I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed:
"We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal."

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. — 1929-1968.

# OPINION

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO - AMERICAN Co., of Baltimore City Inc,

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful and magnify our Father which is in Heaven,
CARL MURPHY
(1889-1967)
Editor-Publisher
(1922-1967)



## Encouraging primary

After some recently disappointing performances, the black vote in Tuesday's primary election was decidedly encouraging.

On the basis of the performance in 100 AFRO Precincts, predominantly black precincts, it is estimated that the black voter turnout on Tuesday was in the area of 40 per cent.

Considering that most of these precincts are located in the Seventh Congressional District and that Rep. Parren J. Mitchell was not on the ballot because he had no primary opposition, the turnout was good.

But there was more to the performance of the black vote than the number of ballots cast.

AFRO Precinct, voters gave former Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter a 4 percentage point edge over California Gov. Jerry Brown in the presidential sweepstakes' beauty contest.

But at the same time, they elected five of six members of a Unity Slate of black delegates pledged to other presidential candidates. That reflects a degree of sophistication and response to political leadership which should pay handsome dividends for black Baltimoreans in future elections.

Unity Slate members elected were State Senators Verda F. Welcome, Robert Douglass, Clarence Blount and Clarence Mitchell and Earl Banks. Del. Isaiah Dixon Jr., a Carter delegate, came in ahead of Mrs Mary Green

In giving Rep. Paul Sarbanes a 24 percentage point edge over Joe Tydings in Sarbanes' successful bid for the Democratic nomination as U.S. Senator, the black vote again listened to the voices of most of its political leaders, in addition to using its own judgment in making a choice.

And although the black voters heeded leadership calls for support of the four city incumbent judges they left no doubt they were wide awake by assuring that Judge John R. Hargrove led the ticket in AFRO Precincts.

The AFRO supported Carter in the primary and he picked up more than half of Maryland's delegates. The AFRO strongly backed the non-Carter Unity Slate as a significant move toward cohesive political development at the local level and we were pleased by the victory of that slate. This newspaper also backed Sarbanes, City Councilwoman Barbara Mikulski her successful bid for the Third District congressional nomination and the incumbent judges.

Baltimore voted for progress on Tuesday and the black vote made itself heard. If we can but keep it together, Tuesday's performance can earn the community keys to a bigger role in Baltimore's centers of power.

## 'Preference' fails

The need for legislation to require municipal workers to reside in the city is obvious when one reviews the failure of the present preferential treatment provision.

Three years after initiating the preference policy, the city has 277 fewer residents on the municipal payroll and 695 additional non-city employes.

According to a study done by Del. John W. Douglass, D.-45th, and Dr. Cleveland Chandler, professor of economics and management, Towson State College, legislation requiring the city's public employes to be Baltimore residents would bring back 9,000 workers, create another 5,700 jobs in the private sector and churn up $10 million in new tax revenues.

That would mean a lower tax rate or additional services for Baltimore City.

Additionally, it would mean more people on the city payroll who are interested in Baltimore and its problems, rather than just collecting a check and fleeing back to the suburbs.

Imagine almost half the city's policemen, officers who are required to carry weapons even when off duty in order to be of more protective benefit to their communities, living outside of Baltimore. Isn't that short-changing the city's crime victims and potential victims?

Dr. Emerson R. Julian, Fourth District city councilman, is in the process of collecting 10,000 signatures to petition the issue to referendum this November. His idea is to change the Baltimore City charter to require all new municipal employes be residents.

Del. Douglass and Dr. Chandler would like to have all current city jobholders either move back to Baltimore City or give up their posts.

The AFRO has been supporting the Julian effort which already is underway and has a good chance of being successful.

To us, there is no question but that there must be a change that requires municipal workers to be city residents. Mayor Schaefer may not be for it but we think most taxpaying city residents would approve. The AFRO strongly backs efforts to give them the opportunity to vote for this desired change.

## College quotas

(Guest Edfforial)

State budget authorities have imposed strict guidelines on the number of out-of-state students that Maryland colleges and universities will be allowed to admit in the coming years. Because of this new policy, I feel compelled to offer my opinions on the matter.

