

1-14-1982

Distinguished Speaker Looks at Violence in Society

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

"Distinguished Speaker Looks at Violence in Society" (1982). *News Releases*. 4217.
https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/4217

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlangen1@udayton.edu.



The University of Dayton

News Release

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER LOOKS AT VIOLENCE IN SOCIETY

DAYTON, Ohio, January 14, 1982 -- Child care, violence in society, the fallacy of IQ testing, interracial relations, affirmative action, White racism and the self-image of Black Americans are seen by psychiatrist Alvin Poussaint as roadblocks to unity. Examining the facets of life that affect Black Americans and, ultimately, every American, is the focus of Poussaint's life work. This focus has led him to careers as psychiatrist, medical school administrator, social activist, author and lecturer.

Poussaint will be the second speaker in the University of Dayton's Distinguished Speakers Series, February 9, at 8 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom. As keynote speaker for "Violence in Society Month," Poussaint will speak on "Causes and Effects of Violence." The talk is free and open to the public.

Born in East Harlem, Alvin Poussaint attended Columbia University and received his MD from Cornell in 1960. He took postgraduate training at UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, where he served as Chief Resident in Psychiatry from 1964-65. At UCLA, he pursued research in the use of drugs in treating childhood bedwetting.

From 1965 until 1967 he served as Southern Field Director for the Medical Committee for Human Rights in Jackson, Mississippi. He provided medical care to civil rights workers and aided in the desegregation of health facilities throughout the South. He worked alongside civil rights leaders Stokely Carmichael, Martin Luther King, Jr., Andrew Young, and Jesse Jackson. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Operation PUSH (People United To Save Humanity).

-more-

Joining the Tufts Medical School faculty in 1967, Poussaint was named director of the psychiatry program in a low-income housing project. He developed a strong interest in community psychiatry and race relations, particularly in the psychological impact of racism on the Black psyche, and he wrote frequently on the subject.

In 1969, he was appointed associate professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and also dean of students. As director of Student Affairs from 1975-78, he had a major impact on minority group student recruitment.

Dr. Poussaint has written and published articles in both scientific and lay publications, including the Sunday magazines of the New York Times and Boston Globe; Psychology Today; Parents magazine and Ebony. He is co-author (with Dr. James P. Comer) of Black Child Care, and author of Why Blacks Kill Blacks. A former consultant to the Congressional Black Caucus, he has received a number of awards and citations for his community activities.

Currently on the staff of Boston's Children's Hospital, where he is a member of the Family Support Center staff and active in research, Dr. Poussaint has become one of the nation's most popular lecturers on racism and race relations.