



THE FACTS FORUM

by cora pinson

One of the most controversial issues to confront minorities is the Revenue Sharing Act. Its impact on the economic development of the Black community has been devastating, for many of the community-services and manpower agencies that are funded directly from the Federal government will be abolished.

In order to assist THE FACTS readers on the machinations of the act as well as an insight on what you as a citizen can do to protect your interests, an analysis of revenue sharing and its implications for minority communities will be shown in a series of articles beginning with this issue. The basis for this report was developed by the Joint Center for Political Studies.

What Is Revenue Sharing?

On October 20, 1972, the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972, more commonly known as revenue sharing, was signed into law. Its basic purpose is to return federal funds directly to state and local governments with few strings attached. While the concept is simple, the implications of this measure are enormous.

The Revenue Sharing Act provides for a total of \$30.2 billion to be distributed automatically to state and local governments during the next five years. Funds are being sent out to these governments under a formula based on population, tax effort, and relative per capita income, adopted by the U.S. Congress. Allocations to each state and locality were computed automatically based on the formula.

The philosophy behind revenue sharing is that local governments are more knowledgeable about and more responsive to the needs of their residents. This means a radical shift in who determines spending priorities. Traditionally, federal categorical grants and block grants are made for specific purposes with specific restrictions laid down by Congress and enforced by federal agencies. Under revenue sharing the governors, state legislatures, mayors, county executives and city and county councilmen will determine how federal revenue sharing funds will be used.

As of January 1973, the Treasury Department was operating under interim regulations. Interim regulations are the more detailed rules under which a program is operated until a federal agency issues permanent regulations. It was expected that proposed permanent regulations will be issued early in 1973. At that time there is to be an opportunity for individuals, organizations and governmental bodies to comment to the Treasury Department before the regulations are made final.

The Revenue Sharing Act also places a limit of \$2.5 billion on federal outlays for social services, and permits the federal government, at each state's discretion, to collect state individual income taxes and return them to each respective state. In 1972, some Congressmen expressed concern when they found that, in an apparent loophole, social services funds under the Social Security Act were available to states on an open-ended basis. The \$2.5 billion ceiling on the categorical grants authorized in that Act was inserted in the revenue sharing bill as a tactical maneuver to assist passage.

Next Week: How The Funds Are Distributed.

Help Foot The Bill

The Seattle area parochial high schools are sponsoring their annual 20 mile WALK-ATHON on Saturday, March 31st. Last year the walkathon raised \$38,000.00 to help our parochial schools survive. According to the President's Panel on Non-Public Education, private education saves taxpayers \$1.6 billion per year. HELP US ACCOMPLISH OUR "FEET"... Please sponsor the students who will be coming to your door. Call 641-0700 if you would like to sponsor a walker.

Public Notice

Return by March 12, 1973 to:
People Power, 4261 Roosevelt Wy. NE
Seattle, Washington 98105
PEOPLE POWER QUESTIONNAIRE
Program Date: March 18th, 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.
"A Matter of Life"
1. What is your response to the recent Supreme Court decision guaranteeing a woman's right to an abortion within the first three months of pregnancy?

Agree Undecided Disagree
2. The expectant mother should have the right to terminate an unwanted pregnancy.

Agree Undecided Disagree
3. The individual should have the right to determine the size of his/her family.

Agree Undecided Disagree
4. The individual should have the right to end his/her life by suicide.

Agree Undecided Disagree
5. The terminally ill person should have the right to choose death over suffering.

Agree Undecided Disagree
6. The value of a human life is related to its usefulness to society.

Agree Undecided Disagree
7. The limits of individual choice in regard to human life issues should be regulated by law.

Agree Undecided Disagree
8. Human life begins a. at conception
b. at birth
c. at some point between conception and birth.

Other Comments

Black Arts Northwest

by Eddie Walker

Black Arts/West is currently the most positive and productive center of Black cultural achievement in the Pacific Northwest. This situation, unfortunately, may not exist a year or two from now. Nixon's economic cuts on the domestic front threaten to drastically cut the funds supporting Black Arts/West's drama, dance, and art gallery program. Despite the lack of broad Black community resident support, Black Arts/West deserves a better fate than they would receive in cruel hands of our would be savior Nixon.

In order to survive the funding cuts being proposed Black Arts/West will be and is being forced to initiate attempts to secure other substantial funding grants. Large grants will be needed in order to maintain and enlarge upon the high quality of artistic production already accomplished in the theater and dance components. Besides funds, however, there remain other issues which must be addressed by the company. These issues include both economic security and programmatic or artistic content.