Because of your strong and consistent support for higher education and for equality of opportunity, your readers will be interested to know that the imposition of quotas on out-of-state students places a particular hardship on three of the predominantly black colleges and universities — namely, Morgan, Bowie and the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

These institutions have traditionally had large numbers of out-of-state students because of the very fine educational opportunities open to minorities in this state.

Therefore, the imposition of out-of-state student quotas will damage these institutions even as we are making efforts to assure the Department of Health, Education and Welfare that these institutions are being strengthened.

We have consistently felt that a diversified student body, in terms of geographical background, is important to the ultimate education of all students. We also have taken the view that such diversity is enriching and productive of excellence in teaching and research among faculty members.

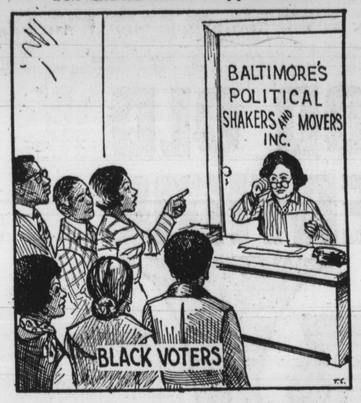
Moreover, we know that large numbers of students who were educated in this state chose to remain here and make important contributions both to the economic and leadership structure of this state. Our own superintendent of public schools, Dr. John L. Crew, is an outstanding example of this pattern. He was an out-of-state student at Morgan.

I feel that educational policies should not be determined by budgetary decree, but through careful analysis of both the educational and fiscal factors involved. I am very pleased to note in this regard that the executive branch of state government has indicated a willingness to review this new policy with major input from the educational community.

We have reason to hope that this new policy might be significantly modified in ways that will enhance the educational program in this state while giving due consideration to the fiscal implications both of Maryland students studying in other states and students from other states studying in Maryland.

DR. ANDREW BILLINGSLEY
President
Morgan State University

### Tell 'em we have an appointment




### A little about a lot — by madeline w. murphy

## Return control of police to the city

In a kind of what-you-don't-know-won't-hurt-you ostrich approach, Mayor William D. Schaefer, in a recent exclusive television interview, praised Police Commissioner Donald M. Pomerleau, describing him as gentle, agreeable and a person with whom he had had little conflict.

This response was in answer to the question as to whether the mayor should have absolute control over the commissioner as the bill waiting to be signed by the governor decrees, or whether the power to appoint the commissioner should remain in the hands of the governor.

In light of recent revelations about the misuse of Law Enforcement Assistance Administration funds in the report of the Center for National Security Studies, there should be no doubt in the mind of the governor, mayor or citizens of Baltimore, that this kind of absolute power in the Baltimore Police Department has been abused too long and should be pressured by the citizens, the Black Legislative Caucus, that worked hard to get the bill passed, by Del. Paul Weisengoff, chairman of the city delegation (who should put his pressure where his promises are) to turn control of the police commissioner over to the City of Baltimore where it belongs.

The governor should sign that bill.

Once in Baltimore there was a three-man board that supervised the commissioner and the operations of the department. That has been abolished.

Sarah C. Carey, the Washington, D.C. attorney who wrote the CNSS report stated that Pomerleau refused to submit to an interview but that every other police chief in every other target city for LEAA funds "opened the doors and data to scrutiny."

She further stated that "It was really a striking contrast. I think it is outrageous that the taxpayers (of Baltimore) have a police chief who is so insulated from the public."

The outrage goes deeper as it relates to the morale of the policemen who are ofttimes victimized by this kind of power, that finally allows a police chief to become the probable supreme blackmailer of both city and state officials without any checks and balances.

This column has always favored a police-civilian review board. Certainly this should become a fact of life in a city whose crime rate climbs, whose police department becomes pre-occupied with prostitutes and drunks, rather than go after dangerous criminals, and whose police commissioner arrogantly hides in his expensive bronze tower refusing to account periodically for his actions.

The paranoia that fosters squelching of dissidents, spying and infiltrating civil rights groups; threatening citizens if they don't accede to his wishes, indicates Commissioner Pomerleau's dangerous power and intent upon a police state.

