OPINION

founded August 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN CO. of Baltimore City Inc. Carl Murphy (1889-1967) Editor-publisher (1922-1967).

The Republicans: finally

We had almost given up hope on the upcoming gubernatorial election race being anything more than a popularity contest among Maryland Democrats — a one - party struggle — when the GOP came through at the last hour with viable candidates.

Former Sen. J. Glenn Beall, a GOP stalwart, and Dr. Arlene Allen, Republican party chairman for Maryland, will be seeking election as governor and lieutenant - governor respectively.

Thus the two - party process remains intact. Marylanders know very well that even in this predominantly Democratic state, the Republicans are capable of working wonders even if they are the minority party. Spiro Agnew, for example, came out of nowhere to head this state.

Not that he is any one Republicans should want to remember.

Beall, of course, must hope voters forget questions on his campaign funds last time and his relations with ex-President Nixon if he is to have a chance.

Dr. Allen, though powerful within his party, must overcome a general unawareness of his record outside GOP ranks, even among his fellow blacks, if he is to fight the good fight.

We sense the Republicans have the money this time to get the exposure needed for Allen and to refurbish Senator Beall.

Ex - president Gerald Ford made this quite clear when he appeared here recently to address Maryland Republicans. Ford said his party has a good shot in Maryland if it expands its base, aggressively goes after black and other usually overlooked constituencies, and campaigns hard on what state Democrats and the Carter administration promised the people last time out but so far have failed to deliver.

Ford, we feel, has a good case here. If his party can reach people with a clear exposition of what the Democrats have not done and what the GOP (at long last?) proposes to do we just might have a horse race this time.

Of added interest to black voters is the fact that Dr. Allen is the first of his race to seek such high office in this state. Whether that, in and of itself, is sufficient reason to vote for him remains to be seen.

While we know Senator Beall to be a conservative in most instances, it is Dr. Allen who needs to quickly get his views to our community. This done, a lively political contest can ensue with some genuine alternatives for voters.

Protecting our elderly

You would think the federal, state and municipal agencies responsible for issuing retirement, health aid and other subsistence monies to senior citizens would take every precaution to see that these vulnerable elders would be protected from robbers, thieves and other predators.

Such is not usually the case. We have reports of two instances this week alone of elderly Baltimoreans in the northwest section being mugged and stripped of their assistance money as they were returning from the bank. Such are every day occurrences.

Every crook knows what day the checks come in the mail and it takes little intelligence to know why senior citizens are on their way to the bank on certain days of the month.

What is needed here in Baltimore on a city - wide basis is the escort protection plan instituted at the Murphy Homes for the elderly and single women receiving assistance payments.

This program implemented by the police department and the Department of Housing and Community Development provides free bus service to those folk in need of banking services. Police officers accompany the buses.

Such a program should be expanded, widely publicized and adopted as a permanent service for all elderly citizens and unprotected female heads of families.

Additionally, social and civic organizations should develop similar programs that would operate on a voluntary basis.

Elderly citizens and women alone should be afforded every protection possible. No expense should be spared.

This city cannot tolerate thugs who prey on the helpless.

Bay College

The State Board of Education may have revoked the license of this city's Bay College by the time you read this.

Closing of a school designed especially to help those most in need of college training is a particularly sad event.

It crushes young hopes and even more is an admission of this community's failure to insist on high standards for new institutions — that boards of directors direct effectively, that administrators administer competently.

For it is the high - level leadership of Bay (or lack of it) and its administrators upon which the burden of Bay must rest.

Our suggestion is that the Bay concept that of a two - year junior college accessible to those well - motivated students who for reasons of circumstances, prior academic history or economic status might not ordinarily be admitted to college — be retained.

All else should be changed or whatever replaces it Bay needs leadership that will get the job done. This time we hope such an institution begins on the right foot.

'Go ahead, we're right behind you'

LETTERS

Your vote—don't blow it

Phillip Smith, the retired policeman who is a candidate for city sheriff, is to be commended for his legal action on behalf of city voters who have been purged already or threatened with imminent removal from the ballot lists.

Smith filed a suit to prevent thousands of voters from being stricken from the rolls by the Board of Election Supervisors maintaining that voters so affected are, in the main, black and that the election supervisors are acting unfairly.

This suit dramatizes our loss of franchise but until the court rules whether the voter purge is constitutional or not voters already stricken from the rolls are urged to register again and as soon as possible.

