

# Letters to the Editor *perspectives*

by Professor McKinley Burt

## Bush Raises Price Of Corn And Gasoline

If you didn't notice that, you had better start paying attention. The November 4 presidential election may be your last chance to do something about a White House incumbent who makes "Tricky Dick Nixon" look like Mother Theresa.

How was it done and why? Well, if you need the votes of key farm states, then you put some money in the farmer's pockets. There is a good chance that most people will not notice if you conceal your agenda behind a glittering facade of enhancing the environment, and reducing the nation's dependency on foreign oil; By ordering the Environmental Protection Agency to drop its standard of prohibiting the use of smog-producing "ethanol" in urban areas, while telling the public "we have cut those petroleum pollutants by half" (Ethanol is an alcohol refined from corn).

At the same time, of course, you drastically increase the proportion of "corn-derived" ethanol that oil refiners may use to replace gasoline in your fuel. Eureka! It is payday with a vengeance for all those potential republican voters in "corn states" like Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois and Missouri. The sudden demand for another billion or more bushels of corn drives prices straight up (also cost of by products like cornmeal, cornstarch, corn flakes, etc.).

Now, isn't that a clever way to tax you at the gas pump in order to buy votes in the Midwest? Pay attention; we saw last week here how the U.S. Department of Agriculture was forced by the administration to help finance a billion dollar arms deal for Iraq. The president is stonewalling the congress-

sional committee investigating the coverup, but the shenanigans of this administration are reaching a crescendo as the election approaches, requiring a score of investigations.

Keep in mind that this "Corn Scheme" has become a money-making game of international proportions. Many Third-World nations have populations whose very existence depends upon the price and availability of major grains like corn and wheat. These countries, allegedly freed of colonialism, have never been allowed to develop their own strategies of self-interest in planning their development of agriculture and industry.

Somali, Ethiopia, Ghana are prime examples of former colonies left vulnerable after being caught up in those sticky webs woven by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations. Their loans, cash crops and politics are planned and manipulated in terms of the needs of the international commodities markets--and the major international grain dealers. Those based in this hemisphere all have extensive operations in Oregon and Washington, e.g. Cargill, Author Daniel Midland ("Breadbasket to the world").

As the millions upon millions of Somalis die (or will) of hunger and disease, the media and the science community beats our ears with descriptions of the cruelties of "mother nature". They do not tell you why these Africans have not planned for nature's whimsies, when history and the Bible tell us that for many thousands of years (until colonialism) they had a superb infrastructure and administration. They fed hebrews who came to their gates in time

of drought and famine. They had not yet been conquered by Europeans.

Nor does the media mention that those gangs armed with sophisticated weapons who are interfering with the feeding of starving peoples are able to do so because they have been the well-paid and well equipped clients of the United States and Russia in the Cold War. Neither giant sent white men to the horn of Africa to confront each other in the surreal, decade-long slaughter. There turned out to be enough African bodies by the hundreds of thousands.

Now, with the infrastructure (and churches) gone, we can speak of millions of bodies on the evening news.

Failin to place first in the Olympics, America is uno numero in "arms dealer" stature as we mentioned last week in describing this nation's role in the Iran/Iraq War. One of my readers called to say he was reminded of an old ghetto joke that highlighted the black man's ability to outwit the slavemaster while preserving life and limb. The story is too long for this article but the gist of it parallels the way peoples of color at home or abroad are pitted against each other. Basically, the tale begins when two slave owners who each own a slave of magnificent physical endowment meet on a street and one addresses the other, "I bet my nigger can whip your nigger". Generations of blacks would use the parable to warn the next of how one group would be played against another.

Next week, IBM and Digital Equipment Company, the vaunted bastions of America's Computer industry, plan huge layoffs, as wife and child abuse escalates among a frightened populace.

### Letter To The Editor

We are asking if you would put this in your news paper, so the people can no that the first world wide directory of Masonic Lodges Chapters &

Businesses have been published. But it need people in it all over the world. This directory is up dated every year. If some one want's to get in the directory or want a directory call 1-602-

870-8783 or write World Wide Directory of Masonic Lodges Chapters & Businesses P.O. Box 56173 Phoenix, AZ. 85079 Thank you very much.

### Letter To The Editor:

I am writing this letter to Christian, and believers in God's words, and ministers and pastors of church's in this city, who may not be making it clear to their congregation what God says about homosexuality.

I am not saying that ministers should get into political discussion on debates, or endorsement of measure (9) are any thing else, concerning this issue. I do believe that it is time that God's word concerning this subject be talked about and explained to people who are in your congregation, who do not know what to believe about this. We as christian depend on our minister to proclaim God's word. We sign song like Lifted Him Up and Jesus said if I be lifted up I will draw all men into me. "What are we waiting for?" Satan people are out in forces to make sure that their views are known. I feel this is an issue that we can no longer avoid.

