

Black attitudes revealed in Rights report

By PATTI MINTON
Of the Emerald

The attitudes of approximately half of Eugene's permanent Black residents were revealed last week in an extensive report approved by the Eugene Human Rights Commission.

Sponsored by the Eugene City Council last spring, the survey polled 319 persons from 96 families about problems which exist for Blacks in employment, education, housing, government, police relations and medical needs.

Only longer term community residents were included in the survey, however, therefore eliminating the 300 Black students currently attending the University. According to the report, over sixty per cent of the residents interviewed had lived in Eugene for more than ten years, and eighty per cent had lived here more than six years.

Significant dissatisfaction was primarily registered with regard to job opportunities, followed by education and housing. Medical care rated the least dissatisfaction, according to the report.

The report's introduction, prepared by survey director Ron Finne, indicates that a relationship exists between income and unmet health needs in the Black community. Forty-three per cent of families with incomes below \$5000 had unmet health needs, while only nine per cent of families with \$5000 plus incomes had such needs.

Blacks also reported experiencing discrimination in housing, education and law

enforcement, yet seventy per cent of those said they did nothing about it. Of those surveyed, however, one-third indicated that demonstrations, marches and militant organizations were the most effective forms of local action.

An additional observation of the report noted "a significant gap in communication and confidence" between Blacks and agencies designed to solve racial problems as well as other public agencies.

This was indicated when one-third of the respondents indicated they were unaware of the performance of the Human Rights Commission.

Specific suggestions regarding education included efforts to get additional Black administrators, teachers, aides and classified personnel into the public schools at every level. The commission also called for a restatement of the school district's policy concerning problems raised by minority groups in the schools.

A team of specialists in the area of race relations should be appointed by the school district, the commission reported, and the district should also implement procedures for identifying racism among prospective employees.

Concerning education, the commission generally observed that "A second generation of Black citizens is receiving an unsatisfactory education and racial problems are manifest at all levels of public school education. Schools must now act to suppress racist conditions and to foster healthy attitudes among students and staff."

In the critical area of employment, the survey discovered that the unemployment rate for Blacks was at least 11 per cent, or roughly two-fifths higher than the rate for all workers in the Lane County labor market during April-June 1970.

The commission concluded by suggesting that The Oregon State Department of Employment assign a minority relations expert to its Eugene office.

Concerning housing, overcrowding was not listed as a problem in Eugene's Black households, however "the overwhelming majority of Black families felt that the condition and availability of housing for whites was much better than that for Blacks."

The commission suggested the appointment of a minority relations specialist as

an employee of the City of Eugene who would be responsible for assisting local minority residents in qualifying for private home ownership.

In the area of law enforcement, the committee concluded that few Blacks look to the police to solve discrimination problems, however they do seek police assistance regarding other law violations. According to the report, "most Black people have the opinion that relations of the police with the community as a whole are bad, but relations between the police and the Black community are even worse."

Surveyed Blacks also expressed a desire to see more Blacks employed in various law enforcement agencies, however not as a measure of "tokenism."

The committee's recommendations on law enforcement included an attitude change on the part of law enforcement personnel toward Blacks, including the institution of race sensitivity classes. In general, the committee stressed the need for relations between Blacks and law enforcement on personal and education contacts rather than arrest situations.

The political attitudes of Eugene Blacks "should dispel the illusion once and for all that Eugene is somehow blessed while the rest of the country is damned in a pit of racial turmoil." According to the survey, local Blacks are generally a concerned segment, with 55 per cent as registered voters compared with 45 per cent in the total community.

62 per cent of those registered Blacks participated in school and city elections as opposed to 25 per cent of all voters, yet the majority of Blacks have no affiliation with local organizations or groups.

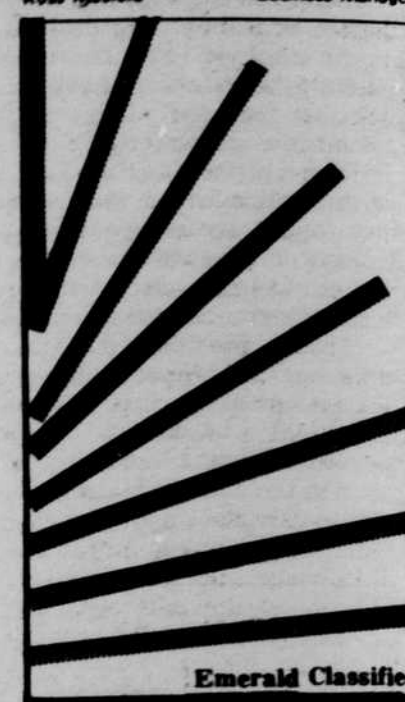
In general, the commission found local Blacks to be alienated from government agencies, including those designed to meet their needs. It recommended that more communication and understanding must be established before progress with specific problems which confront Black citizens can occur.