Some 58,000 names of voters have been removed from rolls. Smith's suit will not get them back on the lists. They must get themselves back on the lists.

To make absolutely sure that you are eligible to vote come September — call the Board of Election Supervisors — 396-5550 — and see if you are still registered. If you are not then register immediately.

The voter registration coupon at the bottom of this section will speed up matters considerably.

While Smith's suit awaits decision by the courts, favorably for city voters it is hoped, you must take the initiative to protect your vote.

Register today!

AFRO invites letters

The AFRO welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be brief and must bear the writer's name and address. All letters will be given consideration for publication.

Blasting Emerson Julian

Dear AFRO:

I am deeply uprooted on Fourth District Councilman Emerson Julian's comment that was stated on the media. Julian spoke profound words to a prominent professional who was raised in Cherry Hill.

I live in that same community. Billy Murphy is the person that I am speaking of. Your professional ways of handling situations are antique.

I am a very concerned citizen who believes "right is right and wrong is wrong." Your tone on Cherry Hill is true because Cherry Hill has been forgotten, but that does not mean that Cherry Hill is not a beautiful black community.

Dr. Julian, I am overwhelmed that a progressive young black is about to challenge your position as a politician. The name is Mr. Kweisi Mfume' and if you have forgotten then I will remind you that we need more open minds and not stereotyped ones.

Ms. CARLEEN MORGAN

A response from Bucknell

Dear AFRO:

In a recent June 10, 1978 story by AFRO-AMERICAN Staff Writer Clarence W. Hunter entitled "Donna and Lake Clifton: A year of change", which appears to be a sequel to Mr. Hunter's story of June 18, 1977 entitled "Black rage at Lake Clifton", I became incensed with Mr. Hunter's willingness to make Donna E. Stewart a sacrificial lamb.

This young lady is not a tyrant or a rebel as one would think after reading the two stories written by Mr. Hunter.

Miss Stewart is an excellent student with a great deal of drive, determination and motivation. The two articles are creating a negative halo affect around Donna, and, if this kind of article is continued on an annual basis, Miss Stewart will undoubtedly be confronted with some unnecessary obstacles as she makes use of the higher education hierarchy as a means for some upward mobility in this racist society.

Miss Stewart needs to be presented as a model student to the citizens of Baltimore and to her peers.

Why is it that the people of Baltimore are not aware that this young lady is an excellent student? The reason is simple. No one pays any attention to good news anymore, and no one prints goods news anymore. Well, I am going to defy this phenomena and present another side of Donna E. Stewart for those AFRO readers who do enjoy good news.

Donna's grade average for her first semester at Bucknell was 3.8 out of a 4.0 grading system. Her second semester average was 4.0 out of a 4.0 grading system, and her final grade average for the year is 3.9 out of a 4.0 grading system. Dean's list both semesters and for the year.

This kind of academic achievement at a reputable academic institution indicates something positive about "Lake Clifton High School, in particular, and something generally positive about the preparation of the black students I have managed to recruit, to Bucknell, from the Baltimore public and private schools.

Personally, I have no problems with Donna's comments regarding Bucknell or the black students who are in attendance, however, I would like to point out that Donna is currently in her preparation stage as a student and must not think of herself as a self - appointed authority in her evaluation of her experience at Bucknell.

The criticisms she makes regarding Bucknell and the black students can be applied to every predominantly white institution of higher learning in this country. They are not unique to Bucknell. Donna's analysis of the situation at Bucknell is one perspective, I would like to give another.

First, the atmosphere that exist at Bucknell and other predominantly white institutions represents the national atmosphere of retrenchment, retreat, and resistance to black and other minorities, in this country, in all areas of people activity which includes: economics, education, entertainment, labor, law, politics, religion, sex, and war.

The challenge for black Americans, as I see it, is to work through this atmosphere in all areas of people activity and prepare one's self to occupy policy - making positions so that we can effect some change.

This, perhaps, suggests a different perspective when evaluating the activities of the black community at Bucknell and the black community at Lake Clifton or other predominantly white institutions of higher learning.

It is my perception that black students on predominantly white college campuses are becoming more savvy at working through the campus political system.

On the other hand, some black students refuse to participate in campus politics and would rather spend their time getting A's and B's in class than getting C's.

It takes a lot of time to be a student leader. Other reasons that contribute to a lack of unity among black students on predominantly white college campuses include: prental upbringing, high school experiences, cultural differences, and pressure from friends.

