STRENGTHS IN BLACK FAMILIES

by A. Pat Byrdsong

"It wasn't that someone was nice to us that we are here today," said Dr. Robert Hill.

Hill spoke about the strengths of black families. He presently serves as Director of the National Urban League's Research Department.

Hill found many strengths among black families. "My attempt was to expand knowledge and talk about the strengths," said Hill. He felt his approach was "much more practical solution oriented."

During his research Hill discovered that black families had five major strengths. They are achievement, strong kinship bonds, flexibility of roles, work orientation and religion.

Consistent findings show that blacks have higher aspirations and goals when compared to whites on the same economic level. Studies have shown that black children in the Head Start program had very high aspirations. Later studies on the same children showed that their aspiration level had declined since the Head Start days. These children have come in contact with the 'real' world. Often, their school counselors help lower their aspiration levels. Counselors constantly tell the child that he is incapable of certain things, yet fail to discuss the strengths. Often, the counselors do not inspire them to achieve the goals they have set for themselves. Some of these children join the ranks of drop-out or under achievers.

Hill said Blacks "needed positive self-fulfilling prophecies." He cited the father in the movie Sounder as an example. The son, although he wanted to go to school, decided to remain on the farm and help his family. His father sent him to live with the teacher and to attend school. His father realized the importance of an education.

The flexibility of roles is another strength in black families. The ability for Blacks to change roles has been an important survival technique. Generally, both black parents have always had to work to make ends meet. This meant that each had to be able to perform duties that are commonly associated with the other sex. Flexibility has strengthened inter-cooperation between black men and women.

Blacks "would rather work than shirk," said Hill. One quarter of all black families receive public assistance, yet one of every three black families are poor. "One half of black families below poverty levels do not receive a penny of public assistance." Most black families do not want public assistance, so they try their best to stay off.

Majorities of families headed by black women are not on public assistance. Most of these women work to support their families. Contrary to popular belief, black women are on the bottom of the wage scale. Some of their earnings may be so low they need public assistance to help supplement their wages. This work orientation is another strength of black families.

Strong kinship bonds are another strength of black families. The extended family is still prevalent in black culture. Informal day care centers are not uncommon among low income groups. Relatives often fill this role.

Generally, more people play roles in raising black children. Informal day care centers are not uncommon among low income groups. Relatives often fill this role. Because of the mobility of today's society, neighbors often fill this role.

Hill defines religion as the fifth strength. "When we say brother and sister we mean it," said Hill. Blacks are concerned about each other. The values of blacks are not as materialistic as other people. National problems such as child abuse, battered wives and runaways are not as prevalent among blacks as other groups. This humane attitude has helped blacks to survive over the years.

Hill found many of the government policies designed to help families are ineffective. The policies are often designed to aid specific groups but the programs developed are often unable to reach these goals.

This is especially true of policies geared toward blacks, Hill said, "The strategy for building people is building on strength." Unfortunately many of the government policies were designed from the conclusions of the Myoinhin Report of 1965. Myoinhin believed that black families caused the problem of blacks. Hill's Strengths of Black Families disputes this. "We are not saying blacks have no weaknesses," said Hill but we can "overcome weakness through strength."

He said that Blacks are pessimistic optimists. They want change, but they are unsure of how long it will take, yet, they know it will occur.

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All articles to be submitted to UHURU are due on the 15th of each month. Letters to the Editors are welcome.
A seminar pertaining to the relationship between black families was held on February 10th. Black Families in America Today was the first of a scheduled annual seminar to be held at the University of Dayton, sponsored by the Afro-American Center.

This five-hour workshop was held for the benefit of the Black community to become aware of how and why the Black family union is deteriorating and gave suggestions of what can be done to gain more unity among families.

The seminar was divided into three parts, two discussion groups and a keynote address given by Dr. James Dobbin of the Professional School of Psychology at Wright State University.

Dr. Dobbin's presentation was preceded by two discussion groups. Topics of discussion were: "The Dynamics of a Strong Marriage Relationship," hosted by Mrs. Eleanor Johnson, supervisor of Community Services for the Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley; and "Rearing Black Children in White America" guest speaker Mrs. Eleanor Stocks, Associate Professor in Early Childhood Education at Sinclair College. Dr. Dobbin concluded the three part seminar with his presentation on "Communication Between Black Men and Women". Dr. Dobbin commented that one conflict between Black men and women is that they often misinterpret what is said or done by each other. Therefore, as a solution mates should teach and educate one another on their feelings.