Based on the survey, the commission evaluated itself and recommended that it be broadened to include representation from all non-white minority groups, including economic and age minorities. The body noted that one-third of the Blacks interviewed were under 30 and that no representative from this age group is represented on the commission.

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Gertjan Kerans Editor
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CAMPUS EVENTS CALENDER

MONDAY, APRIL 5, 1971

- 9:00 am—CSPA field staff meeting
- 10:00 am—Pollution and international law conference—129 Law
- 11:00 am—CSPA search committee meeting—Faculty club
- 12:00 noon—Pollution and international law conference lunch
- Art history faculty meeting—Faculty club
- 1:00 pm—WIN Personnel office meeting
- Baseball: Gonzaga University—Howe Field
- 2:00 pm—CSPA council meeting
- 3:00 pm—CASEA lecture
- 3:30 pm—Physics colloquium E. H. Hauge—221 Allen
- Baseball: St. Mary's College—Howe Field
- Gordon Gilkey, OSU, Dean's candidate, Lecture: "Contemporary Print Techniques"—107 Lawrence
- 7:00 pm—Tree of Life series YMCA
- 7:30 pm—Recreational Folk Dance—Gerlinger Gym
- 8:00 pm—"Rashomon" English dept. film—150 Science
- McGovern for President meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 1971

- 12:00 noon—OSEA executive board meeting
- 3:00 pm—Baseball: Oregon College of Education—Howe Field
- 3:30 pm—Deans and department heads meeting—115 Gerlinger
- 4:30 pm—"American Foreign Policy" lecture Dr. Denny—250 CLS
- Recreation graduate student association meeting
- 6:30 pm—Alpha Kappa Psi meeting
- Escape workshop
- 7:00 pm—Tree of Life series YMCA
- 7:00 & 9:00 pm—RCU film: Breakfast program benefit films—180 PLC
- 8:00 pm—Phi Beta Alumni Don Hunter slides April 6 & 7—Recital Hall
- U of O Student employees union meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1971

- 9:00 am—Interinstitutional committee on High School visitations conference—Faculty club
- 10:00 am—Crew: UO vs Longbeach—Dexter Lake
- OSEA bargaining council meeting
- 10:30 am—South Wales Australia School meeting Univ. placement service
- 11:30 am—Japanese language table
- 3:30 pm—Faculty meeting—150 Science
- 5:30 pm—Esperanto club organizational meeting
- 6:30 pm—German movies, German club—Gold Room, Carson Hall
- Bridge lessons—Faculty club
- Chess club
- 7:00 pm—Bridge club meeting—Faculty club
- 7:00 & 9:00 pm—RCU film: Breakfast program benefit films—180 PLC

- 7:30 pm—Pi Mu Epsilon meeting—208 Deady
- 8:00 pm—Condon lecture—150 Science
- Phi Beta Alumni Don Hunter slides—Recital Hall

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1971

- 11:30 am—Graduate student council meeting
- 12:00 noon—Foreign student friendship foundation meeting—Faculty club
- 12:30 pm—Art history faculty meeting—Faculty club
- Howard Kennett Piano recital—Recital Hall
- 1:00 pm—Baseball: University of Portland—Howe Field
- 4:00 pm—Co-op store annual meeting
- 5:30 pm—Education for Real Estate salesmen lecture—Straub Hall
- 6:30 pm & 9:00 pm—Survival film series: "Multiply & Subdue the earth"—180 PLC
- 8:00 pm—Woodwind Quintet concert—Recital Hall
- Condon lecture—150 Sci.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1971

- 12:00 noon—Physical plant search committee meeting—Faculty club
- 12:30 pm—Friday's musical smorgasbord—Recital Hall
- 3:00 pm—Tennis: Oregon State University—Corvallis
- Tennis: Southern Oregon College RR tournament April 9-10—Ashland, Ore.
- 4:30, 7:00 & 9:15 pm—Political science films: "Persona"—150 Science
- 7:30 pm—Slavic film festival: "Ashes and Diamonds"—180 PLC
- 8:00 pm—"King Lear" Drama—University Theatre
- Recreational Folk Dance—Gerlinger Gym

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1971

- TRACK: University of Washington—Hayward Field
- 1:30 pm—Baseball: OSU—Corvallis
- 2:00 pm—"A Winter's Tale" Drama—University Theatre
- 8:00 pm—Folk Concert
- "Richard III" Drama—University Theatre

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1971

- 4:00 pm—Josephine Hart - Soprano, degree recital—Recital Hall
- 7:00 & 9:15 pm—University film society: "La Ronde"—University Theatre
- 8:00 pm—Linda Bishop - Flute, student recital—Recital Hall

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