Finally, I would like to conclude this editorial comment with a message concerning the nature of quitting as it pertains to black people and our collective progression in America.

George Benson in his album "The Greatest" reflects my feelings concerning quitting in a very profound manner:

When things go wrong as they sometimes will and the road you're trudging seems all up hill, and cares are pressing you down a bit; rest if you must, but do not quit for life is queer with its many many twists and turns, and each and every man sometimes learns that many a failure has turned about when he might have won had he stuck it out. Harriet Tubman didn't give up, Frederick Douglass didn't give up, Malcolm X didn't give up, Martin Luther King, Jr. didn't give up, Medgar Evers didn't give up. Stick to the fight when you are hardest hit cause its when things seem worse that we must not quit.

GREGORY E. WRIGHT
admissions counselor
minority student advisor,
Bucknell University.

FOR ALL WE KNOW

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

ABOUT THIS AND THAT

INEZ CHAPPELL, an ardent AFRO reader for years is a writer of letters worth commendation since her thoughts are solid and most of all heartfelt. How many readers stop to write comments? According to statistics, most folks talk about what's on their minds, but seldom put it on paper.

MRS. CHAPPELL thinks deeply. Her recent notes on the "Watkins Affair" story reveal it was fair and unbiased reporting in her book, and, she says, such reporting increases the reader's respect for the newspaper.

Regardless, citizens want fair reporting and anyone who thinks readers can not see "behind the news" is wrong. The daily stories on the Col. James H. Watkins affair come out twisted but readers can "see." This is far from proper journalism.

I RECALL Mrs. Chappell's many letters fighting for George Russell when the astute lawyer was up against the wall in daily jail. Her writings got down to the truth and spelled it out. She's a born news lady, good at analysis. Wouldn't it they've already lied once about that.

But we shall never know how the special interests, the special contractual employees not covered by civil service are being curried with cash. Or how many are being promoted over the black qualified applicants. Or added on the personnel rosters while we are made to believe that there is no new hiring.

In fact, all we see are layoffs and firings.

Yes, indeed, there is a plan to which we are not privy. There is built in obsolescence, cleverly devised by those in power. Their forked tongues sell us the wrong bill of goods. They know that we are easily confused by rhetoric. They know that our political memories are short. They know, even when we don't, that our jobs are rife with the deceivers at Unity Balls, political funerals, and all the rest, are the superficial salve that's not even balm for the festering economic disaster that's pulling us further into a separate unequal society as we become the majority.

Someone said to me recently that maybe there is a Phoenix raring to rise from these ashes of despair. It is time that blacks must recognize that they are that Phoenix and prepare shrewdly for the resurrection!

A LITTLE ABOUT A LOT:

MADELINE MURPHY

By Madeline W. Murphy

Built in obsolescence of the third kind

About fifteen years ago, a frying pan was invented, coated with chemicals and rough surface, guaranteed not to stick and not to need oil for frying.

But, you had to use special plastic utensils to keep from nicking the finish, and so patiently at first you cared lovingly for it, but then with late breakfasts, later dinners, you used any utensil at hand taking a chance.

But there were no miracles around and it scratched, stuck and finally had so many scars, broken rough edges, it was absolutely unsanitary. You saved it in the back of the cupboard, nevertheless, too guilty to throw this expensive piece of revolutionary cookware away.

Though it still languishes there you've found another pan, where the finish is impervious, to nuts, bolts and screws and cooks like a dream. . . so far.

Now you wonder didn't they know how to make this pan 15 years ago? A feat that could have saved all that money, anguish, loving care and even carelessness?

Well like the perpetual match that always fired, the razor blade that never wore out, the nylons that wouldn't run, I believe the first pan and subsequent "improved" models were the sucker bait for the costly "new" faultless no - stick pan.

And hearing about Stewart's exodus; Hutzler's rumblings and threats; Mayor William D. Schaefer's calm reasoning, reassurance that there still will be a downtown, I'm wondering as the prices goes soaring on the new subway, whether by 1982, the routes now proposed and scooped from under Lexington Market, may be stops into no man's land. This is the kind of costly obsolescence that breeds new "models." Routes, will just HAVE to be revised to really make the subway relevant.

The original plan merely the old familiar "sucker bait" for all those be - knighted boosters of Baltimore's downtown!

