White victims (this would indicate that White lives are valued more than Black lives). In Texas, a person is 18 times more likely to get the death penalty for killing a White than a Black. Almost all Blacks killed by police are killed by White police, and about half of all persons killed by police are Blacks (Blacks are about 11 percent of the population). Between 1960 and 1970, 90 percent of people killed in Philadelphia were Black.

Other studies show: Blacks are more likely than Whites to be ar-

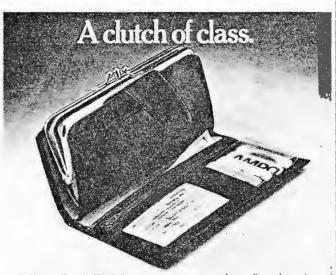
rested, convicted and placed in institutions, especially those which are severely overcrowded and have problems such as a lack of health care. Overall, Blacks get longer sentences, particularly for crimes against Whites. A Boston Globe investigation reveals that the median sentence Massachusetts Blacks receive for rape is 13% months longer than sentences Whites receive for rape. Because Blacks accused of crimes have lawyers less often, and have to settle more often for inexperienced, overworked public defenders (in New York, about 90 percent of legal aid clients are Black and Puerto Rican), Blacks are more likely to plead guilty and less likely to plea bargain. Blacks are less likely to be bonded, receive parole, probation or suspended sentences. District attorneys are more likely to prosecute Blacks than Whites. Judges spend less time on Black cases.

Why do Black on Black crime-contributing inequities exist? Racism, experts say. Because the entire justice system-from police to judgesis some 95 percent White, it's hard for Blacks to get unbiased justice. Law enforcement personnel "practice a form of racism so pervasive yet subtle that even its perpetrators are not aware of its implications," writes Julius Debro, Director of the University of Maryland's Institute for Criminal Justice and Criminology. The justice system is "the cutting edge of institutional racism," says Victor Goode, director of the National Conference of Black Lawyers. Says John Conyers, the congressman from Detroit who chairs the House subcommittee on crime: "The criminal justice system is the most criminal part of government." The government is aware of justice's racist double standard, but doesn't know what to do, and could care less, Conyers says. "If you lined up members of the Justice Department against the wall with a gun (and asked them if they have a solution for the system's inequities), you would have to pull the trigger," because they don't have a solution, he says.

More studies, especially those involving police, show that Conyers and others may be right for blaming racism for justice's double standard. One study shows that White police speak of Blacks "in terms of the animal kingdom." A study done in San Diego reveals that of

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Continued on Page 84



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by mail. Minimum order 51.50 + 50¢ postage & handling each. Write to:





Police frisk a 16-yearold New York City boy who was caught purse snatching. Although the youth will be treated as a juvenile delinquent, it may not be long before he enters the criminal court system. Most criminal start out with petty crimes.

#### **DOUBLE STANDARD OF JUSTICE** continued

some 20,000 persons stopped by police for questioning, 80 percent were Black.

Racism is not the sole mainstay of the double standard of justice that helps Black on Black crime to grow. If racism ceased to exist, there would remain problems within the justice system that would exacerbate Black on Black crime. The criminal justice system is "archaic, clumsy and ineffective," says Ben Carmichael, chairman of California State University's Criminal Justice Department.

Studies by the Institute for Law and Social Research in Washington, D.C., bolster Dr. Carmichael's invectives: Incarceration rates for persons charged with felonies and convicted vary from 39 percent to 81 percent; incarceration rates vary from city to city; "considerable sentence variation can exist from city to [city; some judges appear twice as likely to impose incarceration;" about 40 percent of sentences are "not explainable." Such results may, in part, result from the system's racial inequities. However, such results also point to problems endemic within the system, regardless of racism.

And there are other such problems. Increasing numbers of criminals, overworked judges, understaffed courtrooms, and various delays and procedural maneuverings by judges and lawyers are clogging court dockets, making "due process" a slow process.

The justice system's problems aside, the bottom line is that Blacks want the law to stop aiding and abetting Black on Black crime. The 1978 Social Survey of the National Opinion Research Center shows: About 86 percent of Blacks think that courts aren't harsh enough; 72 percent say too little is spent fighting crime; 46 percent believe in the death penalty for murder.

Then a Cook County, Ill., public defender, Brian Silverman talks to a youth about to be released from the supervision of Chicago Juvenile Court. Silverman then expressed concern because public defenders had so little time to prepare cases, were always overworked.



## MEDIA AND CRIME

## TV AND MOVIES MAY CONTRIBUTE TO CRIME



A classic example of violence in television and movies is demonstrated by karate expert Jim Kelly in this scene from Allied Artists' Three The Hard Way. Below, brothers Fletcher Lumpkin (1.) and Duane Childress, watch a "cops and robbers" television show that might, according to some authorities, contribute to criminal behavior.



A CT II, Scene IV, Take III. The camera zooms in on a stocky man brandishing a sawed-off shotgun. Sweat drenches his face as he glances furtively around an empty shop. No customers means no witnesses."Okay man, hold it right there," he yells at the startled owner. He pulls the trigger and watches his target slump to the floor. The felon gingerly steps over the body, empties the cash register and escapes in a car waiting in the alley. A clean getaway. Cut!

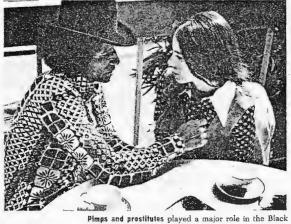
Crime and violence on television and in the movies-they're nothing new, and the protest by concerned groups has not changed its tenor. What *has* changed is that television is, more often, being set up

Continued on Page 88





The Hustlers and Players Convention Ball in Los Angeles awarded men typifying the pimp fashion image in movies like Super Fly. Awardees included (1. to r.) Duane Shepard, "Big Leroy" and winner, Willie Hicks.



**Pimps and prostitutes** played a major role in the Black Exploitation films of early Seventies. Max Julien and Sandra Brown portray these characters in *The Mack*.

#### MEDIA AND CRIME Continued

as the fall guy by some people who commit crimes and then claim to have borrowed the idea from *Kojak*, *Starsky and Hutch* or from the movie on the preceding page shown on television recently.

Some psychologists argue that people are responsible for their actions and are just looking for a scapegoat after getting caught. "If someone stole your television and said the devil made him do it, would you believe him?" asks Dr. Carl Word, psychology instructor at the University of California Berkeley Extension.

In any event, the steady diet of mayhem being digested by those who choose to remain nearly catatonic for several hours a day, does create a negative impact on their lives. According to A. C. Nielsen, by age 18, the typical teen-ager will have watched at least 15,000 hours of television and vicariously participated in 18,000 murders.

Several studies have shown that constant doses of violence has a desensitizing effect on those who may participate in real life violence and indirectly causes children to become more physically aggressive. This is noteworthy considering that Black children spend about 70 percent of their free time in front of the tube. "Violence is the preferred mode of action presented on television," says Dr. Word. "The hero is always a violent White male. Keeping in mind that poor Blacks are the most extreme consumers of television, if all models that Black children are exposed to solve their problems by violence, and we assume that television is a strong socializing tool in people's homes, it is telling the child, "Don't negotiate a conflict, don't try to resolve it. Use violence be-

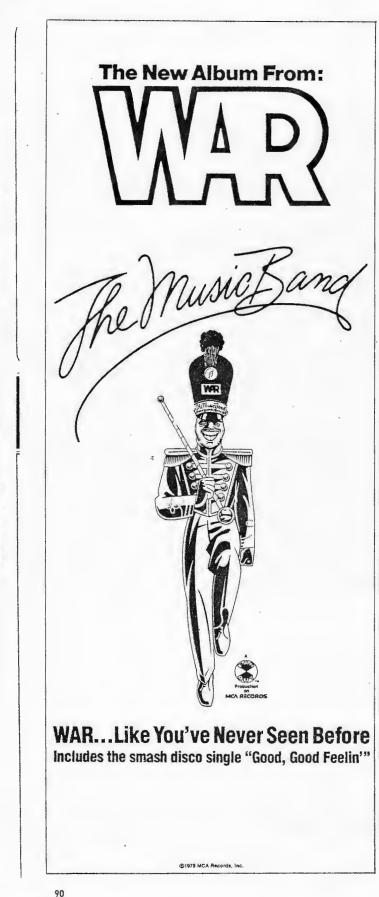
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Distant in

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Black on Black crime is committed by these thugs in *Together Brothers*. In the film, Mau Mau (c.) (Kenny Bell) and Monk (Owen Pace) are beaten by bad guy Armstrong (Danny Big Black) and his men.

#### MEDIA AND CRIME Continued

cause it is the preferred mode.'" He adds, "We must think of television as sort of like cancer, it gets you in the same slow kind of way that cancer gets you. Perhaps it's more like asbestos—a little bit of it everyday, and after enough years your health is gone."

On the other side of the television camera, Donn O'Brien, vice president of CBS program practices, says it is overly simplistic to link television violence with crime. "Even Charles Manson said he got his idea for *Helter Skelter* from a Beatles song with the same title," he says. "People tend to come up with an excuse when they get caught." He explained that following the Surgeon Ceneral's report on television violence in 1974, the networks began editing scripts more carefully, and prime time television violence has decreased about 30 percent in the last five years.

Television also reportedly catalyzes feelings of alienation and discontent among Blacks because their own homes and families don't measure up to those in *Eight is Enough* and this might cause them to feel they should also have a slice of that pie.

One study conducted by Sheila S. Allen and Dr. Robert V. Heckel of the University of South Carolina Social Problems Research Institute (USCPRI) indicates that Blacks in television are consistently underrepresented in higher occupations and overrepresented in lower occupations, more often appear in situation comedies, and comprise nine percent of the characters in action/crime shows. In a frequency of appearance calculation, Whites comprised 75.5 percent; Blacks, 11.7; Hispanics, 1.6, and other minorities combined totaled 11.2 percent.

"Asians don't fly planes, Chicanos don't solve crimes and Indians don't do anything," says Dr. Word. "White males are reserved for those roles, so television creates a psychological *aparthetid* thereby relegating Blacks and other minorities to certain roles which decreases the amount of respect they have for themselves and other minorities, and makes it easier for them to utilize that preferred mode of solving problems, which is violence."

Movies don't fare much better. During the early '70s, a barrage of "blaxploitation" films gutted the industry with such descriptive titles as The Legend of Nigger Charley, Slaughter, Shaft, The Mack, Super Fly and Three The Hard Way.

"Immediately following these types of films, there was a lot of imitation in the Black community in terms of dress, cars and style, particularly with the disadvantaged," says Eddie Caffney of USCPRI. "Audiences didn't see the guy making achievements downtown. The most immediate male models they had were these glorified pimps riding around in an Eldorado wearing nice clothes."

There is no escaping it though, because even the evening news is filled with real life violence. However, the option to change the channel or pull the plug will always exist. And instead of sitting through violent movies, you might decide to go roller skating, or even get into a racy novel. The choice is, and always will be, up to you.

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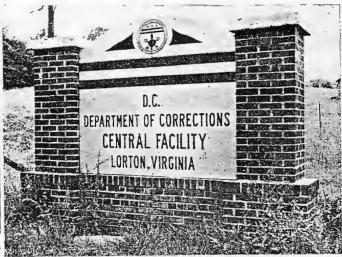
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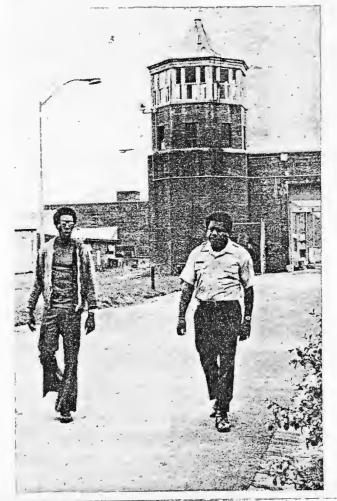
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# THE CRIME: MURDER, 2nd DEGREE ERNEST GILES JR. #175318



**Ernest Giles Jr.** (opposite page) looks like a serious-minded college student but is  $\mp 175318$  at Lorton Penitentiary near Washington D.C. Convicted in 1977 of murdering Mrs. Eleanor C. Haywood, he was sentenced to 8-to-24 years for second degree murder. Below, he walks across the prison yard with Officer Francis Young.



