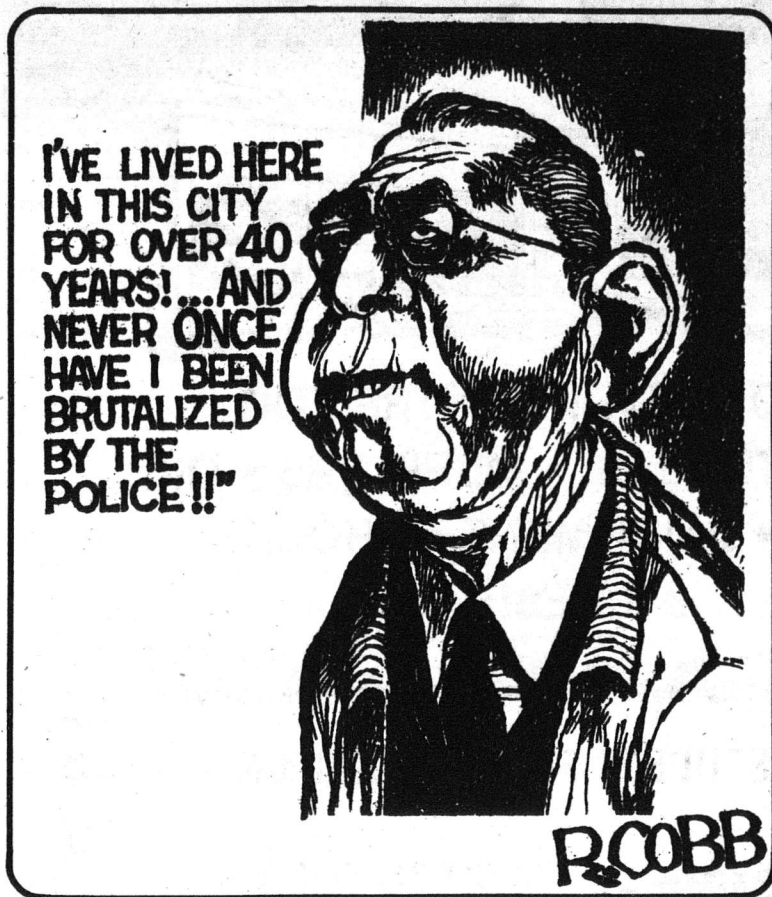


# ...the force



**I'VE LIVED HERE IN THIS CITY FOR OVER 40 YEARS!...AND NEVER ONCE HAVE I BEEN BRUTALIZED BY THE POLICE!!**

Continued from page 9

In the most often cited case *R. V. Wray (1970)*, the court decision not only condoned the police using threats and assault to obtain evidence but went further to recognize such obtained evidence as legal and admissible.

The old remedies such as assault, battery, false imprisonment are available as weapons to be used by citizens against wrongdoing policemen, and if they are successful, according to the Police

Act, R.S.O. 1970 c.351, subsection 24c.1, the municipal, police chief and the offending officer are all liable.

However court actions often require both time and money. And is more often the deprived groups that lack these resources.

Besides some innovative proposals like the setting up of the civilian review board and better education for officers, the process for screening new applicants to the force is equally important to spot and eliminate racial bias,

sadism and other serious prejudice by psychological tests.

Another area of improvement in the recruiting process is to attract proportionate minorities from the deprived groups. It has been suggested that the most effective means for developing understanding and curbing practices offensive to minority groups is to have the participation of these groups.

This may perhaps be the answer to the fact that 21.4 per cent of the Chinese Canadians rated their police as 'bad' in the report *British Columbians' attitudes and experiences relevant to the police, law and crime*, despite the fact that they are one of the largest minority groups in the province.

Before the Canadian police forces adopt the mentality that "we are cops and law and whatever we do is justified," the court should adopt a more liberal approach to assure the public of the court's position. As a result, more cases would be brought before the court. But increasing cases do not necessarily signify that there are more abuses or worse problems.

While internal investigation lacks necessary procedure and credibility to be widely accepted by the police's reluctance to accept a review board, the only possible resort for controlling police brutality and racism seems to lie in the hands of the courts; which is what it is at present.

It is time, perhaps, our government considered introducing a bill similar to the federal statute Title 18 and not hesitate to prosecute any offender under the Canadian Bill of Rights.



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