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**EDITORIAL**

**Minorities and Media Ownership**

by A. Pat Byrdsong

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Minorities have been wanting to become a part of the American society for years. They have been the invisible men—the Americans that have not been recognized. Minorities constitute 20% of the population but less than 1% of the nation's commercial radio and television station. However, this is not an easy situation to correct.

The Carter administration proposed a national program to increase the number of minority owners in broadcasting and cable stations. The proposals included: a petition requesting the FCC to establish a minority ownership policy, changes in the loan policies of the Small Business Administration and the Economic Development Administration; a new federal policy intended to increase the flow of government advertising contracts to minority owned advertising agencies and media outlets.

The White House issued a statement saying, "Because of telecommunication vital role in social, economic, and political progress, full minority participation is a critical component of President Carter's economic and social goal. Minority ownership markedly serves the public interest, for it insures the sustained and increased sensitivity to minority audiences."

The Carter administration's broadcasting policy is to get more minority-owned stations. The goal of the administration is to put on the air no less than 10 additional minority-owned stations by the end of the year. Their method is to make it easier for minorities to buy already existing stations.

A major problem for anyone wanting to purchase a radio station is getting enough capital. One significant change has been in the Small Business Administration. They changed their policy to include loans for the purchase of broadcast stations and cable systems.

Another problem for minorities is obtaining advertising revenues. Black broadcasters can be pressured more positive opinions about the needs are. It seems to be a popular issue to talk about or to write proposals on.

Clarence McKee wrote for the Republican National Committee, "The RNC firmly believes that efforts to promote greater minority ownership of broadcast facilities must involve a joint effort by government, industry and other segments of the private sector working together to find solutions to some of the financial problems facing many potential owners."

Many groups have jumped on the bandwagon concerning minority-ownership of media stations. What is really happening to these proposals is debatable. Some of the proposals are good in theory but, will they operate successfully in practice? Will broadcasters support a license tax to create a fund for minorities to use when they want to purchase a station? It is foolish to think that broadcast owners will allow such a passage in the New Communications Act to stand as present. Besides, the broadcasters can say the means do not equal the ends. This fund will not be sufficient to achieve the goals set.

Radio is a prime shaper of black opinions about economic, and political conditions. Minorities have been wanting to become a part of the important role of radio and television stations. They can express their opinions and beliefs in ways that are not possible in any other medium.

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**BLACK MINI-FACTS**

by Pat Davis

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YESTERDAY:

Mrs. F.D. Roosevelt was on intimate terms with many black people. It was Mrs. Roosevelt who was responsible for enlarging the staff of the "Black Cabinet", a delegate of men who collaborated with presidential advisors. Two staff members were Robert L. Vann, editor of the Pittsburgh Courier and William H. Hastie, Dean of the Howard University Law School. Mr. Vann served as Special Assistant to the Attorney General while Hastie was Assistant Solicitor in the Department of the Interior.

TODAY:

Edward W. Brooke (Rep.-Mass.), has been thought of as the "most obvious national symbol of black political power." Senator Brooke's oratorical eloquence has been equated to that of Frederick Douglass and like Douglass, the political concerns of blacks were well represented in Brooke's character. Brooke served as Secretary of State and as Attorney General of Massachusetts, but was defeated in his bid for re-election.

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The American Association of Advertising Agencies has formed a task force to improve the way its member agencies purchase time on black-owned stations. The 443 agencies the AAA represent account for 75% of all agency ads. Media buyers place ads with the stations that have the highest ratings. Black owned stations are therefore overlooked.

Skip Finley, president of Sheridan Broadcasting said, "The upper level management people at the ad agencies want to advertise on black radio. But in the middle level has backlashed against the idea. In their eyes there's no justification for buying black radio. They don't see the economic sense in buying time on a black radio station that's ranked seventeenth when they can buy time on a white station that's ranked number two. It's not so much a matter of racism as economics."

Arbitron, the company who does rating, was sued by WDAS in Philadelphia for $2.5 million in damages. The stations owner claimed Arbitron caused them to lose ad revenue by rating them inaccurately. The suit was dropped when Arbitron agreed to adjust its methods.