## His familiar, tragic story is that of most Black prisoners

#### Story and photos by Charles L. Sanders

**A**<sup>T</sup> 10 years old, Ernest Giles Jr., a skinny, country-talking, countryacting kid just out of Pine Grove, South Carolina, found himself dumped onto one of the meanest of the mean streets in Washingtou, D. C.

Ernie's grandmother, Josephine Giles, who grew corn, butterbeans, squash and other vegetables on her land, and who made her own lye soap and hog's head cheese, had kept him and loved him and taught him all she knew about serving God and doing right by your fellow-man. She had kept him there with her in Pine Grove when his mother and father moved up North "to do better."

Grandma Josephine, Ernie calls her, and he remembers her well as he walks across the yard at Lorton Penitentiary in Fairfax County, Va., his steps tracked by sharpshooters in the guard towers, his every move monitored by the corrections officers in charge of him and the 1,139 other prisoners in Lorton's Central Facility.

Ernest Giles Jr., now 31, is Resident #175318.

- He is serving 8 to 24 years.
- The crime: murder, second degree.

The victim: a Black woman, Mrs. Eleanor C. Haywood, 49, who lived at 2820 Pomeroy Rd., S.E., Apt. 3, in Washington, D.C.

The motive: obviously attempted rape and robbery; Mrs. Haywood's body was nude and her apartment had been ransacked when her husband James L. Haywood came home after seeing King Kong on New Year's Eve night 1977 and found her lying face up with a steak knife in her chest and the telephone cord tied around her neck.

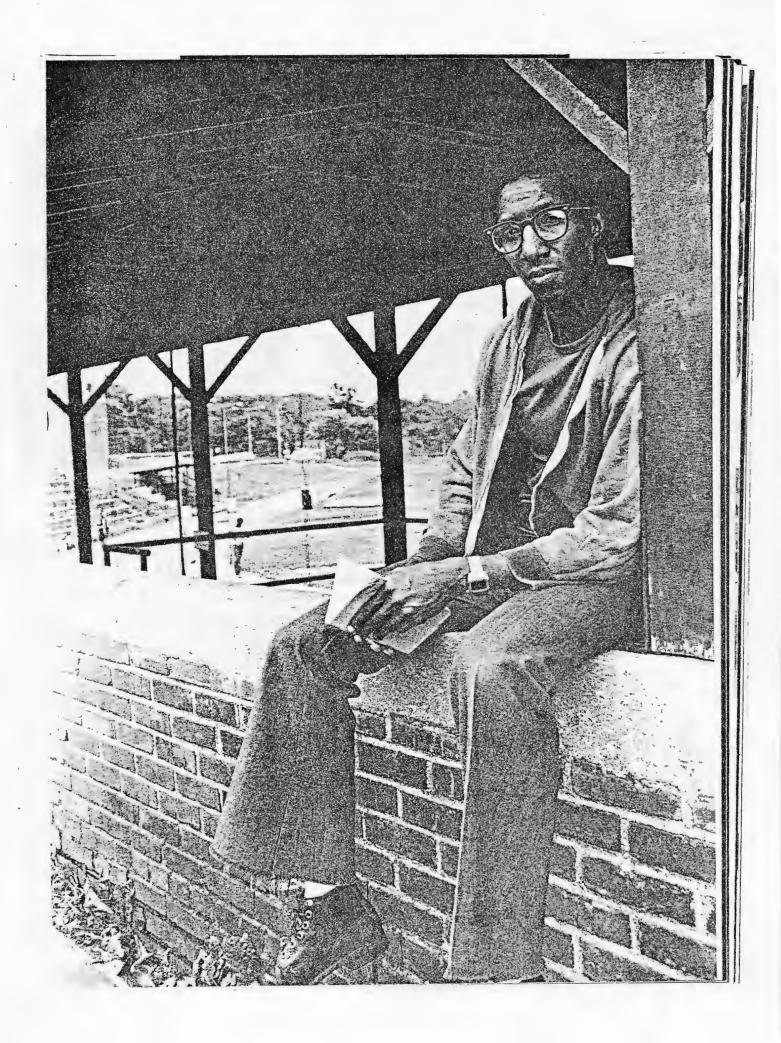
Ernie remembers: Grandma Josephine had made him take a bath in one of her Number 2 tin tubs and had greased his hair, face, elbows and knees with Blue Seal Vaseline. Then she had dressed him in his best clothes and had filled a lunch box with fried chicken, biscuits and sweet potato pie. She hadn't really liked the fact that Ernie's parents had finally sent for him, and, since she knew that the Lord sometimes spoke to her in the cool of the evening, she looked at the little boy and told him, "Something just tells me that you'd turn out to be a much better man if you stayed down here with me." But Ernie wanted to go to Washington, D.C. He thought that anywhere "up North" would be a lot more exciting than Pine Grove. Like 10 million other Black boys who have made a similar journey from the farm towns of the South, he wanted to see bright lights, have some excitement and . . . he'd find out. Grandma Josephine just looked at him as he got into his Uncle John Willis' car, and she waved a silent goodbye as the car disappeared in the dust of the farm road.

"Man, Washington was so scary at first!" Ernie recalls during his walk across the Lorton yard. "All those cars and buses rushing everywhere, and, man, the people-people of all kinds on every corner doing all kinds of things I'd never seen in Pine Grove. Can you imagine me at 10 years old and fresh from the corn patch and suddenly in a big place like D.C.?" Ernie is tall, still a bit skinny, and could, in suit and tie and with a decent briefcase, pass for a graduate student striding across the Quadrangle at Howard University. What gives him away is the way he talks, the way he sounds. His is the voice of a "street dude" desperately trying to control his fury as he desperately tries to explain things in a way that will make someone believe. A lot of young

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On the yard, Giles makes a point to Officer Young as other prisoners make basketball points in background. Giles insists he was convicted on "circumstantial evidence," but D.C. police say he confessed the crime.

#### ERNEST GILES JR. #175318 continued

Black men sound like him: the many thousands of them still dealing with the streets of urban America, the great number of them at Lorton and at Parchman in Mississippi, Stateville in Illinois, Jackson in Michigan, Raiford in Florida, Huntsville in Texas, Chino in California—men who, if things had gone differently for them, might have been the cream of Black manhood. "I arrived in Washington not knowing anybody except my mother and father," Ernie says. "I had no friends and didn't know any kids my age, so I started hanging out with the people in the streets when I came home and my parents were still at work."

The street people, the ones around K Street, G Street, and Myrtle Street near a place called the Sugar Bowl; the hustlers, bootleggers, loose women and other types who populate every rundown Black neighborhood in every American town, the bits of human chaff that life has thrown to the winds-they became Ernie's friends and, he says, "my teachers, too." What they taught him was how to change his ways: how to strip away, layer by layer, the sweet innocence of Pine Grove, South Carolina; how to harden himself for big city life; how to, they told him all the time, survive. "Survival was what everybody talked about," Ernie recalls, "and the best way to survive was not by trying to get a good education and a good job. A lot of folks in the neighborhood had been to all kinds of schools and still couldn't make it. Jobs were real hard to find in those days, so survival meant shoplifting, purse snatching, selling a little dope, hooking up with an older woman who'd give you some money now and then-things like that. If you wanted to hang in the neighborhood, you had to get into those things, and eventually the older people would let you know that you'd had enough 'schooling' and was ready to graduate. Graduation meant getting into heavier things like breaking into people's homes and taking their stuff, like stealing car parts and selling them to junk yards, like finding out which bootlegger carried a lot of money around and then hitting him across the head with a pipe one night. I did it all, my partners and me. and we just considered it as one of the ways to survive. We thought of

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#### ERNEST GILES JR. #175318 Continued

ourselves as the smart ones, the ones with all the brains, and the people we ripped off were just stupid, we thought, otherwise they wouldn't put themselves in position to be robbed. The older guys taught us kids that most people are suckers and that 'straight people,' the ones who looked down on us, usually ended up on the bottom while the dopedealers and hustlers ended up with the big cars, good clothes and fine homes. I grew up with that notion, and I bet I was no different than thousands and thousands of other young Black kids growing up in the streets, in the projects, and, you know, having to 'get over' the best way they can.

Ernie's father, Ernest Giles Sr., was a working man who used to hang out, Ernie says, with "guys who were into the fast life, and sometimes he'd take me along. That's where I got my first whiff of Black on Black crime. Just about everybody I met was into ripping off one another. One of the favorite things was to buy a deck of cards, mark them, seal them back up and take them back to the store and give the clerk a dollar or two. Then you'd get a card game together and go with some other guys to the store to buy a 'new' deck of cards. The clerk would sell you the deck you'd marked, and so you'd win all the money. That's how I really learned how to cheat other Blacks, and I went on from there, affected by what I had grown up with. Daddy

> didn't really mean to introduce me to that way of life; he was just being himself, taking his son to meet

> the only people he considered his friends. As for my mother, she

> was really concerned about me, but she had to work and didn't have time to deal with problems I was having or any trouble that

> came up in school. I remember once that the school principal caught some of us boys gambling and he suspended us until our mothers came to school to talk with him. My mother couldn't take off from work, so they kicked me out of school and told me I'd have to go to Spingarn Night School if I wanted a diploma. Since I knew I was smart already and didn't need a diploma, I said to myself, 'Forget it, I'm going out

> Ernie's first real job was at the Bausch & Lomb company, where he learned to make eveglasses. "I could grind optical lenses, mount

them, heat treat them-do every-

thing. For the first time in my life

I was proud of myself. I had a

skill, and I could make money

without stealing from somebody.

But I got sick and had to go to

the hospital, and when I came

back to work they acted like they

didn't want me there anymore, so

I resigned and went back into the

streets to hustle. I went back to

little fly-by-night jobs like clean-

ing liquor stores and other things

where you have to steal if you're

going to make it, and pretty soon

things started to happen crazy to

me, like I started drinking real

heavy and snorting cocaine. Actu-

ally it was milk sugar-cocaine

and dextrose mixed. I was snort-

ing up with middle-class people,

people who had good jobs, people

in the Black middle class. You'd

be surprised at what some middle-

class Black people do to get their

kicks. Some of them get girls

over to their houses and get them

so high they'll do anything-all

kinds of sex things. I lost respect

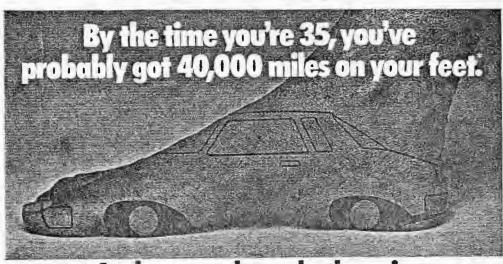
for people who did things like

that, and in my mind they de-

served getting robbed or hit over

the head or whatever. I didn't

and get me a job."



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- 2. Are there bumps of hard, dead skin
- on the tops of your toes?
- 3. Is there itching or cracking of
- skin between your toes?
- 4. Do the arches or insteps of your feet ever ache?

5. Are your feet generally fatigued at the end of the day?

6. Do your feet ever feel hot or tender?

7. Are you embarrassed by foot

perspiration or odor?