The only way to bring this conduct to a halt is to disperse this power, and to make the commissioner answerable only to one political authority—the mayor, rather than (as has happened in the past) the diabolical possibility of playing the mayor against the governor, where the vice become the versa!

The final report of the Watergate special prosecutor's office warns that, "Much of what goes awry in intelligence functions can be laid to secret, subjective judgments about the establishment of priorities for intelligence-gathering, the selection of the kinds of information to be gathered, the failure to analyze gathered information adequately and the stubborn failure to reappraise decisions over time.

The report further recommends, "Each agency with significant intelligence-gathering responsibility . . . should formulate written policies that include the purposes for which intelligence is to be gathered, the methods to be used in obtaining information, the kinds of information to be sought, and provisions for periodic review of priorities in purging of records that no longer serve an important purpose.

Finally, "The general policy statements of each agency should be made public."

Only when the commissioner is subject to a board of review of his peers, along with citizens, under the authority of the city in which he works, will Baltimore see the function of the Police Commissioner comparable with that of any other city agency, with the responsibility to make periodic reports to the public with the resultant control the public must necessarily maintain over its quasi-military agency.

It bears repeating that power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Write or call Governor Mandell today to sign this all important bill.

### Now and then — by g. james fleming

## 'Good and faithful servants'

The retirement of Maude Smith Harvey and Harold J. Jennifer Jr., from public service, after a joint total of 59 years, takes our minds off the sound and fury of politics for a period.

Instead of politics, we turn to give honor to other substantial men and women of good works: Those who day after day, week after week, month after month, year after year, do their jobs devotedly, dedicatedly, diligently and trustworthily; often enthusiastically. Those who are not clock-watchers, who are not interested only in getting the most vacation days and the highest pay for the lightest work-load.

Jennifer and Mrs. Harvey started on the lowest rungs of their respective departments, Parks and Recreation for Jennifer and the Department of Public Welfare for Mrs. Harvey.

They also started in the dark days of race and job discrimination, when they could serve only other blacks and when they could not hope or expect to fill citywide supervisory positions. Jim crow and employment discrimination were king.

They suffered under "separate but equal" well into the 1950s. Because their job and promotion opportunities were limited, blacks also found themselves in the relatively and actually lower pay brackets.

But, Jennifer and Mrs. Harvey stuck with the public service, pursued advanced courses in their respective fields; took civil service examinations to qualify for higher positions; and showed that their race might keep them down, but not their actual qualification, or lack of qualification.

Little by little, they moved and were moved, upwards — the movement sparked more by the changes in the times, through court decisions, physical confrontations and political organization on the part of blacks, than through altruism on the part of the powers-that-be.

Jennifer is retiring after 26 years with the city, the last 12 as the chief executive officer of the Baltimore Civic Center — as topmost a position as that held by any corporate manager. His is a nationally recognized career of success.

Like every other person in a high key position, however, it did not take him long to discover that his position was no bowl of cherries. The job was difficult, but he could handle that. But, he also had to withstand the jealousies, the backbiting and the political sniping that went along.

But, these are bygones. Important thing is that he overcame the petty harassments and is leaving the civil service with all the respect and honor due one who has wrought magnificently.

Maude Harvey, an English major while at Morgan, found social work to be to her liking once she entered it. Looking forward, she enrolled in the University of Pennsylvania and earned the master of social work degree there, thus making herself "ready" for the doors that she felt were bound to open.

She went upwards, gradually, level by level and, again because of the changes in the times, she was ready when Baltimore City was "ready."

She, too, has been an ardent, people-oriented professional, quiet but effective in leadership, a public servant of the first order, and leaves the public service after 33 years, as the director of the Department of Social Services.

In the same newspapers announcing the retirement of Jennifer and Mrs. Smith there was news, also, of the retirement of Bernard J. Alexander who leaves the U.S. Postal Service after 50 years in the Parcel Post Division.

Alexander represents that very significant group of men and women in the postal service, those on police forces, those who teach our children in public schools and those who clean our streets and work in our sewers.