Everything, but everything happening downtown is moving away from Howard and Lexington the Inner Harbor; the new Hyatt regency hotel you and I have subsidized in the millions for years to come; the Convention Center, a gaping hole that will keep us in the hole.

Remember when McKeldin's folly — the Civic Center — was ballyhooed to be just what Baltimore needed to attract conventioneers?)

The Rouse plan that rankles mainly because of the fleeting remark that black entrepreneurs would be allowed to have push carts until they developed business acumen and qualified to operate businesses on the inside

The marina, the acquarium, science center, CCB's Harbor campus, Otterbein, Federal Hill, what do we need, a kick in the teeth to see the concerted - - - movement that attracts the many non - taxpayers working downtown during the day, whose exodus at night will be eased by completed expressways ringing the city, or slicing through formerly all black neighborhoods.

All this talk about the more affluent shoppers being in the suburbs, points up the callous unpreparedness for the growing black unemployed population left behind, whose joblessness has caused much of this decline.

All the while, promises to develop affirmative action in construction of the subway are like cracked plates that can't be mended. And now with the Bakke decision, how many will rush to litigate to renege, regardless of the court's other decisions in AT and T's case, just do delay. To have their way.

Moreover, use of federal funds in housing, urban renewal hasn't helped a bit in upper level employment of blacks. Blacks are being shut out of job opportunities to such an extent that in one of our most affluent areas, according to Sen. Clarence Blount's survey, as reported in this column a few months ago, 19 percent are unemployed in the 5th - 41st district, where median education is high school. One need only look in City Hall to see widespread cronyism in the Manpower office.

In tandem, the Board of Estimates arrogantly meets in secret, disobeying the Sunshine Law. Who knows what nefarious schemes are being made in regard to our $5 million share of the transportation funds. Or whether we shall be primed to accept Morton Pollack's asking price of $300,000 for Hotel Armistead, with $700,000 added on for refurbishing; they've already lied once about that.

But we shall never know how the special interests, the special contractual employees not covered by civil service are being curried with cash. Or how many are being promoted over the black qualified applicants. Or added on the personnel rosters while we are made to believe that there is no new hiring.

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G. JAMES FLEMING

NOW AND THEN

Limitations and challenge

By G. James Fleming

Amid the thousands of words of the Supreme Court in the Bakke decision, and the millions of words written and spoken since, are some minimum considerations for the days ahead.

The Bakke Case decision did not abolish "affirmative action."

The Bakke decision does not prevent colleges and universities from utilizing different innovative means of increasing their number of black and other minority students — except that they cannot adopt quotas based on race, or make selections for admissions based solely on race.

The Bakkee decision does not, umbrella - like, cover all kinds of enterprises. It applies to colleges and universities and, more specifically, to the University of California at Davis.

The Bakke decision does not outlaw a university's traditional right (or practice) of achieving "diversity" in its student body.

On the other hand, the Bakke edict does weaken the thrust of "affirmative action" as the principal tool of government for correcting past wrongs of discrimination in the public and governmental sectors.

The recent Supreme Court decision undergirds the wrong segment of the society — that segment which wants to turn the clock back and does not relish seeing the Jericho walls of segregation and discrimination falling down.

The Bakke Case opinion will make insincere or cowardly institutions find ways to by - pass blacks, Indians and Hispanics — and perhaps even women in some places — in order to avoid threats of more lawsuits.

Under the decision, the doors are open, even if only a wee bit, for return to another nadir, similar to that total decline of civil rights following Congressional Reconstruction. Plessy vs. Ferguson may rise again.

The question is: Is American education, business, government and politics ready and willing to replace legal imperative with moral imperative?

The Bakke Supreme Court decision is more than limitation. It is also challenge. Challenge to black Americans, especially.

Black Americans, instead of being funereal over the Bakke position of the Court, as it is today or as it may be expanded, must rid themselves of the need for the kind of largesse that "affirmative action" represents. It is unrealistic for people to place their fate and future totally in the hands of others — whether friend or foe, or government. Affirmative action must not go on for generations.

We must increasingly copy from, and imitate, other peoples who have turned unto themselves for their salvation. A few years ago, I asked a Jewish friend why the Jews in America had not mounted a nationwide campaign to raise funds to meet the suffering of non - combatants as a result of the Israeli 1967 war. She replied:

"It would be non - productive. We Jews have learned, over 2,000 years, that when we are in trouble, we must turn to ourselves, to our own resources, our own strengths."