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8. Do your feet, knees, or elbows show signs of rough, dry or hard skin?

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moleskin for protection of sore tender areas. Corns. Zino<sup>8</sup>

corn pads with medicated disks for removal, or "2"-Drop

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liquid as directed for

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7. Perspiration. Dr. Scholl's Foot Deodorant Spray helps feet stay odor-free.

8. Rough Dry Skin. Scholl Rough Skin Remover gently smooths away rough skin on feet. knees and elbows. Scholl Softening Lotion smooths and helps restore moisture balance

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are you'll feel good all over. But if a problem persists, see your physician or podiatrist.

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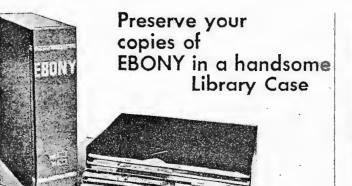
#### The Service Station for feet.

\*Estimated average based on information received from the information received from the American Podiatry Association.

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Continued on Page 98



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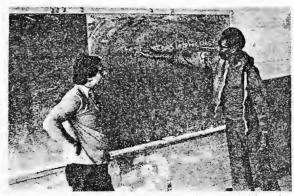


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In classroom at Lorton's academic school, Giles underlines subject of a sentence for teacher Alex J. Theriault. Giles hopes to earn a degree through a prison-college program offered by Univ. of the District of Columbia.

#### ERNEST GILES JR. #175318 Continued

I didn't feel any remorse or anything. How can you feel any remorse about ripping off somebody who's into all kinds of illegal and sordid things? I sure wouldn't have done the same thing to people back in Pine Grove, because those are good, church-going people. But those people I got to know in D.C., man, some of them got exactly what they'd been doing to other Black people."

Ernie took his "revenge" on such people by breaking into their homes, robbing various petty bootleggers by "piping them" (lying in wait and hitting them on the head with a steel pipe), strong-arming drunks, and stealing parts off cars. "I also had a few ladies I was dealing with," he says. "Mostly they were very respectable women, too; church women sometimes, because they usually have some money. There was one woman old enough to be my mother, and she hit on me when I was 23. I wondered if I could have sex with her because she was so old. But money is a powerful attraction, and I'd just think about the money whenever she felt the urge. I'd take a good stiff drink first, then go ahead and get it over with. Actually, there wasn't that much sex involved. Older women usually just want a young man they can be seen with, somebody to go out with them and make them feel good and their girlfriends jealous."

Ernie smiles a bit when he says that and as he remembers the. fine times he used to have with a variety of what he calls "good old girls." He is now a Muslim. a member of the World Community of Al-Islam in the West, and so he is forbidden to participate in the homosexual activities found at Lorton and every other prison in the U.S. "That never interested me anyway," he says.



**Giles' home** for years to come will be one of the red brick barracks (background) where Lorton residents live in dorms instead of cells. He is now in the mediumsecurity Central Facility, one of Lorton's five areas.

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#### ERNEST GILES JR. #175318 Continued

THE discipline imposed by the Muslim religion help. Ernie deal with what he insists was the "railroading" that earned him the sentence of 8 to 24 years for the murder of Mrs. Eleanor C. Haywood.

By New Year's Eve 1977, the streets of Washington, D.C., had just about finished the job they had been doing for years on Grandma Josephine's Ernie Jr. He had all but forgotten Pine Grove, South Carolina, and the last words he had heard there— "Something just tells me that you'd turn out to be a much better man if you stayed down here with me." He had been in and out of jail, the police file on him had thickened over the years, and his addiction to drugs and, eventually, everything with alcohol in it, had made him a patient at the Rehabilitation Center for Alcoholics.

Ernie remembers: "I was trying to get myself back together at the Center, and I was going out in the daytime working at various odd jobs. Just like everybody else, I wanted to celebrate New Year's Eve, so I came back to one of my old neighborhoods to look up some friends and spend the evening. I admit I was in Mrs. Haywood's neighborhood that evening, but I left kind of early and went to another part of town and hung out with some people I know. If they had come forward and backed me up, I'd be a free man today."

Washington police tell a different version of the story. Homicide Detective Jeff Greene-who investigated Mrs. Haywood's murder along with Detectives Thomas Kilcullen, Robert Jackson and Warren Donald-says that Ernie was indeed in the neighborhood. "People remembered seeing him there because he went to several homes trying to bum cigarettes," Detective Greene says. "The people in the neighborhood were simply marvelous, and if we had not had their cooperation the murder would have been a tough one to solve. Mrs. Haywood's neighbors placed Giles in the neighborhood, and they told us the brand of cigarettes he had bummed. That brand turned up in ashtrays in the murder victim's apartment, and it was a brand that neither she nor her husband smoked. We confronted Giles with this and other evidence, and he signed a statement that he had killed Mrs. Haywood."

The murder—one of the first of the 5,734 murders of Black people in the U.S. during 1977—was a particularly brutal one, Detective Greene recalls. "Mrs. Haywood's husband came home around midnight after seeing King Kong at the movies and found her lying face up on the floor leading from the bathroom to the bedroom. She had numerous stab wounds to her chest. She was nude, and a plastic-handled steak knife—like the ones they used to give you at gasoline stations—was still in her chest, and Mr. Haywood pulled it out. The telephone cord was tied around her neck. The poor lady must have put up quite a struggle, and although she hadn't been sexually molested, obviously sex was the motive, since she was nude. Her house was ransacked and some valuables were missing. We went into court with the evidence, Giles was tried before Judge Fred Ugast, and was convicted of murder, second degree."

Ernie admits signing the statement at police headquarters but insists that he did so "only after they had kept me down there for hours, and I was sick and tired and would've signed anything just to get some rest." He says that he gave a second statement denying any knowledge of the murder, and, he believes, "Just as much weight should have been given the second statement as they gave the other one." Like almost all poor Blacks who are convicted after being represented by public defenders or court-appointed lawyers, Ernie feels that he was "denied adequate legal representation." He explains: "I had no money to get a lawyer who could have gathered evidence on my behalf and who could have really gone out and rounded up witnesses to clear me. I met with my lawyer only twice, and both times involved only a few minutes. I was brought before Judge Ugast and was convicted in about 10 minutes. It was so quick that even the U.S. marshals in the courtroom didn't believe the trial was over. Ten minutes. That was what it took them to supposedly hear all the evidence and give me a fair trial, but here I am at Lorton with 8 to 24 years hanging

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over my head. I wasn't in Mrs. Haywood's apartment that night, and the police didn't find my fingerprints *anywhere*. They had *no* physical evidence connecting me with her murder. Check the prisons in this country and you'll find thousands and thousands of poor people, Black people' and others, who were railroaded through the police and court systems just like I was—all because we didn't have the money to put up a good defense."

Ernie appealed his conviction but Judge Ugast's findings were sustained. "I don't know what my next move will be," Ernie says as he adjusts the black horn-rimmed eyeglasses that are held to his head with an elastic band. "I've been trying to get them to give me a copy of the pre-trial findings, but they haven't even done that."

Meanwhile, Ernie fills his long days and nights at Lorton with legal research on his case and with studies of the Muslim religion. He has renounced his "slave name" and has taken the name Bakeer Abdullah Ali ("Precocious Slave Servant of Allah Most High"). He works as a clerk in the office of Lorton's Muslim chaplain, Imam Mikal Huda Ba'th, and tries to avoid seeing calendars because he has no hope of being released until 1985—"And I have very little hope that they'll let me out then," he says. None of his old friends from Myrtle Street or 4th and M has ever come to visit him. If it were not for visits from his mother, Mrs. Estelle Giles, and one or two other relatives, he would see almost no one from outside Lorton's walls.

One thing that Ernie has tried to do since walking through the white Colonial-style door that is the entrance to Lorton's Central Facility is forget almost all his past—the lessons he learned in the ghetto streets of the Nation's Capital, the hustling mentality he acquired, the criminal acts that were, he once believed, "survival tools." But he cannot forget, he says, his grandmother's words to him just before his Uncle John Willis' car disappeared into the dust of the farm road in Pine Grove.

> Though reared as a Christian, Giles is now a Muslim and has taken the name Bakeer Abdullah Ali, which, he says, means "Precocious Slave Servant of Allah Most High." He spends much time studying, and is a clerk for Lorton's Muslim chaplain, Imam Mikal Huda Ba'th.



### THE CURES

# **EDUCATION PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE CAN BE**

Billed as a "Super Educational Rally," more than 65,000 persons filled the Superdome in New Orleans to hear Rev. Jesse L. Jackson urge youth to become a "greater generation."

## PUSH's Jesse L. Jackson heads program to raise ambitions of

N OTHER parts of this special edition on Black on Black crime, experts have discussed the causes and the consequences. We have been asked to address the question of how the PUSH for Excellence (PUSH-EXCEL) educational movement addresses itself to *cures*. It is a most appropriate assignment because PUSH-EXCEL is designed to be a frame of reference within which a cure can take place.

The analysis of causes and documentation of consequences is necessary for understanding the problem. However, understanding the causes and knowing the consequences may, if oue is not careful, lead only to analysis but not to action. It can, and too often does, contribute to a negative attitude, a pessimistic approach and a cynical outlook. If one knows the causes and consequences of Black on Black crime, pessimism and cynicism may be understandable. Awareness, however, is just a first step in formulating solutions and action. PUSH-EXCEL takes into account causes and consequences, and consciously tries to go beyond them to positive cures.

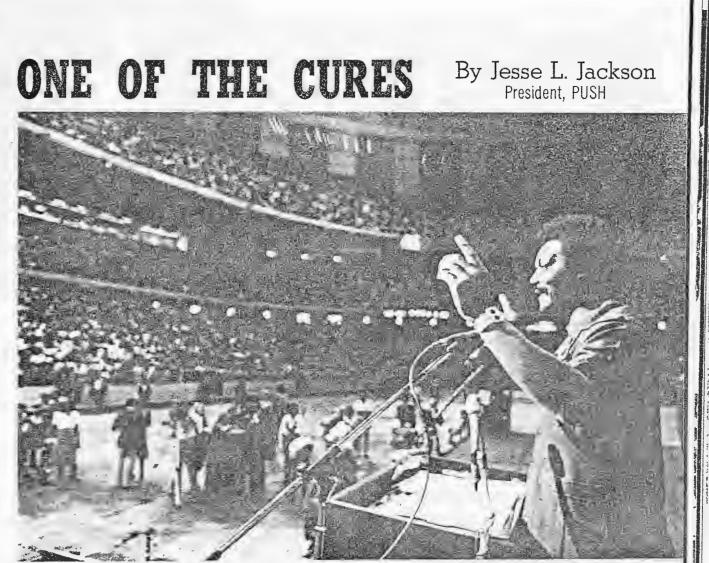
That is what we mean, in the victim/victimizer argument, when we say that the victimizer is responsible for the victim being down, but the victim must be responsible for getting up. Obviously the victim is not totally responsible, but responsible enough to initiate change, responsible enough to protect and take advantage of the opportunities that are presently available, and responsible enough to prepare himself to fight effectively for the expansion of opportunities in the future.

In order to see PUSH-EXCEL as a cure, one must first be clear on what PUSH-EXCEL is. It is a student motivation and parent and community mobilization program. Through education, its goal is to close the educational and economic gaps in order that we might gain equity and parity—or our fair share. Its method and challenge is to run faster. If one is behind in a race, the only way to catch up is to run faster since the other runners are not slowing down. PUSH-EXCEL contends that mind and character development are two of the strongest weapons in the liberation arsenal.

Criminologists debate the relative weight of inherent and environmental factors which contribute to the criminal mind and criminal behavior. Whatever *that* balance, we know that any difference between the degree of criminality (Black on Black, White on White, Black on White, White on Black crime) between Blacks and Whites is environmental.

