

John, New Brunswick, are concerned with poverty as it affects the black minority in this particular area.

For the purpose of this brief we are not considering poverty brought on by a protracted illness, or the death of a supporting spouse, but rather we are concerned with the able-bodied workers who are willing to perform gainful employment at a decent wage and with the same chance of vertical mobility as their white co-workers. We are confronted with the man or woman who is prepared to perform useful work and can find no work available.

We believe that there are two main factors to the poverty problem—one is economic poverty; the other social poverty—both of which are dehumanizing. Combined at one and the same time they are fatal physically and psychologically. Black people in this area suffer from both.

The economic poverty is based on the function of the education system to train people to become useful members of society. Secondly, the resistance of employers to employ minority persons (in this case black) capable of performing all types of work. A brief on the educational system is being presented to you by the Council of Saint John Home and School Association. Thirdly, economic poverty is portrayed in this area by employers hiring blacks mostly in semi-skilled or unskilled positions causing the female partner to seek employment to complement her husband's wages or in some cases, because of the seasonal nature of his job, she must support the family for a number of months. In other cases, the black male is denied a job because of race. Although this is done in the most subtle manner imaginable, it happens. The family then becomes a matriarchy, not a patriarchy, as should be expected when the male is in the home. This in turn causes family disruption which signifies again poverty of the highest level.

This type of poverty manifests itself in many ways. Most would be classed as negative in this society, which uses western concepts for its value measurement, but since they involve non-whites nobody worries about it.

The most significant signs are alcoholism, drug use (both hard and soft), and violence against each other. This type of poverty was written about in the famous Monihan Report which only made one person rich and he was white. Black people are still poor as a result of this report.

Further, we feel that in the economic portion of this brief we should add the plain and bitter facts about Saint John. A list of Saint John metro-area Board of Trade lists a total to 58 firms employing 100 or more employees. Twenty-four of the listed firms do employ or have employed at some time black people, while 34 have never employed blacks in any capacity. In a total of 18,960 employees shown in January 1966 for the 58 employers, 88 were black people.

Looking a bit further again, we find that in a total of 264 employers shown in the area of industry, transportation, trade and services in the municipality of the County of Saint John, and employing from 10-100 employees, 36 do employ or have employed black people; 228 do not employ and have never employed blacks in any capacity.

We black people understandably have expressed our plain unvarnished views and deep concern in numerous surveys and interviews about the limited areas of employment, all seemingly to no avail. This society which educates its members to the "Protestant Ethic" with the exclusion of other ethics, most notably Afro-Canadians or Afro-Americans, find it hard to give gainful and meaningful employment to the products of this educational system. This exclusion, both socially and economically, signifies to us a form of "cultural genocide", which is a primary cause of poverty in our society as a whole, because it denies vertical mobility on the basis of individual ability because of race.

Some of the areas in which the absence or under-representation of black people is particularly conspicuous are as follows:

1. Public Transportation (1)
2. Banking, Trust and Finance Companies (0)
3. Real Estate (0)
4. Public Accounting (0)
5. Insurance (0)
6. Newspaper Publishing (0)
7. Telephone Communications (1)
8. Retail Sales (3)
9. Delivery Sales—Dairies, Bakeries (0)
10. Broadcasting—TV and Radio (0)

It is not unreasonable for one to expect that all levels of government should provide leadership in equal opportunity in employment. We have not found this to be the case.

In looking first to the City of Saint John, there appears to be more or less token acceptance of black people. We find one black stenographer, two policemen in a force of 175