On the economics question Black Arts; including drama, dance, the visual arts, and literature, are on a bare subsistence level, usually plagued by trying to make ends meet. The issue in Seattle is compounded by the lack of a profound Black population and a culturally supportive Black Middle class. The Black middle class in Seattle, not unlike other such classes in or around other Black communities around the nation, does not find the need to support the efforts of Black creative artists on a meaningful level. They find time and money for luxury cars, Doce's furniture, and consuming large amounts of alcoholic beverages. Finding money and time to see plays, dance productions, and to purchase art works by any number of highly talented Black visual artists seems to not be on their list of priorities. Here revolves one of the issues, and that is cultural priorities. Resolving this will require some new approaches and methods by Black creative artists to gain the support of the Black middle class, for it is this class which has the resources to support a highly skilled creative artist or program.

For Black Arts/West this battle may be waged through a change of format and content of plays presented. My suggestions for such program changes would be out of line being that I am not nor do I intend to be a part of the Black theater, a movement with its own complex dynamic. However, I in all good conscience must suggest that changes be initiated in order to secure the continuation of the program which is beginning to establish itself as a viable Black cultural institution in the nation and locally.

In the coming weeks I will be waxing philosophical at times hopefully just to raise some questions in readers minds about the future rise or demise of Black Art on all levels. Keep reading.

Art Note: Portland State University is celebrating Black Cult ure Month which has already included such prominent names as Nikki Giovanni, D on L. Lee, and Herbie Hancock. At noon February 26th, yours truly will be lecturing on Black Art and the cultural revolution. If you have time check it out. There's also an exhibit by Eddie Edwards out of San Diego, California. His works are dynamic and reminiscent of Diego Rivera's great murals. I've also got an exhibit going, but y'all don't need to go out of your way I'm just a "home-boy."

Free Spaying For Dogs & Cats

The Seattle Veterinary Medical Association has initiated a free spaying service for dogs and cats owned by destitute families, and many association veterinary hospitals are offering substantial reductions in spaying fees, in an effort to stem the tide of unwanted dogs and cats in King County.

Dr. Mel Dennis, Jr., president of the Seattle Veterinary Medical Association, said his group "is very concerned about the rapidly increasing dog and cat population in Seattle and King County, and is working with public agencies to seek solutions to the problems."

"In an effort to provide professional, safe sterilization procedures, with adequate follow-up care, association veterinarians are either donating their surgical services and facilities, or furnishing them at a greatly reduced rate," said Dennis.

Low income families or individuals who wish to have their pet neutered should contact the City of Seattle Division of Animal Control 583-6040, King County Division of Animal Control 344-5209, Humane Society 641-0080, Bellevue, or PAWS 774-3581, Lynnwood. Personnel at these offices will advise pet owners as to whether they qualify for the free spaying program and will inform eligible owners of the procedures for having their animal neutered under the program.

WORKSHOP DANCE ETHNIC

BLACK ARTS/WEST Dance Department announces its first ethnic dance workshop to begin the week of February 19, 1973. The first ethnic dance to be taught will be Spanish-an introduction to classical and flamenco types with the use of castanets. The workshop will last for a period of four weeks with two beginning classes-one for students ages 8-15 and one for ages 16 and over. Each group will meet twice per week. The fee for the class will be \$3.00 for each participating student. The classes will be held at the Firehouse, 722 18th Avenue and will be taught by Mark Morris who has specialized in Spanish dancing. For more information, please phone Kathy Kingsbury or Connie Rayford, 329-4111 or come visit us at the Firehouse.

Concepts and Solutions

by E.J. Brisker

Black Students at Garfield, The University Of Washington, and Seattle University don't have the heart and courage to become millionaires.

This point was rammed in our guts after reading *The Black Millionaires*. Compare Louie Robinson Jr.'s sense of what it takes, with the "Future leaders of the race," and you'll see what we mean: "... Those few who attain great wealth do so... Through great perseverance, a certain amount of parsimoniousness, hard work, a driving desire to succeed, and an almost unyielding belief in their own decisions and administrative judgment."

The low aspirations of our student group has its roots partly from slavery, and more recently, in the loss of our historical traditions between two periods, 1900-1929; and 1930-1960. If historical discontinuity was not enough, we intellectuals, teachers, administrators and parents have provided hazardous and sterile models for our children to follow. Finally, "we" models, and "they" the students have not only been lazy, we've been cry babies to boot.

Our best model is a cultural one. Three examples of this cultural approach are found in Mr. Robinson's book. They are John H. Johnson, Berry Gordy, Jr., and William Henry Cosby, Jr.