The Japanese are also a good model.

Beginning as of today, a Herculean effort should be made by blacks to meet the challenge of the Bakke decision. Ways must be found to turn around the poor scholastic records of a large number of blacks entering professional schools. Where does one begin?

The home and kindergarten are not too early to establish a love for learning, continuing through high school and into college. The thundering stereo may have its place, but reading and concentration on studies would surely help, to put it mildly.

Knowledge and skills are needed in today's competitive world. With them, doors can be opened more easily, opportunities seized, and goals realized.

School teachers of black children, on the elementary levels, must teach and develop them as they have never taught and developed before. Part of the effort must be a drive not to lose any bright and promising children along the way, because school, itself, is discouraging and boring.

Del. John Douglass 'Painful lesson'

Now that the Supreme Court has ruled on the question of Bakke, and finally settled the issue of whether this country will continue taking forthright steps to erase what decades of discrimination have done to its largest minority, it is appropriate that we pause here to ponder what all this means for the future of black America.

This adverse decision clearly represents the most significant statement of social policy in the area of race relations since Brown vs. The Board of Education.

Unfortunately, the court has given us no clear evidence of how race can be weighed as a factor in efforts to redress discrimination. Thus, like the fuzzy court decisions on capital punishment, there will be a decade of litigation before this question is ever resolved, subsequently impeding the progress of affirmative action.

First of all, this court ruling should be a painful lesson to the millions of black Americans who sat on their hands during election time thinking that voting was a worthless exercise - reasoning that by not voting, they would somehow beat the system. It is a "chicken come home to roost" for the seven million blacks in our country who don't even bother to register.

For had we exercised our right to vote in the '68 elections, we would not have had a Nixon in the White House; and had there been a democrat like Humphrey in the White House, the ideology and membership of the Supreme Court would have been different.

T here would not have been a Warren Burger, a William Rehnquist, or a Lewis Powell on the Supreme Court. And had those men not been on the Supreme Court, we would not have the adverse ruling that we have before us here today. This would set us back more than a hundred years.

Let this, then, be a lesson to all of black America: "If you don't vote, you don't exist."

Secondly a word is in order for middle - class black Americans, those who have been major beneficiaries of affirmative action programs. I urge you to exercise due diligence less all your gains be wiped out in a moment.

All of you who thought you were secure are in for a rather rude awakening - there is but a frayed thread that separates you from the plight of poor blacks and you can expect white employees of every persuasion whom affirmative action programs have allowed you to pass by, to challenge your very position. Clearly, the most affluent of us cannot be secure until the least affluent of us are.

Though the Court decision concentrated narrowly on the issue of Bakke's constitutional rights, we can expect a massive effort to nullify every program at every level of government and every niche of private enterprise that would in any way have assisted us in overcoming past discrimination.

Contemporary white Americans have clearly told us by this decision that they will not be held responsible for the misdeeds of their forefathers.

In conclusion, the one clear message that emerges from the ruling is that we blacks are on our own in America. No longer can we ask America — "What are you doing to help black America?" The only question that matters now is "What can we as black Americans do to help ourselves?"

We must take good example from other successful minority groups in America, for while they are only a fraction of our size, they wield an influence which is easily a dozen times stronger.

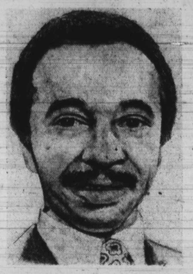
It has been suggested that there is some good in every foul wind. So, I say to you, black America, that despite our mammoth setback on this day, we will still move forward. Precisely because of the awesomeness and difficulty of our task lies the probability that only our strongest leaders will step forward to champion our cause. It is in this selection that lies our guarantee of success.

And so, I say to you in the words of my great forefather, Frederick Douglass, "Power concedes nothing without a struggle; it never has and it never will."

Our struggle must not be targeted to the ballot box; we will and we must wield an influence in this country, in this state, and in this city, that is commensurate with our numbers.

WASHINGTON REPORT:

PARREN J. MITCHELL



Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A distinction without a difference

After three months of speculation, fence - sitting, finger - crossing and generally anxious anticipation, the Supreme Court of the United States allegedly put an end to the most hotly contested legal guessing game since the Brown v. Board of Education decision, rendered almost a quarter century earlier.

A sharply divided Supreme Court articulated its findings in the now - and - forever - to - be celebrated case, Regents of the University of California V. Bakke, on June 28.