Every PUSH-EXCEL motivational rally begins with a litany that has three parts to it. Each part consciously addresses three problems in the Black community—all of which are important to solving Black on Black crime. The first part of the litany says, "I am somebody. I may be poor,

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PUSH recently received a \$100,000 contract from the Health, Education and Welfare Department to strengthen three programs in Chicago, Los Angeles, and Kansas City, Mo.

## Black youth, Black families

on welfare, uneducated, powerless, on dope or in jail, but I am still somebody." The psychological issue being addressed here is selfidentity. Secondly, we say, "Down with dope and up with hope." The critical factor here is self-control. Since we are behind and do live in a racist society, we must be superior just to be looked upon as equal. Thirdly, we say, "Nobody will save us, from us, for us, but us." The issue here is self-determination. The resolution of self-identity, selfcontrol and self-determination are critical factors that will contribute to the cure of Black on Black crime.

#### Everybody Is Somebody

**P**USH-EXCEL begins with the premise that everybody is somebody, that everybody counts and is important. It follows that up with a nonelitist, and thus universal, definition of excellence. Excellence is your best against the odds. Less than your best is wrong.

Educationally, we know that expectations are very critical to the development of a child's mind. Students pick up on a teacher's expectations and fulfill them. If a teacher thinks a child can, ought to and must learn, a child tends to learn. If a teacher thinks otherwise, the child tends to fulfill that expectation as well. PUSH-EXCEL expects young Black people to behave in a civilized fashion, expects them to avoid crime, expects them to be educated, expects them to be produ-



Labor Secretary Ray Marshall and Rev. Jackson sign a contract in which the Labor Department awards \$500,000 to Operation PUSH "to give 250 economically disadvantaged Chicago high school students education and training for business career."

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New Orleans Mayor Ernest Morial (left, l.), special guest Alex Haley and Rev. Jackson listen attentively as Roquel Williams, 6, introduces Jackson at the New Orleans Superdome. Culminating his three-day visit to the city, he noted that it costs \$20,000 to educate a college student on a four-year academic scholarship, but between \$50,000 and \$126,000 to imprison someone for four years.

#### PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE Continued

cers, providers and protectors; in short, expects them to be responsible for and to their community.

Black on Black crime, to a significant degree, is projected self-hatred. If we do not have an adequate self-image, we tend not to have an appropriate regard for others as well. An adequate appreciation of oneself is a necessary prerequisite for the proper appreciation of others. The way Jesus said it was, that you should "love your neighbor as yourself."

PUSH-EXCEL uses a number of epigrams to help instill in our young people this feeling of self-worth, this spirit of "I can make it." Sayings such as: "If I can conceive it, and believe it, I can achieve it," and "It's not your aptitude, but your attitude that determines your altitude with a little intestinal fortitude" are designed to be more than just interesting statements. They are attempts at a form of communication (that can be easily remembered) that reinforces feelings of selfworth, which contribute to self-motivation, which aid self-control and self-responsibility, which will lead to self and community determination. For PUSH-EXCEL to raise the feelings of self-worth in young Black people is to significantly contribute to a cure for crime.

#### An Emphasis On Self-Control

**F**OR PUSH-EXCEL to call for greater emphasis on self-control by our young people is not an abstract philosophical argument about the need for Black people to be morally superior. It does not presuppose that Black youth ought to be more capable of enduring suffering and, in spite of everything, overcoming. Such a perverted notion would be



sick and unhealthy. Instead, the call for greater self-control is a very practical response to a practical situation.

As a matter of simple fact, people in power have more options and a greater opportunity to make errors and recover from them than those without power. That is one of the reasons why, out of approximately 292,000 U.S. prisoners, roughly 140,000 are Black. By contrast, it is the reason Nixon and his cronies either did not go to jail, or if they did, got reduced sentences and spent their time in jail writing books and making money describing their roguery; while many innocent Blacks are in jail awaiting trial because they are too poor to hire a lawyer or pay the bail bond.

Racism and powerlessness, as a practical matter, require greater selfcontrol. We must be sober while they are drunk. We must be serious when they are playing. We must be educating ourselves, while they are entertaining themselves. We must be awake when they are asleep.

When PUSH-EXCEL argues, "Down with dope, and up with hope," we are really saying, since we are behind and the odds are stacked against us in the first place, we cannot afford to be diverted from our goal of catching up and closing the gap. If dope would contribute to catching up, then we ought to consider using it. If mass media addiction, where we choose to be entertained rather than educated, would aid in our quest for equity and parity, then that might become an option. If casual sex resulting in a teen-age pregnancy epidemic and a venereal disease pandemic would help us to gain our fair share in this society, then we ought to look at these options. But if they do not, then





At PUSH Excel-A-Thon in Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, Jackson and California Governor Jerry Brown listen as actor Marlon Brando addresses thousands of gathered youth and celebrities. Addressing his team of competing youngsters, actor Sidney Poitier (above, c.) is flanked by Altovise Davis (r.) and one of the contestants.

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## FASHION FAIR'S BEAUTY BONUS OFFER

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#### AUGUST 6-18

SAKS FIFTH AVENUE Detroit

#### CALIFORNIA CAPWELL'S

El Cerrito: Hayward; Oakland; Richmond (Hilltop Mall)

#### EMPORIUM

Palo Alto (Stanford Shpg, Ctr.); San Bruno; San Francisco (Downtown, Stonestown); San Jose (Eastridge Mall); San Rafael (Northgate Shpg. Ctr.); Santa Rosa

#### TENNESSEE

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#### LOVEMAN'S

Chattanooga (Downtown, Eastgate Mall)

#### VIRGINIA

#### THALHIMER'S

Danville; Hampton (Coliseum Mall); Norfolk (Military Circle Mall); Petersburg (Walnut Mall); Richmond (Downtown, Azałea Mall, Cloverleaf, Eastgate, Regency)

#### AUGUST 13-25

#### CALIFORNIA

J. W. ROBINSON Cerritos; Los Angeles; Panorama City; Pasadena; Puente Hills; Santa

#### COLORADO

Anita

#### MAY D&F

Aurora; Colorado Springs; Denver (Bear Valley, Downtown, North Valley, University Hills); Ft. Collins; Lakewood (Westland); Littleton (Southglenn)

#### ILLINOIS

#### GOLDBLATT'S

Chicago (Downtown, 91st & Commercial, 3311 W. 26th St., 79th & Cicero, 443-57 E. 34th St., 3939 W. Madison) SAKS FIFTH AVENUE

Chicago

#### INDIANA

GOLDBLATT'S Gary (Downtown)

#### MICHIGAN

GOLDBLATT'S . Benton Harbor (Fairplain Plaza)

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Vice President Walter Mondale (c.) joined Rev. Jackson and his family at the PUSH 1978 convention in Kansas City<sub>2</sub>Mo. Both leaders believe education is a major cure for crime and other social problems. Both also stress Blacks exercising their voting rights as part of their attack on community problems.

#### PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE Continued

we should not be diverted by short-term pleasure and end up with long-term pain.

PUSH-EXCEL presupposes that mind is stronger than matter and argues that will power must replace pill power as a means of coping. Many think that where there is a way, there is a will. But we argue that where there is a will there is a way.

Survey after survey and study after study indicate that the number one problem in schools is *discipline*, which translates into vandalism against the school and violence against fellow students, teachers and administrators. The problem is so significant that many state legislatures now have before them bills that would require that a juvenile defendant be tried as an adult when the child is charged with a crime perpetrated against another child at school, or an assault and battery upon a school teacher or principal. If these bills succeed, a child at 10 would be moved from the juvenile detention home, and placed in cells with adults, while awaiting trial. Then, for various crimes, the child would be tried by the same standards as an adult. With the statistics overwhelmingly proving that most hardened criminals started out as juvenile offenders, it is obvious that some remedial efforts must be made in the schools to treat this problem.

Our entire criminal system is built on the legal premise that a person must, in most instances, intend (or will) to commit a crime. That is, he must have a guilty mind or a mind intent upon committing a wrongful act. This status of the mind is referred to in the law as mens rea. An example of this is first degree murder. First degree murder or aggravated murder, in most states, is defined as the willful or purposeful killing of a human being with premeditation. The distinguishing factor between first degree murder and first degree manslaughter, in most states, would be a question of premeditation. That is the classic concept of the planned, cold-blooded killing with deliberation. It is evident, therefore, that the minds of our children must be treated and their will developed in constructive ways if we are to make inroads into Black on Black crime.



Panelists Frank Davis and Adrienne Melbourne of Washington's Ballou High School, and Mrs. Rosetta Moore discuss student's role in excellence in education.

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NORTH CAROLINA

Hendersonville

**BELK** 

AUGUST 20-SEPTEMBER 1

SOUTH CAROLINA BELK

Fayetteville (Cross Creek Mall);

Clinton (Copeland Plaza); Darlington; Lancaster; Laurens. BELK-SIMPSON Greenville (Downtown, McAllister Square); Greer

#### AUGUST 27-SEPTEMBER 8

#### MICHIGAN

STEKETEE'S Grand Rapids (Downtown); Kalamazoo (Maple Hill Mall); Muskegon

## (Muskegon Mall)

#### HUDSON-BELK

Raleigh (Downtown, Crabtree Mall) IVEY'S Chapel Hill (University Mall); Charlotte (Downtown, Eastland Mall); Greensboro (Carolina Circle)

#### OHIO

HALLE'S Cleveland (Downtown, Severance Mall, Shaker Square)

#### SOUTH CAROLINA

BELK Columbia (Columbia Mall)

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## TEXAS

Beaumont (Parkdale Mall); Houston Baybrook Mall, Gulfgate Mall, Northline Shopping Center, Post Oak, Town and Country Village, Westwood); Lake Jackson (Brazos, Mall)





years ago to help him push for educational excellence among students, their teachers and their parents.

#### PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE continued

PUSH-EXCEL, therefore, has adopted, as one of its precepts, that the minds of our children must be turned off crime and on to learning. PUSH-EXCEL seeks to prevent crime by preventing the growth and development of a new generation of criminals. many of whom start their activities while in junior or senior high school. Once the mind of a child begins to develop a disregard for law and focuses on petty crimes, such as breaking the windows at school, stealing from school lockers, petty assaults on students and teachers, this child grows and become an adult. Then, what seemed like petty crimes in school, become major offenses against society and ultimately must be dealt with in the criminal courts, the prisons and increasingly in the electric chairs and gas chambers of our nation.

If we as Black people have low self-esteem, others will have a similar assessment. If we tolerate Black on Black crime, others will tolerate it also. Self-control precedes community control, and community control reinforces self-control. No one stands to benefit more from self and community control than the Black community itself. We are doing ourselves, not anyone else, a favor by emphasizing self-control and assuming a high degree of responsibility for ourselves and our community. Thus, all attempts to strengthen will power among our young people, and the related challenge to assume a greater responsibility for themselves, contribute to reducing the likelihood of Black on Black crime.

Need For Self-Determination

SELF-IDENTITY and self-control enhance the prospects of self-determination in both the individual and collective sense. Mind development, a determined will and a strong character will help to break the dependency syndrome that presently grips our community. PUSH-EXCEL seeks to enhance self-determination, and thus, reduce Black on Black crime, by insisting on equal educational opportunity. focusing on the quest for knowledge, empowering students, and involving the total community in shared responsibility.