The Bible says that homosexuality is a sin. Roman's chap 1-24-31-makes it clear - I Corinthians chap 6-verse 9 Proverbs chap 14-verse 12- Burt Leviticus chap 18 verse (22) living Bible states it this way.

Homosexuality is absolutely for bidden for it is an enormous sin, which mean bigger than big Leviticus chap 20-verse (13) old testament-The penalty for homosexual acts is death to both parties. They have brought it up on them selves. These are just a very few scriptures that tells us God's thinking on this matter. Sodom and Gomorrah was one city which was destroyed by God because of homosexuality and other sex sin.

As a person I do not believe in hate

crimes against anyone, but as a christian I must hold up the word of God, not to bring anger or hurt to anyone. I feel the homosexual, problem as it is being related to discrimination against black people, and the problems we have and is suffering in this county based on skin color alone, will never bring the deprivation, the inhumane treatment that blacks has suffered since slavery. This is why it is important for minister to relate to us and quench the undue panic and fear that is being asserted against our belief verse - harm more ferocious than we have been treated and is treated in America. To suit the purpose of a group of people who want to be salified in their on way of living which is all right with me., but I do not like the association. Blacks have never been treated fair and justly in this country we have been hanged, murdered, for no reason, we have suffered all kind's of atrocities.

Although the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights guarantee freedom and justice for all, the black man have not been treated fairly in most cases simply because of color. The spotted Owl is more protected than black people are.

(1) Here are some facts to think about.

1. My being black is easy to recognize if whites hate black people it won't make any different what the laws says, as for as job, housing fair and equal treatment.

(2) When a person sees a gay or homosexual person, unless they are black, the recognition is not that apparent.

(3) A homosexual can go any where they please, change their life and be

accepted.

(4) It is impossible for black people to change their skin color in a natural way or other attributes that this country has based it's hate and discrimination and accption of the black race.

The Bible says proverbs chap 14-12 there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the way of death and homosexuality is one of these ways. Homosexuality is abnormal is immoral, it is perverse, and is an abomination, and a sex sin along with adultery fornication and God despise. Yet God love's you, but he isn't pleased with your sex sins and life style, and unless altered and repent will lead to damnation of your soul. I have friend who are, and I love them, but because I do I am writing what thus say's the Lord.

I do not like the association of discrimination and the condition that black has suffered, is suffering to smother the real issue the sin of homosexual conduct and behavior to justify sinful deed which the Bible make clear is wrong. I am black and poor, but I can't justify me going to Safeway and stealing something breaking one of God's laws to justify my action.

Sincerely  
Vesia Loving

P.S. Brother and Sisters in Christ do not let fear, or threat of more harm coming t you to encourage you to become a participant in something God say is wrong. Remember we have come this far by faith from chains of slavery that's what kept us going. There is no two ways about this matter you can't serve God, and Satan.

### Letter To The Editor

Metro Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee is a jointly administered apprenticeship and journeyman training agency committed to nondiscrimination in employment and affirmative action towards females and minorities. Metro is sponsored by the (IBEW) International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local #48 and NECA, the National Electrical Contractors Association.

We are seeking your support in obtaining qualified applicants in the electrical contracting industry. Any person who applies for a job through Metro will not be unlawfully discrimi-

nated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age religion, political affiliation or physical or mental handicap unrelated to actual job performance or veteran status. The IBEW and NECA share our firm commitment to this policy in accordance with state and federal civil rights legislation and Executive Order 11246. Our current labor contract requires us to fill vacancies by referral from IBEW Local #48, 2023 Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon 97232. Qualified electricians and apprentices should be directed to the union.

Individuals interested in possible apprenticeship training should submit a

letter and self-addressed envelop to: Metro Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee 5600 NE Avenue, Portland, OR 97218.

All inquiries will be answer with information concerning the next training season. Individuals contacting NECA or any of its members directly will be referred to either the union or Metro. persons seeking nonunion office jobs may apply directly to: E C Company PO Box 10286, Portland, OR 97210.

We sincerely hope that you and your organization can assist us in meeting our affirmative action goals. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Cellular One To Kick Off Its Public-Private Sector Partnership

Several citizen patrol groups will walk their beats equipped with cellular phones as Cellular One kicks off its new public-private sector partnership at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 7 at the Portland Conference Center-Ballroom, 1020 NE 3rd, Portland. Cellular One has joined forces with the Office of Neigh-

borhood Associations (ONA) and the Portland Police Bureau to kick off this innovative program during National Crime Prevention month. Cellular One will distribute 40 cellular phones to volunteer patrol captains who will lead their patrols through neighborhood beats

to enhance communications with the police and to provide personal safety for themselves. The Portland program, which may soon be replicated in other cities, is one of many public safety and crime prevention partnerships that Cellular One is initiating under the Cellular Watch name.