These public servants are not "just a postal worker," or "just a teacher," or "just a policeman" or "just a street cleaner." They play an essential part in making it possible for the rest of us to live "in the manner to which we have become accustomed."

They, too, have had to struggle up the rough side of the mountain; they, too, have been discriminated against in opportunity for employment and promotion and, often, in pay.

Where would black American be today, if some fathers and mothers had not held on to their work — whatever such work was — in order that later generations of blacks might see a better day?

### Washington report

## Fight in Congress over food stamps

By Parren J. Mitchell
(Mitchell represents Maryland's 7th Congressional District in the House of Representatives)

Many of you may be aware of the new food stamp regulations the Ford Administration issued earlier this week which are scheduled to go into effect June 1. However, due to the fact that the new regulations do not require states to give any prior notice to households of changes in their eligibility or benefits in compliance with the new rules, many current food stamp beneficiaries may have no idea of how the regulations affect them.

To begin with, the new regulations will cut $1.2 billion a year from the food stamp program by making 3 million current recipients ineligible.

President Ford justifies this drastic cut of the Food Stamp Program by assuring us that the truly needy families will receive increased benefits.

All non-welfare households with net incomes (after taxes) above the official federal poverty level, which is $5,500 a year for a family of four, would be eliminated from the program. The Ford Bill contains many other equally harsh, cruel provisions.

If the source of your total income is through welfare, general assistance, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, or a fixed retirement income, you will not be required to file income reports each month.

For those who do not fall into this category, keep in mind that failure to report each month promptly (within 10 days of the specified reporting date) or properly may result in the suspension or termination of food stamp benefits.

Under the new regulations, averaging of monthly reports will be done. This means for example, if a household files a report July 3 on its June income, this report would be averaged together with the April and May reports to determine the household benefits for the month of August.

The effects of this provision would be devastating for the newly unemployed or for households faced with emergency situations, as well as for migrant farmworkers, whose income is seasonal.

As I stated, the new regulations are not scheduled to go in effect until June 1. However, states do have the option of delaying implementation until Sept. 1. It is expected that nearly all of the states will file for this extension.

In the meantime, the Food Research and Action Center in New York, along with many major church and civil rights groups, labor unions, food stamp recipients and at least 20 states, announced plans to file suit against the regulations on May 26.

In Congress the Food Stamp Reform debate is crucial for those of us trying to save the program which is facing serious opposition from the conservative forces. Last month the Senate, after a hard fight, passed its Food Stamp Reform Bill, S. 3136, by a recorded vote of 52 yeas to 22 nays.

The Senate-passed bill sets the net income limit at the official poverty line, with a gross income limit for an unemployed family of four at $6,700 and for working family at $8,100. This bill requires a purchase price of stamps at 25 percent of a family's net income, a standard monthly $100 deduction with an additional $25 deduction for each elderly member and working member of the household.

Although this Bill would make approximately 1 million persons ineligible for program benefits, it is a far more desirable measure than the Senate Agriculture Committee Bill which would have eliminated 3 to 4 million persons from the Food Stamp Program.

On the House side, the survival of the Food Stamp Program looks much bleaker. The Food Stamp Reform legislation is under final consideration by the House Agriculture Committee.

Leading the strict traditional forces is Congressman Poage of Texas, vice chairman of the Agriculture Committee, who has introduced his own bill, which is much more stringent than the new regulations or the President's Bill.

This measure would cut program costs as much as $3 billion annually, eliminate millions of recipients of food stamps, and require all households to pay at least 30 percent of their income for their stamps.

Also on the House side is a fine piece of reform legislation, of which I am a co-sponsor, recently introduced by Congressman Andrew Young of Georgia.

Young's bill sets net income limits at the federal poverty line, with a $6,900 per year gross income for unemployed families and about $8,600 a year gross income limit for four-person working families.

It eliminates the purchase requirement and provides for a standard $100 deduction for a family of four with an additional $5 deduction for each person after the fourth person. This bill has many other excellent provisions.