The first underlying principle of the PUSH-EXCEL program is the aggressive and fair enforcement of equal educational opportunity. As the nation's custodians decry the spread of lawlessness (including Black on Black crime), they apparently still do not understand that lawlessness is contagious. As long as established leadership either evades, ignores or perverts the law, they become the role models and create the climate for lawlessness throughout the other levels of our social order. Public officials cannot continue to scheme on ways to avoid complying with the letter and intent of the law (e.g. Brown vs. Board of Education) and expect Black people to have a high regard for the law. By insisting that morally sound laws be-obeyed, it lays a predicate for law and justice and respect for legitimate law by young people in Black communities as well.

Secondly, PUSH-EXCEL is helping to make education the "in" thing. If we can motivate our young people to study and prepare themselves, it will do at least two things. One, knowledge will enhance their self-image, and two, as a result, there will be less of a need to act in anti-social ways to gain recognition. Manhood and womanhood will be defined by such things as the ability to heal rather than kill, and the challenge to raise a baby, not merely make or have a baby.

Thirdly, PUSH-EXCEL is attempting to empower our young people. That is, at high school graduations all across this nation—

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where three million students are graduating each year-seniors should be given a diploma in one hand, symbolizing knowledge and wisdom, and a voter registration card in the other, symbolizing power and responsibility. This is critical to a cure for Black on Black crime because people with power tend to behave differently from people without power. Thus, citizenship education and voter registration may become a means of curbing violence and vandalism in our communities. It could also become a means of preventing our young people from escaping through drugs, alcohol and sexual promiscuity-all of which are power placebos.

The aggressive participation of our young people in the political process would have a tremendous impact. People who have power, and have been taught how to use it, tend to use it in their enlightened self-interest. We should expect nothing different from our young people. Some politicians now attempting to cut back on money and legislation for education, voting against youth jobs, ignoring effective crime control in our communities and other programs and issues affecting Black youth, would either adjust or be retired. Since 23 percent of the total Black vote is in the 18-24 age range, our youth literally have our destiny in their hands.

Lastly, PUSH-EXCEL is using an educational model called total involvement, which itself will impact on Black on Black crime, but is also a model for the cure of crime in our community. Black on Black crime will be cured to the degree that the total community feels a responsibility to establish and keep a law-abiding and safe community. The problem cannot be solved in isolation, each person and group must assume specific responsibilities in proportion to the power they have.

In Chicago a few years ago, elementary school students on their way to school were being victimized by thugs in the community. Rather than call the police into the situation, the men of the community, in conjunction with school officials, decided to establish an unarmed citizens organization to provide safety for the students on their way to and from school. Badges were made up, patrol areas were organized and a plan implemented. Their very presence served to deter further harassment of students. It was successful, not because of some outside occupation force, but because the community determined to do something about it and get involved.

It has been said that the search for beauty in the universe cannot begin until the discovery of beauty within oneself. The PUSH-EXCEL movement seeks to strengthen the resources within, so that as our young people struggle against the odds without, they can cope and conquer.

PUSH-EXCEL seeks to contribute to the cure of Black on Black crime by helping young Black people feel better about themselves through instilling in them positive self-images; motivating and renewing their urge to excel through will power and determination, which requires discipline and self-control; and by laying before them the positive challenge of ending the dependency syndrome and striving for self-and-community-determination.



Inspirational address at a Chicago high school is typical of urgings by Rev. Jackson for them to strive to achieve the best within themselves despite obstacles.



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TNECK

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

## **CITIZENS MUST FIGHT BLACK ON BLACK CRIME**



Sam Noian, acting chief of the Chicago police, was deputy superintendent of the department's Bureau of Community Services in 1974 when he addressed a church audience as part of efforts to encourage cooperation with the police by the public. Many policemen contend that the control of crime is the basic responsibility of citizens.

## Police cannot solve problems alone, warns Atlanta's chief By George Napper

Dr. George Napper, Atlanta's chief of police, contends there is no cure for crime but community involvement

**A**<sup>T</sup> THE OUTSET it is important to state emphatically that there is no *cure* for Black on Black crime anymore than there is a cure for crime in general. Crime is endemic to the American society. It is a fact of social living. Use of the term *cure* invokes a medical model which suggests that the ingestion of some medicine into an organism will

eliminate the disease and/or create an immunity to the disease. One should not be misled in believing that this model is applicable to the problem we are discussing here. At the same time, one should not be misled in thinking that there is nothing that can be done to address the problem. Much of what can be done will have the effect of making the problem more manageable; or reduce it to more tolerable levels. The importance of achieving this end is one of the great challenges to this society and the Black community in particular.

There is a certain risk and danger involved in offering prescriptions to problems without providing some analytic framework from which a problem is defined. Frequently, the way a problem is defined suggests the directions needed to address it. There is a set of prescriptions available, for example, to the problem of crime if one defines it as the product of poverty, unemployment, poor education or other social and economic ills. There is a

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qualitatively different set of directions available if the problem of crime is defined as a genetic problem or a race problem.

Addressing the issue of Black on Black crimes is fraught with similar kinds of concerns. A simplistic, superficial response would be to have the residential patterns of group living rearranged in such a way as to

substantially increase integration so that the opportunity for Blacks to victimize each other is significantly reduced. The problem of crime may not be altered, but the issue of Black-on-Black crime will take on a less urgent concern. A more effective approach would be to focus resources on alleviating the social conditions that breed crime and dispositions toward criminal behavior. By effectively dealing with the larger issue of crime *per se*, the subset of Black on Black criminal behavior would be impacted accordingly.

There is no question in my mind as to what the policies of this country ought to be with respect to combating the problem of crime. There is no secret regarding the relationship of deplorable social conditions to crime; and the need for these to be meaningfully addressed if crime is to be diminished. Indeed, there is a growing number of people who feel that poor housing, poor education, unemployment and poverty ought themselves be viewed

Continued on Next Page 113





City and state officials cooperated with Chicago's Coalition of Concerned Women in their fight against crime. Panel chaired by co-founder Connie Seals (now executive director Illinois Commission on Human Relations) included (l. to r.) State Sen. Harold Washington, then Deputy Police Superintendent Sam Nolan and Deputy Chief of Patrol Fred Rice.

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#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** Continued

as crimes and those responsible for either bringing these conditions about or aggravating them ought be viewed as criminals.

However, there is very little reason to believe that racial housing patterns will be changing drastically in the near future. There is little reason to believe that the unemployment picture will be getting better anytime soon; or that meaningful social policies aimed at improving the quality of life in Black communities are forthcoming.

The general directions stated above emphasize forces outside the community coming to our aid to do away with the problem; that elimination or alleviation of the problem rests with someone other than one's self or immediate community. There is nothing abnormal about desiring, hoping, and even demanding that the movers and shakers in the larger political arena do something about the problem. There is justification for believing that this is a social problem and should be dealt with as such. Likewise, there was some justification for demanding forty acres and a mule! The problem is not wanting it. The problem is waiting for those things to happen; and waiting for others to treat problems that deserve more effective and immediate attention from every sector of the Black community itself.

#### Community Involvement

**O** NE OF THE most vital factors frequently overlooked in formulating equations to deal with crime is that of community involvement. Perhaps nowhere is this factor more critically needed and more absent than in the area of addressing the problem of Black on Black crime. Traditional approaches to crime control have been characterized by limited involvement from the public. Basically, there has been an over-



"Community Crime Fighter" award is presented to Chicagoan Homer Drew on behalf of the Coalition of Concerned Women by its founders, journalist Ethel Payne (1) and Connie Seals. The coalition was organized to fight Black on Black crime.

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Concerned citizen raises questions about crime control in her Chicago community during a mass meeting held to address problem of Black on Black crime in city.

reliance by the public and the community on the criminal justice system in general and the police in particular for protection and for taking care of crime problems. The role of the criminal justice system and the police is to supplement the citizens' basic responsibility for crime control; not to replace this responsibility.

It is within this context of Black community involvement that we must generate the actions needed to address the problem of Black on Black crimes. Community involvement is the essence, the sine qua non, of any meaningful attempt to address the problem. There is a sense of urgency and immediacy about the crime problem within our community that demands a telling-it-like-it-is attitude about certain aspects of the problems; and being involved in forthright actions that are designed to offset the negative results of crime in the community. Unfortunately, one of the products of rampant crime in the Black community is a sense of frustration, apathy and powerlessness that saps the very lifeblood that is needed to effectively deal with the problem. Too frequently there is a retreat to the privacy of one's home and the sense of false security that comes from pulling shades down and adding an extra lock to the door. The need for an informed collective action to stand up to the problem head-on is compelling.

There are some viewpoints I believe are worthwhile to share with those in the Black community who are interested in knowing what they can do to help with the problem.

Opportunity, risk, desire, reward, and conditioning are factors that are highly related individually and collectively to problems of crime and criminal behavior. The extent to which these factors can be impacted aids us in controlling crime. For example, if there is no opportunity for crime, there will be no crime regardless of the desire. If there is opportunity and no desire, regardless of the risk, or the reward, there will be no crime. If the risk is too high. regardless of opportunity, reward, or desire, criminal behavior may not issue. Conditioning has to do with the kind of value system one is brought up with. Individually and collectively these terms are important organizing and guiding principles in addressing crime. I wish to use some of them in identifying some general areas in which specific kinds of actions should take place.

#### A Sense of Community

NE OF THE characteristics of growing up in a small town is the strong sense of community that is generated among the residents. Not only do most people know each other, but they also feel a sense of responsibility for the well-being of others in the neighborhood. There is a sharing of the joy of others; as

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Continued on Next Page

## **Black Americans** have been into aviation as long as McDonnell Douglas.



#### In 1939

James Smith McDonnell started a company to build airplanes in St. Louis, Missouri. During that same year, the late General Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. began his aviation career by becoming a licensed pilot. "Chapple" trained the pilots that formed the famous all-black 99th Fighter Squadron.

In 1967 McDonnell merged with Douglas and entered the commercial aviation field. During that same year, Captain Robert Buck, a black man, was flying for Trans World Airlines. He was one of the first. Presently there are over a hundred black men and women pilots flying for fifteen commercial airlines.

During the 1980's, McDonnell Douglas will participate in space shuttle missions destined to open space for industrialization. Three black astronauts, Dr. Ronald E. McNair, Major Guion S. Bluford Jr., and Major Frederick D. Gregory, are being trained to pilot these spacefaring vehicles.

## We salute the black aviation achievers of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

MCDONNELL DOUGI

A job? Let's swap resumes. Send yours, we'll send ours. Wrife: Box 14526, St. Louis, MO 63178 An equal opportunity employer



#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** continued

well as a sharing of sorrows. The children growing up in such an environment feel a sense of extended familiness. Mr. and Mrs. Jones up the road may assume as much responsibility for reprimanding little Johnny for doing something wrong as his own parents would. Equally important, little Johnny feels some obligation to obey lest his parents find out otherwise and/or that he was sassing them back.

There is a real sense in which much of our efforts in the areas where we live has to be devoted to recapturing that sense of community. Knowing our neighbors, seeing all the kids on the block as your own; and conducting one's self in a way that makes youngsters feel likewise. Taking a carload of the neighborhood kids to ballgames, picnics, etc., and demonstrating care and concern for those people in your neighborhood is very sound policy. It imparts important values; a humane and responsible world view.

On too many occasions, friends have told me that they have gone out of their way to say corrective words to a nine-or tenyear-old youngster, only to be cussed out with words that they did not think were possible from one so young. Further, when reporting the incident to the child's mother or father, more obscenities were forthcoming. Obviously, and unfortunately, the next time the youngster is involved in a similar situation, there will be a tendency to call the police and have them deal with it. Too many of our kids that can be controlled within the neighborhood -if people would get involved and develop a sense of community -end up being treated (or mistreated) by the criminal justice system. Too often this is the beginning of activities that fatten Black on Black crime statistics. It does not make sense to grow up or raise children in a community where neighbors do not trust each other; or live in fear of one another when concerted action on our part can make some important differences in changing such an environment.

