

Tomorrow's Schools Will Be Far Different Racially, Ethnically

Educational planners don't need a crystal ball to predict what issues and challenges lie ahead for the public schools. Current demographic data on the growth of minority populations, the flow of immigrants to the U.S., and changes in family structure make it clear that tomorrow's schools will be serving a much more racially and ethnically diverse population.

That's the theme of a new report, "A Look at the Present," released by the National Education Association. In the report, author Harold L. Hodgkinson, a scholar-in-residence at the American Council on Education, highlights the demographic and social trends that he believes will significantly affect America's educational system. For example:

- Birth rates for minority groups are significantly higher than for whites. For Mexican-Americans, the birth rate is 2.9, for Blacks 2.4, while the rate for whites is 1.7—and declining for middle-class whites.

As a result of this disparity in birth rates, schools in many parts of the country will be dealing with larger percentages of minority students. Already in Texas, Hodgkinson points out, more than 46 percent of all public school students are non-white. In California, the majority of elementary school students are non-white.

- The number of teenagers giving birth is on the rise. In 1984, 200,000 infants were born to teenagers, 10,000 of them born to mothers under age 15. Every day in this country 40 teenagers give birth to their third child.

In addition, those teen mothers—many of them dropouts themselves—produce a very high rate of premature babies with low birth weights, a factor that research has linked to learning difficulties later in life.

- There are 14 million immigrants in the United States today, representing more linguistic and cultural diversity than this country has ever experienced.

Recognizing Danger Signs Can Help Prevent Extramarital Affairs

Extramarital Affairs

Recent research reveals that more than 50 percent of married women will be unfaithful at least once, and more than 70 percent of married men. But affairs can be avoided by paying attention to three early warning signs, reports the *June Reader's Digest*.

- **Loneliness.** If, when at home, you routinely spend more time working than with your spouse, you're begging for trouble. People feel alone when they have no one with whom to share their daily experience.
- **Monotony.** Remember the stages of romance—the tease, the chase, the thrill of discovery, the unrelenting passion? Affairs recapture that adventure for people caught up in such marital ruts as making love in the same place at the same time.
- **Failure to communicate.** Lack of communication breeds frustration, and frustration begets anger. When the anger filters into all parts of couples' lives, especially sex—the most intimate form of communication—the end of the marriage is near. The greater the pain, the more a person feels rejected, and the more he or she will look elsewhere for affection.

Whether an affair has occurred or not, there are ways to rebuild a shaky marriage. Here are a few suggestions from the *June Reader's Digest*:

- **Establish priorities.** Your spouse comes before your job and family.
- **Set realistic goals.** Never use the past as a standard for measuring your current relationship. People change, and so do relationships.
- **Be willing to change.** Express affection, starting out with little caring acts. And never take your partner for granted.
- **Avoid trigger points.** Stay away from topics that elicit anger, such as money. Your communication—and your relationship—should drastically improve.

For a free reprint of "Why Affairs Happen," write to Reprints Editor, *Reader's Digest*, Box 25, Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570.

Reception Held For Students

by Jerry Garner

A reception was held last Friday at Portland Community College, Cascade Campus, in honor of seven African-American students from the Portland Public Schools for their participation in Project Homecoming '86.

They were Kim Williams, Cleveland; Chris Robertson, Benson; Rochelle Scruggs, Jefferson; Mar-shawn Boyd, Benson; Billy White, Grant; Lanell Romier, Roosevelt; and Francine Romier, Roosevelt.

Project Homecoming is a program that introduces high school students from Alaska, California,

Oregon and Washington State to historically Black colleges and universities. Project Homecoming focuses on the Atlanta University complex—Atlanta University, Clark College, ITC, Morehouse College, Morris-Brown and Spelman College.

The students and their chaperons will depart for Atlanta on October 11 and return to Portland October 19.

This program is a unique education opportunity for the students to meet college students and administrators. They will visit academic departments, sit in on classes, discuss academic and career opportu-

nities with knowledgeable professionals and tour the city of Atlanta.

Gina Woods, program coordinator for the Oregon area of Project Homecoming, said the students will tour the Martin Luther King Center for Social Changes and attend a "Summer Get Acquainted Set" during the trip. "This will be an opportunity for Project Homecoming students to get acquainted with students and develop a network," said Wood.