What does all this mean? There are no present laws to help minorities into the ownership end of media stations. Proposals are being made to meet what they think the needs are. It seems to be a popular issue to talk about or to write proposals on.

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The SBA has already shown that the first 32 loans they issued to broadcasters for ownership was not fully utilized by minorities. There may be varying reasons for it, but publicity is probably the major reason.

Because of the interest in the topic, some laws or regulations will probably be passed to aid minorities in obtaining stations. FCC Commissioner Brown, wisely said, "I think it is significant that the commission has adopted these proposals. This marks the first time the commission has adopted a policy to encourage minority ownership in broadcasting. What the commission has done is give its staff marching orders and announce to the public that they were going forth with an aggressive minority ownership policy. This is only a beginning of course, but it's important that we start somewhere."

Hopefully there will be more minority-owned media stations. Media influence on the public is tremendous. We need to be making part of that impact.
Crusoe Takes Charge
by Lori Harris

Beverly Crusoe, at 5'10", is a naturally attractive black woman. When you first look at her, you see a rather frail frame. But inside that frame is the potential of the explosive force like that of dynamite, and all that force is directed towards the small colleges. Its potential is virtually limitless. Beverly is an unselfish player. She knows that she cannot practically score at will, but she says, "There are other things that need to be done besides just scoring. We have to play good defense." She takes her game very seriously. To her, the most important thing is winning. She looks at playing basketball for Dayton as a job that she gets paid for, her scholarship. One of the reasons that she came to U.D. was because of its academic standing. "What does a degree mean from Central State University compared to a degree from U.D.?” She says, "I sure didn't come to U.D. because of the weather or the money!" With all the drawbacks of playing for U.D., the lack of money for women, subtle prejudices that she has encountered, etc., Beverly says, "I learned to be content."

The team seems to be unified. "Sometimes it is difficult for me to relate to the other girls on the team. Sometimes she wants to just "get away." The women's team is ranked fourth in the nation among the small colleges. Its potential is virtually limitless. They are definitely a sure bet to bring a lot of interest and pride in Africa.

The dream of uniting all Black peoples of the world was espoused by many black leaders. One of the most dynamic leaders of this philosophy was Marcus Mosiah Garvey.

Garvey arrived in America in 1916. He founded a branch of the UNIA in New York City in 1917 and the following year established the Negro World, a newspaper to further the ideas of the UNIA. Earlier in his life he was a printer and had edited Garvey's Watchman. Garvey's appeal to the black masses offered him a wider base of support. Negro World had a circulation of several hundred thousand at its peak.

He fired the black masses with his words, "I am the equal of any white man. I want you to feel the same way."

Garvey urged black unity saying, "If we must have justice we must be strong, if we must be strong we must come together; if we must come together we can only do so through the system of organization... Let us not waste time in breathless appeals to the strong while we are weak, but lend our time energy, and effort to the accumulation of strength among ourselves by which we will voluntarily attract the attention of others."

He extolled the glories of blackness and of African heritage. A master in the art of persuasion he said, "When Europe was inhabited by...a race of savages, naked men, heathens and pagans, Africa was peopled with a race of cultured black men, who were masters in art, science and literature."

Garvey established the Black Star Line Steamship Company to achieve his goal of a homeland for blacks. Often called the 'Back to Africa' movement, Garvey did not intend for all Black Americans to return to Africa. He was interested in those who had skills and were able to help build a great nation.

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The movement declined in 1923 when he was convicted of mail fraud. Calvin Coolidge, then president, pardoned him and he was deported in 1927.

The concepts of Garveyism are still alive in many black nationalist organizations today.
EQUALITY IS WHAT'S HAPPENING

Look at all the joy that he did bring, I'm talking about the man, bro. Martin Luther King. But do you know that, they chased him out of town. I'm talking about the man, bro. H. Rap Brown. Now why would they do a dirty thing like that? Oh, I should have known, his skin is black. He's trying to give us a piece of the action, I'm talking about the man, rev. Jesse Jackson.

Now he is a man, who was born to lead, just trying to help a few blacks succeed. But what do they do, but try to hold us back, I'm talking about the whites and a few of the blacks. Just check it all out, all that she gave us. I'm talking about the lady, ms. Angela Davis.