#### Toleration of Crime

OT GETTING involved in one's community frequently means not getting involved in the community's business to protect itself from crime and criminal behavior. Failure to call the police to report illegal activity, failure to go to court as a witness to prosecute a criminal, combine to create an atmosphere of crime with impunity. The criminal knows that no one will take action against him so he feels free to do what he wishes.

Frequently, the criminal will help bring about his freedom to do what he wants by not only threatening those who might report him with violence; but also actually committing it on occasion. The greater the argument for dealing with these problems as a group; as a neighborhood. Let criminals and would-be criminals know you and your neighbors will not tolerate criminal behavior in the community through developing neighborhood watch programs and similar activities. If the criminal knows that he actually risks getting caught and going to jail by being active in a particular community, he is less likely to be involved in that particular activity in that community

Cooperating with the police frequently is a hard pill to swallow for many Blacks and with good historical reasons. However, if there is a general feeling among the police that a certain neighborhood doesn't care about what happens to it or in it, the police are less likely to be as attentive and professional in carrying out their responsibilities as they would in an area that is more cooperative with them and cares more about what goes on in the community. Accordingly, for the criminal the risk factor of being caught and punished is so low that criminal life styles are generated because crime, in such cases, does pay. It is important to note that the fact of organizing and sustaining an organization to impact a specific crime problem not only has a general crime prevention effect, but is also beneficial in addressing non-crime problems.

#### Specific Directions

 ${\sf M}^{\rm UCH}$  OF what has been offered above has been provided in the context of general directions and general activities that

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should be undertaken in order to provide the proper atmosphere to effectively deal with the problems in the Black community in general, and specifically the kinds of concerns that are generated by Black on Black crimes, In attempting to develop more specific steps with respect to combating Black on Black crimes, it is important to understand that Black on Black crimes is a blanket term that fails to distinguish very different kinds of acts which may be the focus for one community and not the focus for another. For example, it is very important to know whether one is specifically concerned about the fact that elderly people in the community are being victimized, or whether one is concerned about rape as being a critical problem, or aggravated assault, or burglary or other kinds of criminal activities. Therefore, any specific attempts to address given problems must begin with a specification of what the problem is and not to use any blanket terms that would tend not to allow for a specification. In other words, when you say crime, what act or acts are you making reference to? Secondly, the old cliche that knowledge is power is also important here. Therefore, one should get general crime, information or information with respect to specific crimes from the police department or the agency having responsibility for keeping such information. This information should tell us not only the magnitude and nature of crime in general or specific crimes in your community, but also to find out the time and place that various criminal activities occur; and to seek out other patterns that may be helpful in facilitating specific plans and strategies to impact the problem. Different strategies and programs can be generated depending upon the type of problem that one has focused on. These steps are critical to developing an informed program and/or strategies to fight crime in the area. Therefore, they are necessary steps but they are not sufficient unless the kinds of activities that have been talked about earlier in the paper, re: getting fully involved in the community and organizing people to be truly concerned about the community, also take place.

The city of Atlanta, Georgia, for example, has involved itself in a very ambitious program; that understands the fact that the police cannot solve the problem of crime by themselves and is involved in activities that bring the citizens together to focus on various crime activities. Its program is designed to look at each of the major crime categories and various interests and community groups will determine the roles and activities they can play in addressing the kinds of problems that are identified through this program.

#### Crime May Increase

N CONCLUSION, I think it is important to reiterate the fact that crime in the Black community is at a critical level and there is no real reason to believe that in the near future this problem will be diminished. In fact, there is some reason to believe that the problem will tend to increase because of the high unemployment problem in society as a whole and its significantly disproportionate impact on Black youth. Further, the impact of the energy crisis on mobility suggests that those who have been inclined to go to other neighborhoods to commit certain kinds of crimes will be doing it closer to home in the future.

It is important to understand that there is no cure for Black on Black crime; there is no antibiotic that the Black community as a social organization can take that will make it immune from crime. The police and the criminal justice system cannot solve the problem. They should not be expected to solve it. The attitude that the police can handle it is counterproductive to the central need of community involvement; of eternal vigilance, concern and collective action that is needed to reduce the problem of crime to much more acceptable levels.

Given the above, it is clear to me that unless the general commitment and directions that have been suggested here are taken by Black citizens in communities throughout this country to fight Black on Black crime, we will have been remiss in accepting perhaps the most pressing challenge that we have before us in our community.





## **STOP CODDLING THE HOODLUMS**

# 'GOING EASY ON CRIMINALS ENCOURAGES CRIME'

By Winston E. Moore



The author, Winston E. Moore, chief of security for the Chicago Housing Authority, is an authority on Black on Black crime which, he says, could be reduced drastically if the Black community would begin to "come down hard" on Blacks who prey on other Blacks. Until assuming his present post two years ago, Moore, a trained psychologist, was executive director of the Cook County (Chicago) Dept. of Corrections (nine years) and warden of Cook County Jail (two years). T is my conviction that we will never put an end to the mounting problem of Black on Black crime until we stop coddling the hoodlums. By "coddling the hoodlums," I am referring to the Black community's extraordinary tolerance toward the growing army of Black criminals who have turned life in the nation's urban ghettos into a veritable hell. Not only are these criminals allowed to prey on their law-abiding Black brothers and sisters with virtual impunity, they have attained bona fide hero status among many young Blacks not unlike that of the legendary gunslingers of the old West.

What is urgently needed today is a massive campaign to re-educate Blacks to see Black criminals among them for what they are, not heroes but deadly enemies-cowardly, two-bit punks who cheat, rob, maim and murder and in general make decent people's lives miserable. We Blacks should begin by serving notice to our elected and appointed government officials, both Black and White and on all levels, that we will no longer tolerate their traditional misguided leniency toward the Black on Black criminal. We must make it unmistakably clear to these officials that we will no longer put up with the prevailing racist. White-controlled dual criminal justice system which comes down hard on Black criminals when their victims are White but lets them off with a slap on the wrist for a comparable crime whenever the victims are Black. A grim statistic will illustrate my point. Less than five percent of all Blacks currently on Death Row throughout the United States are there for murdering Blacks. The remaining 95 percent are on Death Row for murdering Whites.

What in effect the upholders of this dual system—the police, states' attorneys, judges, probation officers, parole boards, etc.—are saying is that a Black life has less value than a White life, that a Black person's limbs are less valuable than a White person's limbs, that Black pain is less painful than White pain, that violating a Black woman is a lesser crime than violating a White woman, that Black property is less important than White property.

The historical roots of this dual system of "justice" can easily be traced to the plantations of the antebellum South. To jail or kill a slave who had murdered another slave was not in the best interest of the slaveowner since such punishment would have deprived him of two slaves instead of only one. Consequently, such murders were treated lighty—not because of compassion for the killer but because of the slaveowner's economic interest. The same was true for rape among slaves, which was not considered a crime but frequently encouraged since it produced additional valuable slaves. Only when the victim was White was the full fury of the slave code unleashed—usually to nauseating extremes of cruelty in the form of lynchings.

Today, the racist, dual plantation justice system of antebellum days is still very much with us throughout the United States. Although modified and somewhat refined, it still tells the Black criminal that as long as he confines his criminal activity to the Black community, he can count on leniency from the law should he get caught.

Since a large percentage (approximately 70 percent) of all Black on Black crime is drugrelated, i.e., committed by individuals under the influence of some kind of drugs, we should start our crackdown by demanding severe punishment for those who push dope in our communities. As it stands, we seldom hear or read about a Black drug pusher getting arrested, convicted and receiving a severe prison sentence. Quite to the contrary, dope pushers are being worshipped and hard drugs have become a way of life in the Black community. This must change. Law enforcement authorities must be pressured to stop treating Black dope pushers like petty thieves. They are deadly criminals and should be dealt with as such. By dealing realistically with the dope pusher, we can reduce the flow of drugs into the Black communities and thereby substantially reduce Black on Black crime.

Next to drugs, the fastest growing crime in the Black community is rape. But conviction of rape is less than five percent. The reason for this is that law enforcement officials prefer to believe a convicted rapist rather than accept the word of an honorable Black woman with an excellent reputation, an attitude which, as I mentioned earlier, goes back to slavery. Even some Black policemen who have been part of the plantation justice system for a long time tend to have difficulty believing that somebody had to rape a Black woman, since Black women are often thought of as being promiscuous. To encourage Black rape victims to report the rape, a step without which conviction of rapists is impossible, law enforcement officials-through community action-must be made to cease their insulting attitude toward Black rape victims. Until that has been accomplished, the rapists have every right to feel that the law is on their side.

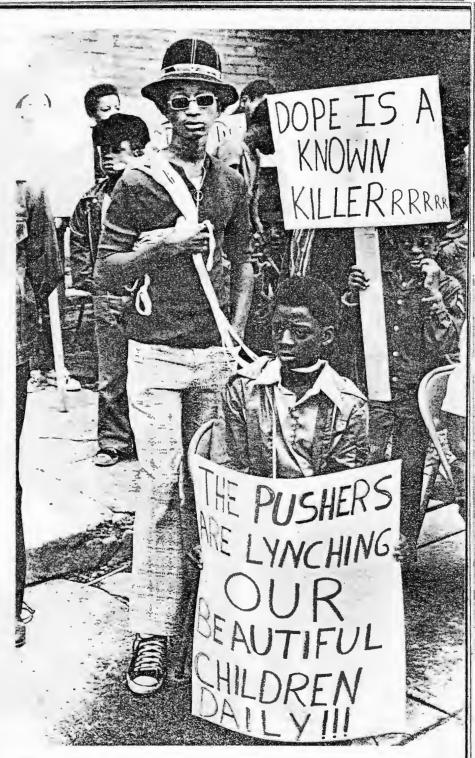
It is high time that Black communities abandon their seeming indifference toward the early parole of violent Black criminals, a practice which is responsible for much of the Black on Black violence. In keeping with the dual justice system, parole boards customarily parole violent Black offenders after they have served only a minimum portion of their sentences. They do so mainly because nobody objects. The irony here, that borders on cynicism, is that often violent prisoners are being paroled early in order to get rid of them because they constitute a behavior problem in prison, one with which prison authorities would rather not deal. Conversely, parole boards have been reluctant to parole violent White offenders because the victim's relatives and the White community in general put up a strong protest against the release of violent criminals.

If we are ever to get a handle on the problem of Black on Black crime, we must insist on a revision of our criminal justice system to the point where those people, both White and Black, who have shown a propensity toward committing violent act upon violent act are taken out of society and kept out. They should not be allowed to return to society and to murder, rape, rob or otherwise terrorize their fellow citizens again. We must insist that a life sentence means just that. Today, depending on the state, a murderer who has committed a heinous crime may expect to be free to murder again after having served less than ten years. Whether we believe in capital punishment or not is irrelevant to this issue. Relevant is only that we make sure that the penalty for murdering a Black person is the same as the penalty for murdering a White person, regardless of the color of the perpetrator.