Seattle has four potential models in its midst. We refer to Fitzgerald Beaver, Don Dudley, Leonard Berry, and the men of Concepts Northwest. Each person has serious work and challenges ahead if they are to succeed. Concepts Northwest for example has to stop discussing their theory, pick one aspect of their plan, and blow it out.

Fame Is A New Youth Center

FAME is the name of the new Youth Center which has been opened at 1408 East Pike.

Sponsored by First A.M.E. Church, this Center promises to be one of the more lively and enthusiastic Youth Centers in the Central Area.

Mrs. Mary Morris, a teacher of Home Economics at Harrison Elementary School, has taken on the responsibility of Director of the Center. Believing that children need someone to talk to and a great deal of love, Mrs. Morris has taken on this duty with great ease. Some of the activities and services offered at the Center include tutoring in math and reading, a cooking class on Wednesdays and a "Friday Night Out." The Center also has formed a band and a choir which is directed by Mrs. Morris.

The Hours of the Center are from 4:30p.m. to 9:00p.m. Monday through Friday and 12:00 noon to 9:00p.m. Saturdays.

Open House for the Center will be held Saturday the 24th of February at First A.M.E. Church, Fellowship Hall, from 6:00p.m. to 11:00p.m.

Mrs. Morris encourages all who may be interested and even those who think they may not be, to please come out and show your support and see what we are all about at the FAME Youth Center.

CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

A group of citizens of Seattle have come together to implement plans for community development in the future life and/or continuing programs that are necessary and vital to the life of the central area peoples and organizations. We have tried to obtain information to organize such plans, but have not been able to get tangible information so that plans could be completed. Cognizant of the administration's 1974 budget, and the effects it will have on all of us, we hope we can get the desired information to continue and complete the plans as soon as possible. The information needed is: (1) Project title (2) Adminstrating Agency (3) Funding Source (4) Number On Present Staff (5) Number of Staff Being Reduced (6) Program Impact (7) As Of Date (8) Submitted by: _____

We are inviting any person who is now working with or in one of the affected agencies who have such information, to please send it to: 708 Empire Way, Seattle, Wa. 98122.

Young People May Be Exempt From Continuing High School

A bill was passed in the House today that would permit young people aged 15-19 to meet graduation requirements by taking the G.E.D. examination. If the student passes the requirements in accordance with the State Board of Education Rules and Regulations, they may be exempted from continuing high school.

Representative Peggy Maxie, D-Seattle, explained the significance of this bill. "This measure can prevent a lot of disillusionment among our young people. Many students are dropping out of school. This is unfortunate, but it is more unfortunate that there is no place for them to go. They find it very difficult to get jobs, because in most cases the employer requires a high school diploma. This bill would then make it easier for our young people to become productive citizens. This offers them a viable alternative to being out in the streets." Representative Maxie has exhibited a continuing interest in education and alternatives through the legislation she has sponsored.

The Political Scene

by Phyllis Beaumonte

THE FACTS Political Analyst

LANDLORD- TENANT ACT FAILS TO PASS REGULAR SESSION

The curtain was drawn on the final act of the Landlord-Tenant Bill for this regular legislative session. The Senate Judiciary Committee could not agree on a proposal spelling out rights of renters and apartment owners. The committee worked for more than an hour Sunday in an attempt to put together a proposal acceptable to both sides. It was all in vain. The meeting was adjourned because of a senate session and many proposed amendments had not yet been considered. Included was a 20-page package of proposed changes submitted by The State Apartment Operators and The Washington Association of Realtors. There have been previous attempts to reach agreement on the proposal, but have failed this year. Judiciary committee chairman Sen. Pete Francis, D-Seattle, said he would put the committee staff to work on drafting another substitute bill for consideration during the expected special session.

The measure under discussion (SSB2226) before the committee when time ran out would have made comprehensive changes in the current law. Among other things a tenant would have the right to make minor repairs to a dwelling and deduct up to one half on one month's rent if a landlord refused to make repairs first. A tenant would also have the right to obtain bids and have larger repairs made if a landlord refused to act. The bill would limit the repairs to 10% of the annual rent. Another section of the bill would prohibit lock-outs of tenants or the shutting off of utilities.

On the other hand a landlord would have the right to sue for damages caused by a tenant and under some circumstances, the landlord would have the right to make repairs of damages caused by the tenant and send the bill to the tenant. Another section of the proposal would put damage deposits in a special account. Refunds of deposits would have to be made within 14 days after a tenant moved out. Disputes under the bill could be handled by arbitration or by the courts. The measure calls for an advisory committee appointed by the Governor to prepare new written forms, train arbitrators and monitor the arbitration process. Tenants and landlords would have the right to arbitrate any dispute and the arbitrator or the court would have the power to close substandard dwellings if a landlord failed to make repairs within a reasonable time.