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## CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNAL

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.

## Harding, Mankiller And Williams Slated For National Awards

On Friday, October 16, 1992, the Second Annual National Racial Justice Awards Dinner will be held at the Washington Court Hotel on Capitol Hill in Washington, D. C. The theme of the events "Civil Rights: Thirty Years Later." Civil rights, church and community leaders will gather from across the nation to pay tribute to persons who have made a significant contribution to the cause of racial justice and civil rights. The Awards Dinner is sponsored by the Commission for Racial Justice of the United Church of Christ.

It is important to recognize and salute those who have given of themselves for the sake of others, in particular on behalf of those who are oppressed and subjugated by systems and institutions of economic exploitation and racial discrimination. Too often we allow those among us to pass on before tributes are offered.

Vincent Harding, Wilma P. Mankiller and Fred Williams will be honored and given national awards at the awards at the October 16th awards at the October 16th awards program and dinner in Washington, D.C. A special tribute will also be given to Sister Souljah for her tireless efforts to help youth acquire leadership development.

Dr. Vincent Harding's unparalleled contributions to the cause of human dignity, freedom, and justice have received international acclaim. As a social visionary, prolific writer, and national civil rights leader, Dr. Harding is widely known as one of the greatest analytical historians of the

twentieth century. He is currently Professor of Religion and Social Transformation at the Iliff School of Theology at the University of Denver.

Professor Harding's most recent book, There is a River, is the first of a three-volume history of the African American struggle for freedom in the United States. Harding's other recent work, Hope and History, challenges all to teach and learn deep lessons from the story of the Freedom Movement. Dr. Harding and his wife, Rosemarie, have conducted numerous workshops throughout the nation on social justice, personal spirituality and social responsibility.

The Honorable Wilma P. Mankiller in 1987 became the first woman to be elected Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Chief Mankiller was re-elected in 1991 and has emerged as one of the most effective global leaders for human liberation and justice. As Principal Chief of the second largest native nation, Mankiller has made a tremendous contribution to the continuing struggle of hundreds of thousands of Native Americans.

As a respected writer, lecturer, social activist, and international human rights leader, Chief Mankiller has exemplified and historic life of courage and tenacity in the face of numerous obstacles on behalf of Native Americans. Presently she administers an annual budget of \$54 million, supervises more than eight hundred employees spread across more than 7,000 square miles, and is responsible for helping to plan for the future development and empowerment

of the Cherokee Nation. As the 500th anniversary of Columbus "discovering that he was lost" is observed in this hemisphere, it is more than fitting for a national award to be given to Chief Mankiller.

From the heart of the Watts section of South Central Los Angeles, California, Fred Williams is admired and respected as an effective youth leader. In the spring of this year, Williams helped to establish the "Gang Truce" that successfully brought an end to the spiral of gang-related violence in Los Angeles.

"Mr. Fred," as he is affectionately known, is the Director of the Cross Colours Common Ground Foundation based in Los Angeles and is devoted to implementing youth development and educational programs for inner city youth. Williams, who has been a youth leader for over 16 years, is a talented and experienced community organizer, lecturer, counselor, and a national leader on the issues of urban policy and community youth leadership development. Fred Williams also was the founder of Common Ground's Drop-Out Retrieval Program and has had a 90% success rate of retrieving youth, grades 2-12, back to school. He is credited with singlehandedly retrieving more than 17,000 children from drop-out status.

For more information on how you can join in and support this unique awards program and dinner, please contact Ms. Della Owens at 5113 Georgia Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20011, or telephone (202) 291-1593. The Movement and the struggle continues!

### Letter To The Editor:

I urge your readers to vote No on 9. I am outraged by the bigots who have the audacity to call my gay child abnormal; my child is a normal, healthy, well adjusted sensitive human being. A person who works to better society by actions, not bravado. The people sponsoring NO. 9 are ignorant and mean spirited. They are the same people who used the Bible to promote slavery and apartheid. They are the hate mongers

who attacked the Jews, gays and Gypsy in Germany. Preaching hate in the name of religious self-righteousness is as old as the inquisition and the witchhunts in Salem. The prophets I believe in preach love. Hillel, Jesus, Budah taught the love for humanity. Love your neighbor as yourself was what they taught. My family and I love our gay child as well as our non-gay children. Who my children choose to love is a matter of their heart's choice.

Preaching hatred hurts our whole society. Hatred eats at the spirit of the person who hates and destroys their humanity. It leads to abuse, harassment and in the extreme to murder. Proposition 9 is an american version of the Nazi exclusionary laws passed in Germany in the 30's and should be defeated.

Vote for Love not Hate. Defeat proposition 9.  
Sincerely,  
Sidney Gelb

Portland Observer encourages our readers to write letters to the editor in response to any articles we publish.