Within the next few weeks, food stamp reform legislation is expected to come to the house floor for action. I am hopeful that the House will enact a measure which is as liberal, if not even more so than the Senate passed bill.

To help make this a reality, we need a strategy which includes: 1) an immediate major nationwide letter writing campaign directed at the House Agriculture Committee members expressing your strong concern over the drastic reduction of benefits of the Food Stamp Program, and your equally strong support for the Young Bill, H.R. 12777;

And 2), a uniting of forces in the House against the inhumane "reform legislation" such as Poage's Bill or Gerald Ford Bill.

I, and other members of Congress concerned with the meaningful reform of the Food Stamp Program will need your strong support—otherwise we may find this program more "deformed" than reformed.

Just as I successfully fought for the Food Stamp Program in the Budget Committee, I will also be fighting for a good piece of Food Stamp legislation on the floor of the House of Representatives.

## AFRO credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

- Whether it has kept faith with the common people:
- Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured:
- Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody:
- Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

DECEMBER 24, 1920)

(From the Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded the AFRO-AMERICAN, Aug. 13, 1892).

"I am a man of peace; God knows how I love peace. But I hope I shall never be such a coward as to mistake oppression for peace."
*Hungarian Freedom Fighter Kossuth*

## PAGE OPPOSITE



## Conjugal visits urged

Dear AFRO:
I write this letter about a project being formed here at the Powhatan Correctional Center, Virginia: Project Operation Prison Reform of America.

Our main purpose will be to try to expose the cruel and inhuman treatment inflicted on the people confined in the Virginia Prison system and their relatives on the outside.

I'm speaking of exposing the system in the sense of cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

It is felt by the entire population at this institution that this state should have conjugal visits and in not having the aforementioned, the state is in direct violation of the United States Constitution under the 8th Amendment.

In the last 20 days two inmates were killed at this institution for homosexual activities. Our utmost appreciation is offered if we can have the opportunity to prove that conjugal visits is the starting point and the best possible solution to prevent homosexual attacks and killings.

Would you want your son or daughter to be subjected to these problems?
Roscoe W. Skinner

## Parent against busing

Dear AFRO:
Why should children be bused from P.S. 64 to the new school, P.S. 5, when there are schools which are under-enrolled in their immediate community?

The Arlington School on Rogers Ave. is overpopulated and needs the service of the new school P.S. 5 on its southwest boundary to relieve the busing of the sixth graders out of the neighborhood.

Four years ago the parents of the Arlington School were informed that the building of the new schools would relieve our school of overcrowded conditions.

Two hundred of Arlington's children live within a three-block radius of P.S. 5; however, our parents have been informed that these children will not be able to attend if the busing takes place.

Why shouldn't the No. 64 pupils be fed into schools in their immediate community such as Dickey Hill, Windsor Hills, Hilton or Mordecai Gist? These schools are located within walking distance and are familiar to the students attending P.S. 64.

MRS. SHIRLEY MARTIN

## Panama Canal flap

Dear AFRO:
Senator Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., on Meet the Press recently, said, "I am as strongly in favor of keeping the Panama Canal as anybody" and also stated by way of emphasis, "I am as completely opposed to giving that canal away as anybody."

But, unfortunately, he also said that the United States should "bend a little" and begin a process of "gradually more economic control" by Panama and a little "less military occupation" by the United States, when he, and all people, must be fully aware that the Panamanians are demanding the surrender of our sovereignty over the Canal Zone and ultimate complete ownership by Panama of the whole canal enterprise with which the Ford Administration is negotiating compliance.

Appearing on Issues and Answers on the same day, Vice President Nelson Roekefeller, with his usual self adulation, and his constant refrain, "I love America," made remarks against the presence of the United States in the Canal Zone, so inaccurate that they wear a countenance of falsity that can be easily demonstrated.

Both Goldwater and Rockefeller apparently recommend that we bow to Marxist-Leninist dictator Torrijos' blackmail and threats of violence and that we, through fear, surrender to him the sovereignty of our people over the Canal Zone, the frame of our global treaty-based solemn obligation to operate the Canal without discrimination in furtherance of the benefit for the shipping of the whole world.