Those who apply for Project Homecoming must meet the following qualifications:

1. Must be a 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade student during the 1986-87 school year. Students must maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average.
2. Must be a resident of Alaska, California, Oregon or Washington State.
3. Must have an interest in attending a historically Black college or university.
4. Must be willing to participate in an approved community service program.
5. Must be willing to pay a

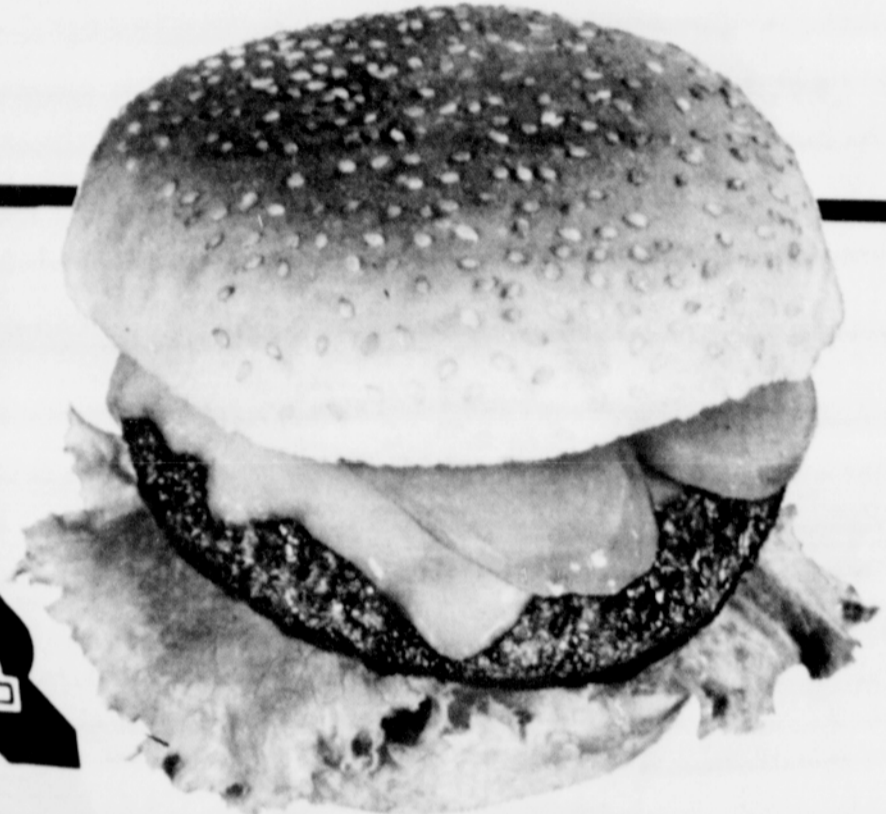
reasonable portion of the trip cost. This amount will be determined by the Project Committee.

Tax deductible contributions can be sent to: Project Homecoming '86, P.O. Box 12440, Portland, Oregon 97212.

At least 40,000 people are bitten each year by poisonous snakes throughout the world, reports *National Wildlife* magazine.



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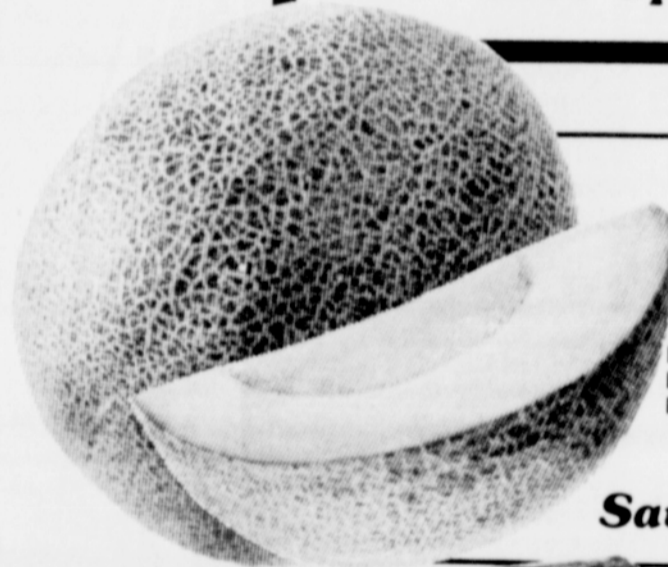
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