In reversing the decision of the California Supreme Court, five of the Justices appeared to agree that "race may be taken into account" in according preferential treatment to minority - group applicants to the medical school. It was this broader civil rights issue raised by the Bakke case which has generated and, no doubt, will continue to generate the greatest concern amongst this nation's ethnic minority populations.

However, on the narrower question, Allan Bakke, a white Californian who claimed to be a victim of reverse discrimination, was ordered by the Supreme Court to be admitted to the Davis Medical School.

The Court found that the medical school's admission policy, which reserved a fixed number of openings or slots exclusively for minority applicants, was unlawful.

Of course, as you know, I have been desperately trying to facilitate the passage of minority business legislation. In March of this year, the House of Representatives passed the most comprehensive set of measures ever aimed at assisting minority business enterprise in obtaining a greater share of the federal procurement dollar.

The Bill, H.R. 11318, attached a series of amendments to the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958. After receiving strong bipartisan support from the representatives and having been reported unanimously from the full House Small Business Committee, H.R. 11318 was passed, under suspension of the rules, by voice vote.

The initial catalysts of this minority business legislative surge resulted from my earlier introductions of H.R. 567, Minority Enterprise Act, and H.R. 4960, Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company (MESBIC) Bill. Specific ethnic minority language was included in H.R. 11318 and its predecessors to clearly and deliberately define its primary, though not exclusive, beneficiaries and articulate its primary goals and objectives.

Following the passage of the bill by the House of Representatives, it was referred to the Senate Select Committee on Small Business. On June 22, 1978, H.R. 11318 was scheduled for that Committee's mark-up. It was here that another illustration of the Bakke paranoia took place.

Sen. Lowell P. Weicker Jr., the ranking Republican on the Select Committee, was able to have all language referring to minorities and specific ethnic groups stricken from H.R. 11318. Weicker's both stated and implied reasons for this action was his question as to the constitutionality of the use of minority and ethnic-oriented language in the first place. He was opposed to any reverse discriminatory potentials and implications. This action, I might add, was taken almost a week before the Bakke decision.

My question at this point is both a bitter and piercing one: "What use is the Supreme Court's Bakke decision if it has already been decided, interpreted and acted upon before it was ever handed down?" Still further, "Why even uphold the constitutionality of affirmative action for minorities, when the intent of the American people is to undercut, undermine and, ultimately, erase the concept from existence?"

Affirmative action cannot be analyzed from a "test tube" perspective. The seeds of racial discrimination are planted throughout this land of so-called liberty and plenty.

True, a stranger to this nation, one ignorant to its history, might sympathize with Allan Bakke; but, no one cognizant of the 200 year enslavement of a race of people could not, at least, recognize that some form of restitution must be forthcoming.

America has a sizeable "account payable" to blacks and other minorities. And, believe me, as controversial as affirmative action may be, it is a small aspect of the overall "equality" and "parity" questions.

I am not attacking the Supreme Court's decision per se; but, I am assailing the Congress, the Administration and the American people.

Allan Bakke, like any other litigant with a meritorious claim, has every right to bring an action before this nation's courts of law. Every citizen structures his or her actions and decisions within the philosophical and legal parameters established by those elected and selected to power. Allan Bakke was not wrong in demanding his rights. The American system was wrong in providing a vehicle, in this instance, by which the Bakkes of this nation have a claim at all.

Because I have seen the backlash of affirmative action before it was or was not determined to be constitutional, I have every reason to believe that there are those in position everywhere within this nation's institutions, systems and structures who had decided the Bakke case long before it was a case at all, spending their time searching for the slightest foothold from which they could implement legitimized racially discriminatory activities. The "Bakke game" was rigged from the beginning; the home team won before the visitors ever came to bat.

Travis Vauls 'Disappointed by decision'

(Editor's note — Mr. Vauls is president of the Baltimore Urban League)

The Baltimore Urban League is disappointed by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in favor of Allan Bakke which was released June 28.

However, the court's decision is positive in respect to the continuation of affirmative action programs throughout the country.

Our position in this case is that the League is determined to see that equal opportunity exists in this city, state and nation. The Baltimore Urban League will use all of its energies and resources to ensure that this goal is met.

The most important concern for us is to ensure that present and future affirmative action programs be examined to make sure that they are positive and sound.