We should all remember Franklin Roosevelt's sage warning of another day, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

PAUL CHERRER

### Expressing appreciation

Dear AFRO:
I wish to express my appreciation for being able to enter your Mother's Day Contest.

I would also like to say what a joy it was to see my poem published in the AFRO, and last but not least, I did not expect to win anything, but since I did, thank you for third place.

BARBARA HOLLY

### Make it official

The writer's name and address must be included in all Letters to the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN.

Those which contain printed or typed names and initials will not be considered.

All letters MUST be signed. Names will be omitted if requested.

The AFRO reserves the right to edit all letters.

### Nowadays — by bill riley

### Young beat — by larry young

## Chatting about public housing and crime

Mr. Young, 26, is the youngest member of the Maryland House of Delegates. He represents Baltimore City's 38th District, which encompasses the inner city.

The recent Supreme Court decision extending public housing to suburban areas didn't cause as much excitement as Jimmy Carter's "ethic purity" remark, but the ruling has raised a few ripples in an area that deserves attention.

Several weeks ago some prominent urban scholars began forming a national group to implement the Supreme Court decision. The group is tentatively calling itself "People at Home with Each Other" and is backing single-family dwellings as a public housing concept.

The group is still forming but its support of single family dwellings indicates a turn away from old, illogical ways of planning public housing. Still standing in some cities are monstrous high-rise monuments to an age of groping for easy housing solutions.

These massive projects achieved what some may have seen as success: isolation of thousands of poor, uneducated people. But at the same time, these projects often became breeding grounds of crime and desperation. And as we finally learned, those two items couldn't be isolated.

So the high-rise project concept gave way to smaller public housing units in order to promote what became known as a "sense of community." It was a logical move, for as anyone who spends anytime in some metropolitan high-rise can see, a sense of community is sorely lacking.

There are foreseeable problems with advocating single-family public housing for suburban areas. One, of course, is the same problem facing multiple-unit housing: objections from suburban communities. Another problem is simply the image conjured up by the term "public housing." Realization that the term causes negative reaction in many minds may help explain the rise of "rent subsidy" programs where government pays some of the rent in private apartments or homes.

St. Clair Drake, Stanford University anthropology professor and a founder of the new housing group, says, "There is now no way that the larger, somewhat more affluent community can relate with poor people as individuals on a day-to-day basis, across-the-fence personal basis." Drake's group, pushing single-family public housing may not be able to change this unfortunate situation. Even the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision may not change it. But at least we've learned that relations between the affluent and the poor are a problem and that the dehumanizing high-rise is not the solution.

Now let's hope that communities, urban and suburban, will concentrate on solving the problem instead of making housing another football like busing.

An agonized reappraisal of the nation's system of criminal justice is under way.

Usually, during times of reappraisal, things get confusing. One faction will argue that the best solution to a problem is this, another will insist the solution is that, and still others will propose something else.

But on the subject of crime and what to do about it, a concensus seems to be shaping up. That something is woefully wrong about our system is universally agreed. Rather surprising is that most people of experience and knowledge are beginning to agree on just what is wrong.

Recently, a task force on criminal sentencing prepared a report for the 20th Century Fund on Fair and Certain Punishment. That title suggests both the basic problem and the proposed solution.

"We believe that perhaps the major flaw is the capricious and arbitrary nature of criminal sentencing," the report says.

Striking differences in the sentences handed down by judges in the same jurisdiction for identical or similar crimes have been revealed in study after study—not to mention the pages of the daily newspaper. Differences in sentences too often reflect differences in the races of those convicted.

The task force, headed by former Gov. Edmund G. Brown of California, found that the United States is a "nation of extremes when it comes to sentencing." There is no certainty that a convicted criminal will receive a sentence reflecting the gravity of his crime.

## tell it to Jan

Dear Jan:
My boyfriend has a driver's license and I think he will be getting a car soon. This causes me to be afraid because then he will be taking other girls out in the car. He says he will not be doing anything but do you think I can really trust him?

JEALOUS

Dear Jealous:
You are really in for a lot of headaches if you are going to manufacture problems. He doesn't have a car yet. Worry about tomorrow when it gets here.

