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Fear is another cause of racist prejudice. Fear has its roots in ignorance or wrong information. For example, the fear of economic instability leads to accusations that immigrants take away jobs, or abuse the social welfare system or that they are taking over our cities. Although these are commonly cited excuses for disliking immi-

"We all like to think well of ourselves, and in fact it is a necessary part of our mental health. However, there are dangers in excessive pride..."

grants, a cursory examination of the statistics will prove those fears to be wrong.

Frustration can also lead to racist prejudice. Our society puts a heavy emphasis on success and power, but sometimes personal success is hindered, especially during times of economic recession/depression. So, rather than confronting that which is responsible for creating the recession/depression - such as government policy and big business - racist blame refugees, immigrants, people of colour and other minorities who are the most vulnerable members of our society and who are in the least likely position to defend themselves.

Racist wooing students Leader holds up Hitler as a model

by Harold Munro from the Vancouver Sun, Dec. 7, 1992

The organizer of white-separatist groups is actively recruiting young supporters in Surrey and North Delta school yards.

Greg James, a self-proclaimed racist, says youth play a critical role in his vision of a Canada with self-rule for whites.

He recently moved the headquarters of the Aryan Resistance Movement of B.C. to Surrey from Vancouver to capitalize on what he says is a wave of teenage recruits.

"High school students are taking an active interest in us," James said Sunday.

James, 21, says the organization is funded by about 20 hard-core member with dozens more supporters at schools and in B.C. communities distributing leaflets.

Attracting suburban youngsters with the help of shoool-age members has become the movement's major focus in the last year. The activity draws 10 to 15 inquiries a week from mostly Surrey and North Delta students, he says.

Surrey RCMP Insp. Ric Hall said police are aware of the Surrey-based group and are monitoring their activities. Surrey school board chair Jim Chisholm could not be reached Sunday for comment.

James claims a growing number of young white males are becoming part of the movement because they are concerned about violence and intimidation sparked at their schools by non-white gangs.

"We teach youth to be proud of their race and their white culture," he said. "I've always been a proud white person. Throughout school, that type of history is ignored. You always learn about African culture and Indian culture instead."

He would prefer youngeres were taught about Adolf Hitler or the founders of the U.S. Nazi party.

"I admire Hitler," said James, who has a small photo of the German dictator on his living room wall to prove it. "He was one of the last people to stand up for the white race."

The movement, with chapters across Canada and in Europe, was formed a decade ago in Mission. James said the original founders are no longer involved but membership is one the rise since the operation was moved to his home in Surrey.

The racist's repressed anger and need to find a scapegoat provide favorable ground for the growth of prejudice. A race of religion already set apart in some way which makes it different, is a perfect target for our frustrations.

Pride also, is a major cause of prejudice. We all like to think well of ourselves, and in fact it is a necessary part of our mental health. However, there are dangers in excessive pride, especially when the pride is based on nationality or race. Excessive pride requires that one group pit its so-called superiority against another group which it has deemed to be inferior due to race or nationality. Often, this kind of excessive pride leads to discrimination against other peoples or groups.

The Need for Human Rights Education

One other important element in the formation of prejudice is the serious lack of a formal education in human rights from the elementary through secondary schools. Every study on the subject emphasizes the need for education in this area, yet we see little of it in the classrooms of this province or country.

And although there are literally thousands of resource materials available for teachers, educators and grass roots organizations, for a variety of reasons, there are serious problems in getting the material out there to those who want and need it.

In addition to the problems of access, there is the ongoing battle of convincing governments, administrators and teachers themselves that a human rights education is of critical importance to our future. Like an inoculation against racism, prejudice and discrimination, a human rights education will play a major role in reducing racism and other forms of discrimination in Canada.

There is a saying "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it". Although we may have missed the opportunity, there is no reason which is good enough to deny a human rights education to the next generation coming up through the school system. If we want to change the negative headlines which scream across the front-pages of our daily newspapers; if we expect to transform the human misery of racism to harmony and peaceful relations, we must begin to demand a human rights education which focuses positively on the future - our children. Then, and only then, can we say we have made an honest effort to reduce discrimination in Canada and turn this frightening wave of racism back onto itself.

Teen denies distributing 'KKK' pamphlets

from: Daily News, Halifax, Dec.17, 1992

A teen charged with creating and distributing hate literature at Charles P. Allen High School pleaded not guilty yesterday in Bedford provincial court.

The youth, whose identity is protected under the Young Offenders Act, will stand trial July 5. The youth, a student at the high school at the time of the alleged offence, has since turned 18.

Racist leaflets headlined K.K.K. White Power Lives! Join Us Now! were found throughout the school in mid-October. The unsigned leaflets appeared to have been produced on a computer printer.

The youth pleaded not guilty to communicating printed statements in a public place to incite hatred against an identifiable group "where such incitement is likely to lead to a breach of the peace," and with communicating statements willfully promoting hatred.