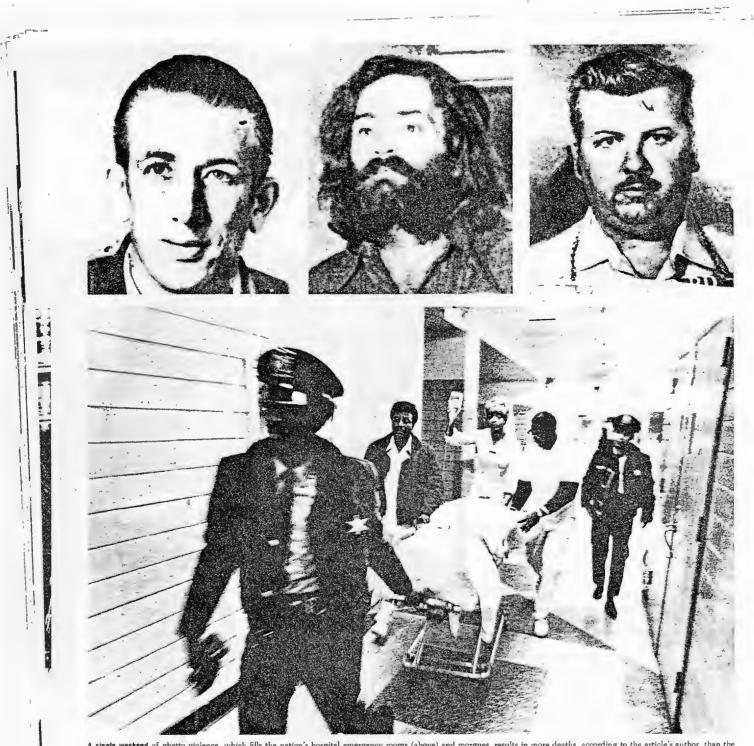
We Blacks cannot take comfort from the fact that Whites, too, have their share of violent criminals. In my judgement, Whites can somewhat better afford a Richard Speck, a Charles Manson, a Son of Sam or a John Gacy because they come along only once every few years and only one at a time. Their score of killings is dwarfed to insignificance by that of the Black ghetto brawlers who collectively wipe out more people in bars and in the street during one single weekend.

There is a growing tendency on the part of "enlightened" criminal justice officials-both Black and White-to explain Black on Black weekend violence as part of Black culture and, consequently, finding it excusable to some extent. Saturday night shootings, which pack the nation's hospital emergency rooms and morgues each weekend, are frequently viewed as a Black cultural phenomenon that calls for sympathetic understanding of the perpetrators rather than for their stern punishment. When attempting to understand Black people by saying that they are not fully responsible for crimes committed by them-as long as these crimes are Black on Black-the Whitecontrolled criminal justice system is labeling all Blacks as innately irresponsible. Such a view is not only an insult to Blacks, it is also dangerous since it gives the Black criminal carte blanche to terrorize the Black law-abiding community without fear of harsh punishment.

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When the killer of San Francisco Mayor George R. Mosconi and City Councilman Harvey Milch was tried and found guilty only of manslaughter, the gay, predominantly White community of the city rioted in protest against what it felt was a too lenient verdict. I doubt that we would get a similar response of outrage from the Black community over a lenient verdict given to a violent Black criminal. But until we do, we will have to suffer the consequences of "lenient" White and Black **Community action** against dope pushers in Black ueighborhood, Moore argues, would drastically reduce Black on Black crime since, according to a recent study, 70 percent of all criminals are found to be under the influence of some kind of drug at the time of their arrest.



A single weekend of ghetto violence, which fills the nation's hospital emergency rooms (above) and morgues, results in more deaths, according to the article's author, than the combined killings attributed to (White mass murderers) Richard Speck, Charles Manson (top l. and c.) and "Son of Sam" and (accused mass murderer) John Gacy (top r.)

#### STOP CODDLING! Continued

judges who condescendingly turn Black killers loose on the Black community, contending that the killers are hapless "products of their environment." There is, however, an ironic truth in their contention. I, too, believe that Black criminals are products of their overly lenient, overly tolerant environment. That's why it is high time that we begin to make that environment a great deal less lenient and a

#### great deal less tolerant for them.

One of the biggest contributing factors to Black on Black crime is Black people's traditional unwillingness to come forth in court and testify as witnesses against Black criminals. Having lost faith in the justice system's ability or willingness to protect them, and fearing reprisals from Black offenders in their communities, Blacks frequently prefer not to become involved. The result is that many criminals—although plainly guilty of a crime —go unpunished and remain at large to repeat that crime because the police and prosecution lacked corroborating testimony from witnesses needed for conviction.

To cope with this problem, Black officials, and the Black community in general, must insist that Black witnesses be given the same elaborate protection given to White witnesses in similar cases. Once that has been done,

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#### STOP CODDLING! Continued

Black witnesses of a crime must cooperate to the fullest with law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys to enable them to put the offender where he belongs-behind bars. -

One of the most pervasive arguments. against harsh punishment of Black on Black criminals is the one according to which most Black criminals turned to crime because they were unemployed and poor and that unemployment and poverty breed crime. I am tired of this argument because, again, it says that Blacks are innately irresponsible and unable to make rational decisions between right and wrong. My response is that, of course unfavorable economic and sociological factors contribute to crime and must be rectified as soon as possible. But I contend that even if we were successful in doing so, most of the Black on Black criminals would still be with us. For example, during President Johnson's so-called War on Poverty, when massive programs were launched to provide able-bodied unemployed Blacks with jobs, the crime rate did not go down. The reason, I suggest, is that the punks who were committing crimesthe dope pushers, the rip off artists, etc. etc .preferred to continue their criminal lifestyles although jobs were available to them for the mere asking. Criminals, for the most part, are not unemployed because they can't find a job; they don't work because holding down a job calls for discipline, something to which they are unwilling to submit. They'd rather spend two hours robbing someone who works than going to work themselves. If unemployment inevitably leads to crime, I ask, why is the vast majority of unemployed Blacks lawabiding?

As far as violent Black on Black crime is concerned, this, too, cannot be justified on the basis of unemployment and poverty. Black Africans, most of them far poorer than their American cousins, do not kill or assault each other at the rate Black Americans do. The difference between our two cultures, I believe, is social controls, which seem to have broken down in the American Black community. To reestablish these controls, the Black community must become aroused enough to confront the Black criminal, not make excuses for him.

One of the most short-sighted and most repulsive forms of coddling Black on Black criminals is the readiness of some "law-abiding" and "upstanding" Blacks to buy "hot" or stolen property. In effect, these "bargain hunters" are making common cause with, and thus become partners of, the criminals. Blinded by their own greed, they fail to realize that they are paying dearly for their "bargains" in exorbitant insurance rates on their automobiles, homes and other possessions, and in sky-high prices for practically all goods and services. Once they begin to realize that they are being had-that all they are doing is buying back that which had been stolen from them, their relatives, friends and neighbors-they can begin doing something about it. Doing something about it means not only refusing to buy "hot" goods but to report anyone to the police who is offering goods which appear to have



Some "law-abiding" Blacks encourage crime, writes Moore, by their readiness to buy "hot" goods, thus providing the market which thugs need to stay in "business." This scene of a "hot" purchase was enacted by models.

been stolen for sale. Instead of telling the questionable seller, "Don't tell me where this came from, so I won't be implicated," they should ask, "Where did this come from, and where is the proof?" Once the thief has been deprived of his lucrative market, he will have lost his sole incentive to steal, and Black on Black crime will have been dealt another blow.

Some people may argue that cracking down on Black on Black criminals will overcrowd our already overcrowded jails and prisons even more. I would agree that initially a general crackdown of the magnitude I an suggesting would result in a higher prison population. This would be true for a period of about five years. After that, it would drop off sharply because by that time, the marginal criminals the ones who are only occasionally committing minor crimes—will have gotten the message that crime doesn't pay, and they will have stopped their criminal activities and turned to legitimate pursuits. Also by that time, Black youths will no longer look at criminals as heroes because they will be the products of a different community attitude toward crime.

To put an end to the coddling of Black criminals who are terrorizing our Black communities, we must first come to grips with this country's plantation justice system which lies at the bottom of the mounting Black on Black crime problem. To accomplish this, we need an aggressive, nationwide campaign, organized and led jointly by our Black community leaders-politicians, ministers, educators, government officials etc. Such a campaign should culminate in a massive "March on Washington For Equal Justice" of the magnitude of the 1963 "March on Washington For Jobs," to demonstrate to the government and the nation as a whole that Black people are through with being treated in the nation's courts like plantation field hands. For it is my firm conviction that we will never reach our goal of equality until we reach equality in the courts.

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## CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT

## **MAIN SOLUTION IS NATIONAL PLAN CORRECTING ECONOMIC INJUSTICE**

By Congressman John Convers

 ${\pmb C}$  RIME is rooted in concrete social and economic conditions—in deprivation, joblessness, discrimination, poverty, overcrowded housing, and social marginality. The neighborhoods of other ethnic groups that at one time or another were marked by poverty and disintegration also experienced high crime rates. Crime in the Black community additionally is perpetuated by racism. Other explanations of crime in terms of bad genes, defective character, or criminal predisposition are sheer diversions from the real issue-the troubling features of injustice and inequality in American society. These other explanations attempt to



As Chairman of Grime Subcommittee of House of Representatives, Congressman John Conyers of Detroit questions witness at a panel hearing. Conyers is a leader in nation's full employment movement. He is disturbed by high teen-age unemployment.

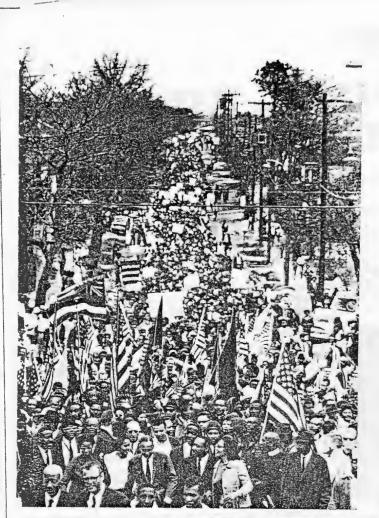
individualize what is basically a collective problem, blame the victim rather than the conditions that victimize, and protect society's reputation rather than expose its complicity.

Crime in the streets, in the most fundamental sense, is the product of desperation-a desperation rooted in a system that consigns millions of citizens to poverty, forces them to live in decaying environments, and resigns them to the view that the future will be merely a repetition of the past, and certainly no ground for hope. Criminal behavior multiplies when a neighborhood, a city, or the nation itself is incapable of providing for the well-being of its members. Under such circumstances, the most vulnerable individuals often embrace the view that anything ensuring their survival, whether it is petty crime, selling dope, rackets, or even violence, is more desirable than "giving in" or "giving up." When survival is at stake, it should not be surprising that criminal activity comes to be viewed by the offender as an opportunity rather than a cost, normal behavior rather than deviance, and a potentially profitable enterprise that is far superior to an indecent existence.

The reality of the social and economic basis of crime in America is most obvious as it affects young people, especially Black youth. Of all groups, Black youth have been the most victimized by unemployment and discrimination. The National Urban League recently estimated that three-fifths of all Black teenagers (57 percent) were jobless at any given period in 1978. That is a national figure. In inner-big city areas such as the South Bronx, the jobless rate has been as high as 75 percent. Is there any connection with the fact that young people, under the age of 25, comprise two-thirds of total police arrests, and that the highest rate of increase in the commission of serious crimes has occurred among teenagers? Of course, there is a relationship between joblessness and crime. And the economic bad times that have plagued young blacks have existed a very long time.



Real cure, Congressman Conyers says, is full employment policy and support of goals of Humphrey-Hawkins bill which was signed by President Carter (above) in October, 1978. 127



Civil Rights marches of the 60s gave young and old a "sense of hope," says Conyers. Collapse of that hope has contributed to a mond of despair among Black youth of today, he says.

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Wrong answer to the problem, according to Conyers, is widespread demand for stiffer penalties and larger prisons. The congressman feels full employment will visibly reduce crime.

