

Mayor of Berkeley to Visit Portland

Eugene "Gus" Newport, Mayor of Berkeley, California, will be visiting Portland on Wednesday and Thursday, April 9th and 10th, to discuss the successes and history of community organizing in Berkeley. Newport will also speak about his visit last year to Berkeley's sister-city in El Salvador, San Antonio de Los Ranchos. Mayor Newport's first lecture will be Wednesday, April 9th, 7:30 p.m., at the Koinonia House, Campus Christian Ministry, at the corner of S.W. Broadway and Montgomery. The evening lecture, on the subject of progressive community organizing, will follow a 6:30 p.m. benefit reception for New El Salvador Today, also held at the Koinonia House.

Mayor Newport will speak again at 12:00 noon, Thursday, April 10th, on his experiences in El Salvador's "Zones of Control", areas administered by the rebel FMLN/FDR forces. This lecture will be held in Room 338 of the Smith Memorial Center on the Portland State University campus.

Mayor Newport's visit to Portland is sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, the Office of Neighborhood Associations, the Rainbow Coalition, Red Rose School, the Portland Central America Solidarity

Committee and the Central America Study and Action group at P.S.U.

Newport will speak on the successes of progressive community organizing in Berkeley where, among other achievements, the voters have established the strongest tenants' rights laws in the country. He will also be discussing his visit to El Salvador where he experienced the government's expanded air war first hand: his delegation came under rocket and mortar attack while en route to Berkeley's sister-city.

Newport was elected Mayor of Berkeley in 1979 after being nominated at a convention of more than three hundred community activists and residents. He presently chairs the sub-committee on Education for the U.S. Conference of Mayors, co-chairs the U.S. Peace Council, and serves on the executive board of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

Nationally recognized as the leader of one of the most creative and important municipal experiments, Newport's administration actively supports the civil rights of minorities and the disabled. Currently, Newport is leading the fight against displacement of low-income families in housing development in Berkeley.

For more information, please contact Bob Rini at (503) 5102.

Child Care in Public Schools May Spell Disaster for Black Children

New Report Warns That Schools May Be "Incubators for Inequality"

Washington, D.C. — The widespread trend toward housing child care in our nation's public schools is based primarily on expediency, and may well perpetuate the inequalities that penalize Blacks in our society, a report released recently by the National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) concludes. The report, "Child Care in the Public Schools: Incubator for Inequality?", advocates immediate Congressional hearings and intensified study to determine whether lodging pre-school child care in public schools means consigning minority children, the most vulnerable members of our society, to what are, in effect, "diaper ghettos."

NBCDI, a nonprofit organization with affiliates in 33 major urban areas, is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Black children nationwide. NBCDI Executive Director Evelyn K. Moore said, "In our nation's cities, Blacks have inherited the failures of public policy: decrepit housing, inadequate public services and empty municipal coffers. Here Blacks stand to once again inherit institutions abandoned by the mainstream: urban public schools. Rapid implementation of this ill-considered policy is dangerously and unforgivably irresponsible."

"Public schools have clear and explicit drawbacks as early child care providers, not the least of which are a

history of discrimination and a stunning failure to fulfill their primary goal of preparing all their students to compete for jobs and be productive members of society," Moore said. "Until the impact of lodging child care in these facilities is better understood and a real effort to counter the drawbacks made, NBCDI must oppose further placement of child care in public schools."

"The discussion and debate that should have preceded implementation of child care in public schools is long overdue. NBCDI's report may still serve to catalyze that debate," Moore said.

There can be little doubt that the critical shortage of child care facilities constitutes a growing national crisis, and that finding additional facilities is a pressing need. It is projected that women will constitute two-thirds of our labor force growth in the 1980s. A 1982 Census Bureau survey found that more than one in four mothers (26%) not in the workforce said they would look for work if satisfactory, affordable child care were available; nearly half (46%) of single mothers said the same.

The need for child care is not a new phenomenon in the Black community, since Black women have historically worked outside the home. But events have conspired in recent years to make it more difficult for Black parents to find quality child care.

PCC and the American Red Cross Co-Sponsor Seminars

Portland Community College and the American Red Cross are offering spring quarter health seminars on giving care to aging and critically ill persons.

The five-week series will start Wednesday, April 2, at Red Cross headquarters, 3131 N. Vancouver Ave. Class

hours will be 10 a.m. until noon. The Red Cross will supply instructors.

Cost of the seminars will be \$2 in tuition to PCC and \$20 to the Red Cross.

Further information is available from Community Services, PCC Cascade Campus, 240-5303.



Eugene "Gus" Newport

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