Now do you want to know, who was one of the best, if I must voice my opinion, it was Malcolm X. Very great, to give us black equality, a few of the black's. Back, I'm taking about the whites and a few of the blacks. Why would they do a dirty thing like that? Before it's much too late. Rev. Jesse Jackson.


True thrust-career talk. Malcolm X.

But do you know that, they chased him out of town. I'm talking about the man, Harry Belafonte, Action, I'm talking about the man, his skin is black.

Ms. Angela Davis.

Now these were people, who tried to help blacks succeed, but our race is still, much too far back. That's why we need a leader, who is very great, to give us black equality. Before it's much too late.

by Charles Owens III

ENGINEER SYMPOSIUM

By Charles Owens III

On February 7th, 15 Black Engineering Students attended a symposium entitled, "Future Thrust-Career & Design," sponsored by the Center for Afro-American Affairs. The Center's guest speakers were engineers from Wright Patterson Air Force Base, which is located in Fairborn, just outside of Dayton.

Dr. Jones, a officer at Wright Patterson spoke on the "Trends and Career Opportunities in the Field of Engineering." Jones, who is also an instructor here at U.D., stated that communicative skills are lacking in the field of engineering. Employers will be looking for the engineer who can mix their skills and adapt to certain conditions.

Al Mosely, a 2nd Lieutenant, is a recent graduate of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Like his colleagues, 2nd Lieutenant L. Jenkins, and Captain Dungy, a retired veteran of 22 years, also stressed the importance of reading and technical writing skills.

As Architect, 2nd Lieutenant K. Perish, believes that you should know your goals, and never believe that they are set too high. Like Major Green, they feel that the young graduate with an engineering degree should be management oriented.

The Society of Black Engineers will be having their symposium March 3rd, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon in the Kettering Engineering Building.

CALL

by Jenel Shaw

Can my brothers and my sisters
Hear me crying?
Do they care?
Do they give a damn?
Do they hear me crying
when I speak
with more than my lips--
with my heart—and they turn away—
different.
Do my brothers
and my sisters
hear me laugh--only--
to keep from crying—
when they claim
to be so Black--
and yet are ignorant
of what being Black means--
Do my brothers
and my sisters,
who walk and talk with so much
"class"
understand
that they are fooling
and hurting
no one
except themselves.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

by L. Jenel Shaw

The time has come again for the majority of us to deal with the PAPER HASSLE of today's society. Financial aid forms will prove to be one of the major tasks of the PAPER HASSLE for this 1979-80 new year.

Being students at the University of Dayton, we have the opportunity to be relieved of many of the frustrations of dealing with the financial forms due to the qualified personnel in the Financial Aid Office, located in room 221, St. Mary's Hall.

Mr. Allen Elijah, Assistant Director, along with others have the facts and suggestions on how you may be eligible to receive financial assistance for the new year.

If you feel you may be qualified to receive financial assistance, stop in and see the friendly staff and personnel of the Financial Aid Office. It will be well worth your time and effort.

BLACK BASKETBALL PLAYERS

by Richard Stephens

History has proven that blacks do make excellent basketball players. So why then does the University of Dayton Flyers have only two black athletes?

U.D. did recruit black players, but for some reason they did not turn out (become) very successful this season. "We practically lived with Dwight Anderson but he just want to go to the University of Kentucky," stated Jack Butler, who does most of the recruiting for U.D. Last season there was a six-foot-eight-inch forward here from Atlanta who said, "There is nothing here for me."

Butler commented on the shortage of blacks on this year's Flyers team. "There is no particular reason why there are only two blacks. It's just one of those years. In the past when we played UCLA we played four blacks. This is just one season, if you look in the yearbooks from 1971 to today, you will see as many as five black players."

With quality players like Johnny Davis, Erv Giddings and Mo Layton in the line-up the Flyers were a much more potent team. How many times has All-American candidate Jim Paxson come through in the clutch? Once, against Memphis State. But, with only one other black on the team, because it's desire that make us go. I do feel that there could be more blacks on the team, but that's the coach's job.

So let's wait and see what happens next year. Butler has mentioned that the flyers are recruiting in Washington, D.C. and that they are trying to make D.C. the place Detroit used to be for them.

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