

new Race Relations Foundation. It will depend on how they are selected, how they are appointed, and their links with the larger community.

If there are more political appointees by the Secretary of State and the Minister of State for Multiculturalism and Citizenship, this will destroy confidence in a new foundation. It is unfortunate that this is the way this government acts. The minister himself has done some political recruiting of his own race relations network which develops cynicism in the race relations community generally.

They are quite capable of developing their own networks. They do not need the minister to recruit his friends to recognize and fund a network and take funds from legitimate existing organizations. I think it is an insult to autonomous organizations. We do not want this to happen in a new foundation.

It is very important that there be wide consultation, as the minister has mentioned, but it needs to go further than that. There need to be nominations of board members by groups that are concerned with racism and groups that have knowledge in this field, so that this becomes an objective group, not a group of political appointees.

Board members will include academics but should not be only academics. It should include on the board persons in the front lines who know the hurt of racism and whose anger demands action. It should include representatives of labour, business, ethnic communities, ethnocultural organizations, and human rights activists. These must not be partisan appointees.

If a race relations foundation is to fulfil its mandate, there must be a commitment to develop practical strategies for changing the racist attitudes in individuals, in communities, and in institutions. This is what would be useful to communities, not only academic studies.

The committee must look at all these questions. In particular, we must hear from Dr. Lloyd Stanford who, I understand, prepared an excellent report that went to the Department of Secretary of State, then was hidden. We have tried every means that we can think of to have access to that report, which I have been told by objective people is a very important report. We do not know why the government has repressed this information. Even the Library of Parliament has not been able to get access to

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it. It is very important that we hear directly from Dr. Stanford in committee.

In closing, I would like to quote an activist woman of colour, whom I mentioned earlier, Sadie Kuehn, who made the following statement. I think she was doing this in relation to art projects that might be developed in the school community. The title of the article is *Racism Hurts* and reads:

Racism hurts the individuals who are subject to personal humiliation and pain, to insults and rejection, to stereotyping and name calling, the racist jokes and denial of opportunity, and sometimes even to physical violence—all because of the colour of their skin or their ethnic origin.

It especially hurts children—young people seeking their way in the world, only to discover that many of the dreams open to their classmates are closed to them. During these formative years, such experiences can have a long-term impact, creating an acceptance of others having a right to treat them in unjust and degrading ways.

But the hurt goes beyond individual victims. Racism poisons the entire community where it is allowed to live. A community riddled with hatred and fear can never achieve its potential in success and richness. Its culture will be inevitably distorted—either explicitly, or by omission of the contributions of those who would have a great deal to offer if circumstances allowed.

If racism is a product as well as a producer of fear, how can it be challenged? What can be done?

I am sure that a foundation on race relations is not the complete answer. It is only people speaking out who can really make changes, each of us in our own hearts, in our attitudes, and in our communities. But certainly we support the proposal to establish a Race Relations Foundation. We hope there will be broad hearings that will allow people in different regions of Canada to be heard. It would be an excellent opportunity for a committee to go to different communities. I offer the support of our party in that respect.

Mr. Joseph Volpe (Eglinton—Lawrence): Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this initiative on the Race Relations Foundation. I say this with a little regret, because one of the reasons we support such a foundation is its obvious need, a need that is unfortunate simply by its identification.

As the member who spoke a few minutes ago indicated, in Canada there is in a different climate, an atmosphere that we as Canadians cannot take great pride in noting. In fact, as a writer in one of the local papers indicated the other day, there seems to be a resurfacing of xenophobia, a hatred, a fear of foreigners, “a state of mind that has been spreading with increasing speed in the so-called civilized west whose people are beginning to vent their anxieties in a variety of ways, and