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#### CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT Continued

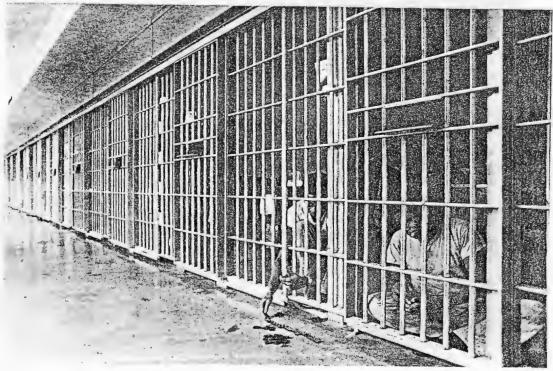
What has changed in recent years is the mood and perception. During the Sixties there was reason to hope circumstances would improve. The Civil Rights Movement was accomplishing results. The Federal Government took actions to break up racism in the schools, workplaces, and at the polls. There were at least expressions of commitment to eradicate poverty at the highest levels of government. Political-collective-action was commonplace, goal-oriented, perceived to be effective, and legitimated by a general mood of change and reform in the country. Deprivation was counteracted by a sense of hope. That came to an end with the coming to power of the conservative forces represented by Richard Nixon.

The demoralization of young people in the years since has taken an enormous toll. A great many Black youth now believe there is little they or anyone can do to change things, other than to escape from their demoralization by whatever means are at hand. Living in the wealthiest, most technologically and organizationally advanced society in history and condemned to lives without opportunity or purpose, many realize their immediate challenge—the only one they really have—is to escape degradation. Certainly, ghetto youth don't have the luxury of channeling their anger along socially acceptable paths. They already are barred from competing for choice jobs, or working their way up a career ladder, or sublimating their anger through consumer goods and the parading of these before their peers.

Criminal behavior among the young is the alternative way, when gainful employment, social recognition, or political action is either barred or barren. When collective action is not available, individuals typically fall back on self-serving acts and their own wits. Crime becomes the trusted companion. Aggression and violence, especially the self-destructive type directed against close or convenient targets like children, elderly persons, neighbors, even members of the family, become the elemental means of dealing with frustration and anger.

THE label, "Black on Black crime," gives the erroneous impression of a strange, aberrant, or exotic activity, when it is taken out of the context of the social and economic roots of crime. The facts about Black crime have to be honestly examined and confronted. The meaning of these facts must not be misconstrued.

Item: Homicide, most of it gun-related, has exceeded heart attacks and accidents as the leading cause of death among Black males between



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## My Feet Were Killing Me...Until I Discovered the Miracle in Germany!

It was the European trip I had always dreamed about. I had the time and money to go where I wanted—see what I wanted. But I soon learned that money and time don't mean much

but i soon leaned that money when your feet hurt too much to walk. After a few days of sight-seeing my feet were killing me. Oh. I tried to keep going. In Paris I limped through Notre Dame and along the Champs-Elysees. And I went up in the Eiffel Tower although I can't honestly say I remember the view. My feet were so tired and sore my whole body ached. While everybody else was having a great time. I was in my hotel room. I didn't even feel like sitting in a sidewalk cafe. The whole trip was like that until I got to Hamburg, Germany. There, by accident. I happened to hear about an exciting break-through for anyone who suffers from sore, ach-ing feet and legs.

through for anyone who suffers from sore, ach-ing feet and legs. This wonderful invention was a custom-made foot support called Flexible Feather-spring. When I got a pair and slipped them into my shoes my pain disappeared almost in-stantly. The flexible shock absorbing support they gave my feet was like crading them on a cushion of air. I could walk, stand, even run. The relief was truly a miracle. And just one pair was all I needed. I learned that women also can wear them-even with

And just one pair was all i needed. Hearned that women also can wear them—even with sandals and open backed shoes. They're com-pletely invisible. Imagine how dumbfounded I was to discover that these miraculous devices were sold only in Europe. Right then I determined that I would shore the muscle I discovered to Germany with

share the miracle I discovered in Germany with

share the miracle I discovered in Germany with my own countrymen. Today thousands of Americans including those who have retired—many with foot prob-lems far more severe than mine—have experi-enced this blessed relief for themselves. Here's why Feathersprings work for them and why I hey can work for you. These supports are like nothing you've ever seen before. They



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are custom fitted and made for your feet alone! Unlike conventional devices, they actually imitate the youthful elastic support that Nature

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LOOK Sex Appealing and Years Younger



Grime problem in Black America is "a function of economic tailspin which the largest and oldest cities have experienced . . . during the last three decades," Congressman writes.

#### CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT Continued

the ages of 15 and 44, who reside in central cities.

Item: In the 10-year period, 1960-1970, the average life-expectancy of Black males, 20 years of age or younger, declined by one whole year, mainly the result of the increase in homicides in innercity areas.

Item: There are more than 500,000 heroin addicts, a quarter of whom live in New York, of which 46 percent are Black.

Item: A study of Cleveland revealed a 420 percent increase in gun-related deaths from the period 1958-1962, to the period 1969-1974; and the 50 million handguns now in existence-a major factor behind the skyrocketing homicide rates—is double the number of 10 years ago.

Item: A recent survey indicated that 88 percent of Black victims of violent crimes perceived the perpertrators as being Black.

What do these facts mean? What do they say about Black communities and about the larger society in which we live? Black communities are being racked by crime and violence and the proliferation of lethal weapons. The fact is the most likely victims of handgun fire are family, friends, or neighbors, who are the convenient, closeby targets of frustration, acts of passion, or accidents. The frustration and anger that is so basic to ghetto youths is bound to be expressed within the confines of the only streets and neighborhoods that they know. Therein lies the great tragedy: the persons who suffer most from social and economic injustice are the farthest removed from the causes of their suffering and the means of doing anything about it-the social and economic forces that operate nationally, and the decisions and policies that are made in faraway government offices and corporate boardrooms

It is no mere coincidence that the rate of gun-related homicide among Black males rose 26 percent between 1968 and 1975 (the last year of official data) as their unemployment rate more than doubled, from 5.5 percent to 13.7 percent. Nor is it an accident that the rate of gun-related homicide in Black inner-city neighborhoods increased in relation to the shocks that were administered to these communities and their members by the worst recession since the Great Depression of the 30s and the worst inflation since the Civil War. The crime problem in Black communities is a function of the economic tailspin the largest and oldest cities have experienced-the loss of population, jobs, and income during the last three decades. Most recently, the cities have suffered from the drastic cutback in social services and the damaging federal belt-tightening that has resulted in the elimination of jobs programs, subsidized housing, and public works for cities. This on-going physical and social deterioration in inner-city neighborhoods means these communities have lost the capacity to defend themselves, to provide necessary services to their citizens, and to accomplish the revitalization that is the strongest bulwark against crime.

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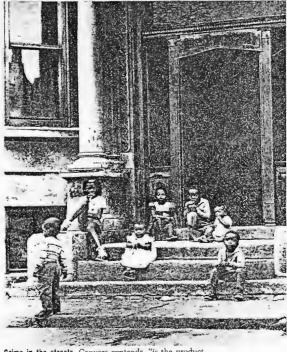
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#### CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT Continued

In recent years there has been a growing body of research on the links between economic factors and crime. The House Subcommittee on Crime held public hearings on this subject in several cities last year. Among the witnesses was the Johns Hopkins University economist, Dr. M. Harvey Brenner, who published remarkable findings about crime and economics. According to Dr. Brenner, each 1 percent increase in the national unemployment rate, as measured over many years, results on the average in a 6 percent increase in property crimes, a 9 percent increase in narcotics arrests, a 4 percent increase in homicides, and a 5 percent rise in state prison admissions. On the basis of his studies, we can estimate the effects of changes in the business cycle-of recessions, unemployment, inflation-on crime. A political scientist at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Jack Nagel, who testified before our committee, published a study that traces the influence of economic factors on criminal behavior on a state-by-state basis. He shows, for example, that in the state of Michigan a 1 percent increase in the jobless rate brings about an additional 270 crimes per 100,000. This and other evidence of the close link between economic distress and criminal behavior confirm a theory first brought to my attention by the distinguished criminologist and former police commissioner of Boston, Robert DiGrazia: serious crimes are the products of "poverty, unemployment, broken homes, rotten education, drug addictions . . . and other social and economic ills about which the police can do little, if anything."

THE trends in crime control and criminal justice are sickening. In the next ten years state governments will be spending several billion dollars on new or expanded prisons. New York State currently spends about 26,000 to incarcerate a single prisoner during a year. The nation as a whole is spending in the neighborhood of 22 billion on criminal justice and crime control, five times the amount of 10 years ago. Since 22 billion doesn't seem to be adequate to stop crime, politicians are clamoring for what they consider the ultimate, last-ditch weapons--istiffer, mandatory sentences and the restoration of the death penalty. Yet crime



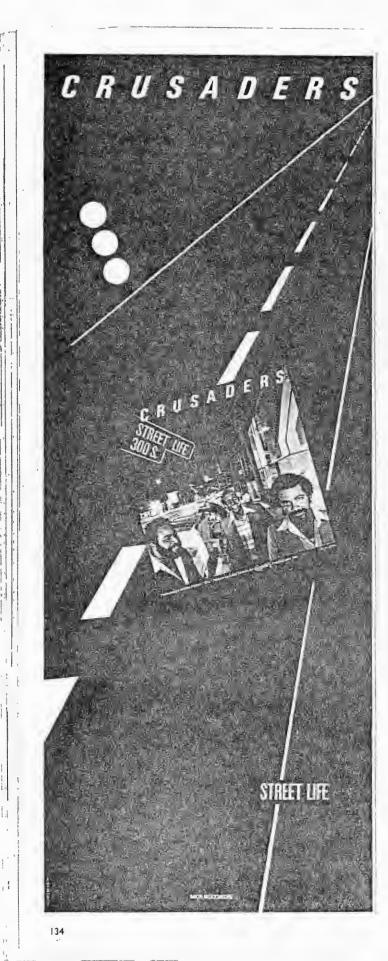
Grime in the streets, Conyers contends, "is the product of desperation—a desperation born of the interplay between deprivation, community decay, and the fatalistic sense that the future will merely repeat the past."

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'At height of Detroit riot, Congressman Conyers used bullhorn as he encouraged rioters to go home. He says that only solution to crime problem is a national program dealing with root cause-economic injustice.

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remains a built-in part of our system, which no amount of money can solve, so long as its root-causes are left untouched.

In the past several years, great strides have been made in many urban communities to control crime. As a result neighborhood political action in cities across the country and community anti-crime programs have shown promising results at crime prevention. Community-based crime patrols, programs that provide work alternatives to incarceration, and projects that curb gang violence by giving youth productive roles are just a few examples of workable community anti-crime efforts. Yet without a national policy that links criminal justice with economic justice, these programs are destined to be stunted or still-born. The leaders and citizen activists involved in them recognize the primacy of economic changes in dealing with crime. That is why they are in the front ranks of the political mobilization behind full employment and economic justice.

Solutions to the crime problem have to come to grips with its social and economic roots—the barriers the system places in the way of gainful employment, decent income, and opportunities to perform productive roles in society. The approach that has never been tried is to build an economy of full employment and genuine income redistribution so that all citizens who want to work are able to find jobs and everyone, regardless of the ability to work, has the resources to live decently. The Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act, signed into law in October, 1978, is a beginning. Unfortunately, the present Administration has chosen to ignore its mandate and disregard the law.

That a great deal of crime is the result of bad economic policies ought to come as no shock to individuals who have had experience with the problem or who have studied the evidence. Yet the understanding of this clearly has not sunk into the minds of those who run the country. This is a political issue—to convince or compel those in power to change the priorities of government. This will not come about unless millions of citizens organize at all levels to demand structural changes. The question of controlling crime in Black and White communities is less a question of reducing incidents, important as this is, than it is a question of changing the existing social and economic system, in which crime is the inevitable by-product of inequality and injustice. This is the only way to treat crime at its source.

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