Dear Jan:
I am 18 and in love with a boy 27 who tells me one thing and does another. I have seen him with other girls, but he doesn't know it. I can't understand why he goes out with other girls because I have given him no reason to do this. What should I do?

CONFUSED

Dear Confused:
First of all, a 27-year-old male is not a boy — he's a man. You are involved in a one-sided affair. Why don't you face reality and look around for a more eligible boyfriend?

## You may be watching your child go astray

By Irvin L. Scott Jr.
Juvenile Counselor

Unknowingly, you may be watching your child become a juvenile delinquent. Before you deny being in this situation, consider the following.

Parents generally devote a great deal of attention to their children during infancy, and throughout childhood. Although you continue to be loving and devoted to your children when they reach adolescence, you do welcome this stage because your children have reached a point in their development where they are able to assume added responsibility.

It naturally makes a parent proud to watch the children grow in a normal, healthy way. It also pleases parents when they realize that it is now possible for them to relax a bit, since the children are "almost grown." This can be a rewarding period for both children and parents, but it all too often becomes a very trying time.

Since your pre-teen's or teenager's mobility has increased along with their curiosity and fund of general knowledge, it is essential to your children's proper social development that you reinforce the relationship that you have worked so hard to create. If this is not done, you may sacrifice your influence and, hence your control over your children.

How can parents get an indication that they and their children are drifting apart? What's more, how can parents know when their children are possibly drifting toward a life-style that could lead to juvenile delinquency? Here are some symptoms to watch for:

If you have heretofore been able to engage your children in meaningful discussions about their activities but are now unable to do so, this could be an indication that your children may have differences of opinion that they are unable to express to you. It is important that you are receptive to your children's ideas and needs, if you want them to continue to confide in you.

If you have heretofore been familiar with your children's friends and associates but now find that the peer group has changed for no apparent reason, this is cause for concern.

What characteristics does the "new" group possess which attract proud to watch the children grow in a normal, healthy way. It also pleases parents when they realize that it is now possible for them to relax a bit, since the children are "almost grown." This can be a rewarding period for both children and parents, but it all too often becomes a very trying time.

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If you have heretofore been familiar with your children's friends and associates but now find that the peer group has changed for no apparent reason, this is cause for concern.

What characteristics does the "new" group possess which attract your children that the "old" group lacks? Are those characteristics desirable for adoption by your children? A change of peer groups may in itself not be cause for alarm, but if you are unaware of your child's associates then you will be unable to head off possible trouble.

Perhaps the best way for you to gauge your children's social development is to compare your children's values with your own. Your children's values should closely coincide with yours, because as parents you should have the most influence on what your children learn.

How do your children feel about education, drug abuse or abortion for instance? If your children's values or feelings about controversial issues consistently differ from your own, this indicates that outside influences are competing for your children's attention.

Again, you will want to know the source of this outside influence.

Also, you will want to examine yourself to discover why your influence over your children is waning. Be sure to provide your children with adequate models to emulate.

The above mentioned points are some of the "mirrors" which reflect your children's life-styles. It is your responsibility as parents to be sensitive to these points, and to respond with the help, care and concern that all children need. It is tragic when a child is arrested by the police, or comes to serious bodily harm, and the parents' only response is: "I had no idea that he was doing those things."

To recognize the danger signals, you must first know your children.

### STARS AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Decisions may not be as urgent as they seem. Wait for further information.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — When you delegate too much responsibility, you meet with great resistance. Less criticism will also help.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — Play it safe and avoid an argument. Detailed explanation can come later.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — It is well to be optimistic but beware of pitfalls. Don't depend too much on others.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Reorganize your domestic affairs. Successful results will follow.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — Your heart of gold is costing you. Start gathering in your scattered possessions before it is too late.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — Stop your relationship with temperamental associates. A private part of your past may be revealed.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Approach your problems directly but avoid going to the extreme. Competition is strong.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Loved ones have some fantastic experiences to share with you. You are expected to accept them but hold your ground.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Contact friends to back your new plan, but avoid any clashes over somewhat wild ideas.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Carry out your full responsibilities without question. Above all, keep your sense of humor.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 19-March 20) — Get all the details before you rush into a financial move. The welfare of your children should be considered.

AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems. You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections and complain and inquire about AFRO news stories and policies.

You need only to write a postcard to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address and telephone number.

QUESTION: Why are security guards dressed like Baltimore city police? It seems to me that they are misleading the public and they should have something that would identify them as a security guard rather than the police.

L. A.

ANSWER: AFRO Line was informed by a local investigating company that:

"Security guards working for a given company are usually in uniform. Some wear blue like the Baltimore City police and others wear tan like the Maryland state troopers.

"However, they can clearly be distinguished from the police by the shield on the shoulder, the badge on the hat and the badge they wear on their chests.

"Currently, there is no state regulation forbidding security guards to wear uniforms."

QUESTION: My son, who is a student at a local university, is renting an apartment. When my husband and I rented the apartment we paid the security fee and a month's rent in advance. At that time we were told we must give one month's notice when we were ready to give up the apartment.

When I sent in April's payment on March 16, I enclosed a note notifying them that my son would be giving up the apartment on May 22, and in April I sent a reminder with the May payment.

In May we were told that we would have to pay another month's rent because they were not notified in time, claiming that they did not receive the first note.

Both notes were handwritten, so I have no copy as proof. I feel that I am being ripped off and I would like other AFRO readers to be aware of the kind of thing that is probably being done to them.

M. M.

ANSWER: AFRO Line spoke to the manager of the realty company in question. He said:

"I have talked to Mrs. . . . . and explained the situation and I am not going to get involved in a controversy in the paper about it. This is a personal matter between this company and her."

AFRO Line suggests you contact the Consumer Protection Agency in the Attorney General's office, 1 South Calvert St. or call 383-3656.

## Salute of the Week

(Readers are invited to nominate subjects for this column. Write: Salute of the Week, Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203.)

This week is National Volunteers Week, an official salute to volunteers throughout the nation. It is therefore fitting that Ms. Reba C. Terry, chairman of Voluntary Services for the Veterans Administration Hospital on Loch Raven Boulevard would salute Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thompson.

Both spend their leisure time providing at least 10 hours volunteer services weekly to patients not only at Loch Raven but also Perry Point and Fort Howard Hospitals.

A native of Baltimore, Mr. Thompson, 55, attended the Joseph H. Lockerman School, No. 100; Booker T. Washington Junior High School, No. 130, and is a graduate of what was then called the Baltimore Vocational School, Class of 1939.

In September, 1939, he entered the army, serving in the South Pacific during World War II; in Korea during the Korean War and in the Vietnam War. He retired in 1966.

After discharge from the Army, Mr. Thompson worked as a postal employe for seven years before retiring.

Mr. Thompson is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Baltimore Court No. 205 and holds the distinction of being the first black grand knight of Maryland. He also belongs to the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He is a member of the executive board of the Baltimore Council of Boy Scouts, the board of directors of the March of Dimes, past president of the Sinai Neighborhood Association and a member of the executive committee of Voluntary Service at Loch Raven.

Mr. Thompson has a sister, Mrs. Lillian Yancey, and a brother, James, both of Baltimore. Two other brothers are Arthur, of Newark, N.J., and Wilbur, who has spent 26 years in the armed services and is now stationed in Norway.

MR. AND MRS. PAUL THOMPSON (Margaret)

Mrs. Thompson is from Columbus, Ohio. During her husband's army tenure, she traveled with him in the United States and overseas.

Both are members of St. Ambrose Catholic Church where Mr. Thompson serves as an usher. He was formerly a member of the Parish Council and St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Mrs. Thompson was a former member of the Ladies of Social Action.

The Thompsons are the state commanders of the Disabled American Veterans and the Auxiliary of the State of Maryland. More unique is the fact that they are the first black couple to hold this post at the same time.

Our honorees have been married 35 years and are the parents of two sons, Cyril, a former U.S. Marine, and William, who is serving in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Going around with a chip on your shoulder is an indication that there is wood a little higher up.