In addition there must be alertness on the part of minorities and other fair - minded persons that efforts of those opposed to affirmative action will not go unnoticed, and that these opponents cannot be allowed to use this case as a means of declaring "open season" on all affirmative action and special admission programs."

In December, 1977, the Executive Board of the Baltimore Urban League, which sets policy for the agency, made the League's position clear when it stated:

"Any decision of the Supreme Court of the United States on the Bakke Case which inhibits the forward and progressive directions of the Brown decisions of 1954 and 1955 in support of equality of educational opportunity and affirmative action, represents a danger to the stability of this country.

"We are unalterably and firmly opposed to any retreat or erosion of the movement toward equality of opportunity for black citizens and other racial minorities who have, historically, been excluded from the mainstream of American life."

In the League's opinion, it is time for this country to move ahead and truly commit itself to providing equal opportunity for all its citizens.

MORE LETTERS

Orchids to Marie Henderson

DearAFRO:

For the second year in a row, Mrs. Marie Henderson, our chairperson for the NAACP Unity Ball, has put together a unique project that really promotes unity in the community for all those who appreciate unity of purpose and program regardless of racial differences, political affiliation, religious beliefs, economic status, educational attainment or social strata.

We were all able to enjoy each other's conversation while eating delicious food in a beautiful atmosphere

Congratulations to our pioneer, and thanks a million for her superb dedication and skillful performance.

ENOLIA P. McMILLAN,
president,
Baltimore Branch,
NAACP

Sympathy and support

Dear AFRO:

I am writing to acknowledge the out - pouring of support and expressions of sympathy from the citizens of Baltimore during my family's recent tragedy.

Because of your assistance and prayers the world is beginning to look brighter. My daughter, Donna, is improving at Baltimore City Hospitals. My grandson, Bryant, has been released from University Hospital. Within the week we will have relocated in our new home.

Since we have been shown that the love of God exists in the hearts of Baltimore, we ask only for your continued prayers and offer our continued gratitude.

MARIE HOLLIE BRAXTON GLENN

MARION BANFIELD

Mrs. Banfield is district director of Family and Children Society.

Poverty and anger

Channel 13's report on terror from teenagers highlighted extremes in anger and poverty. I'm glad they managed to find at least one white boy to break up the stereotype on non - white behavior.

The anger and poverty of sections of Hampden, south and east Baltimore is also a challenge to needs of youth.

While we sat and watched the focus on angry youths, we had to occasionally remember that those young people came to this world as infants without anger. What happened to make them so vicious?

Surely the relentless closeness in crammed slum quarters gave little space for privacy or "cooling off" from anger. While the youths and their parents endured miseries associated with poor housing, landlords reaped monetary gains from human misery.

And let's not have any stereotype landlord in mind. Slum housing is owned by individuals, educational, religious and commercial institutions.

I have often thought that posting owners of properties in public places would embarrass some affluent owners into more humanely responsible behavior.

Along with poor housing were the parents who had unwanted, unplanned children to further complicate their impoverished lives. Parenting is not an automatic grace showered upon fathers and mothers. Furthermore, some who pattern their behavior after that of their own parents end up in 1978 classified as abusive parents.

A political, industrial, educational and moral system which allows, and therefore sanctions, living conditions presented in that film, is a system where monetary profits, racism, sexism foster human psychological destruction.

I presume that many a parent, slum landlord, teacher, employer, manager, social worker, religious leader looked within and shared pervasive feelings of guilt, powerlessness and futility.

I presume that there were those who viewed the human degradation and planned to bring about change.

As you read this column, in which category are you?

Problems with the Lottery

Dear AFRO:

I am writing this letter because I am deeply concerned about the Lottery. I think it should be a question raised as to why there are so few winners in the city of Baltimore.

I am very sure there are as many lucky people in the city of Baltimore. But it seems that all of the winning tickets that are on the show are from out of the city.

Some are as far as Dayton Ohio, Washington, Virginia, or out in the country, and none of them are already rich people.

Is it that all of the winning tickets are being placed in these areas or is that all winning tickets are picked from other cities, and none in Baltimore.

I feel that the matter should be looked into to see that everyone is treated fairly. They say that if you get a ticket with the three numbers you win $25 and a chance to be on the show and a chance to win up to $125,000.

But not all who get the tickets get picked for the show. I know some of the people in the city of Baltimore would like to win some of that money although I have never won more than $500. But I am sure that lots of other people have winning tickets.

G. JACKSON