The Landlord-Tenant renovation attempts has been before the legislature for the last four years. The first bill under consideration this year was the result of an interim negotiating committee composed of Landlord and Tenant organizations.

Lobbyist, Fatcats and constituency response representing the Landlords was heavy throughout the entire session while support for tenants including constituency response was unorganized and at a maximum low.

If there is an encore on this measure in the special session, a substitute bill acceptable to both the Landlord and the Tenant must be drafted and acted on if the measure is to become a law.

Announcement

The Board of Directors of the Central Area Mental Health Center invites the public to attend its sixth annual meeting to be held at the Mt. Baker Community Club, 2811 Mt. Rainier Drive South, on Sunday afternoon, the 25th of February, 1973, beginning at 3PM.

The guest speaker for the afternoon will be Mr. Walter Hundley, Director of the Seattle Model Cities Program, also on the program will be the popular gospel "The Inspirational Seven."

If you don't know what the Central Area Mental Health Center is all about, here's your opportunity to find out where it's going and what it has done and is doing in the community.

Black Psychiatrist Says White Therapists Can't Help

"Racist social conditions and recent heightened black awareness have designated the white therapist as someone not to be trusted unless his individual behavior proves otherwise."

James P. Comer, M.C., a black psychiatrist, thus explains why black people refuse to seek help for emotional problems from white professionals. In the January issue of *MH*, the quarterly magazine of the National Association for Mental Health, released today, Comer discusses the distressing shortage of black therapists.

The demands are pressing and urgent. The need is now." He suggests that "if black gain sufficient economic and political power within the total social system, the reluctance and refusal to be treated by white therapists should decline."

Comer is Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the Yale Child Study Center and Associate Dean of the Yale Medical School. He is author of *BEYOND BLACK AND WHITE*, a psychosocial analysis of American racial conflict. Comer is also a member of the NAMH Panel of Professional Consultants.

Also featured in the January issue of *MH* are articles by Gloria Steinem on asserting women's rights in society, and Dr. Peter Breggin on why lobotomy must be stopped, plus a four-page color portfolio of art by mental patients.

MH is published in July, October, January and April. The Annual subscription price is \$10. Contact the National Association for Mental Health, 1800 N. Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

The Facts Newspaper
Founded in 1962
Published Weekly by the

Alzene Publishing Co.
Publishers Of
The Seattle & Tacoma FACTS

2903 E. Cherry, Seattle 98122 EA4-0552
Member of The National Newspaper Publishers
PUBLISHER & EDITOR FITZGERALD BEAVER
ADVERTISING SALESMAN BERNARD A. FOSTER
SALES DIRECTOR WALTER PATTERSON
PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR JEROME G. SWEET
RECEPTIONIST SECRETARY ROLAND M. JOHNSON
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Black & Other Minority Cont. Can Cut Some Red Tape In Making Bids

Senator George Fleming (D-37th Dist.) said today the Senate has passed his bill to enable black and other minority contractors to bid effectively on State Highway contracts. "This would cut some of the red tape for minority businessmen bidding on contracts that are \$25,000 or less," Senator Fleming said.

"The bill permits the highway commission to adopt regulations on such contract bids so that they need not require a bid deposit or performance bond. Also, the commission may establish prequalification standards different than those for bidders on larger contracts."

Senator Fleming said competitive bidding would be required unless delay would jeopardize life or property or inconvenience the public.

"Contracts in amounts up to \$15,000 would no longer be put out by a district highway engineer, but would have to come under this small contractor program administered by the Highway Commission," Senator Fleming said. "The bill also deletes the power of the commission to dispense with bids on maintenance contracts under \$7,500, where a performance delay would be harmful to the highway or would inconvenience the public."

Rev. Peter Chirico To Speak At The Speakeasy

"Lift, It's More Than A Magazine!" Rev. Peter Chirico, S.S., Professor of Systematic Theology, St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park, California, will discuss this timely topic at the SPEAKEASY, 1821 E. Aloha, on Friday, March 2. Father Chirico will touch on such questions as "Is human life ever not human life? Does a human being ever have the right to take the life of another human being? Does society? What obligations does a person have to safeguard the conditions for the preservation of human life?"

SPEAKEASY doors open at 8 p.m. with live music. The speaker begins his presentation at 8:30. Coffee is served. Admission free. That's the SPEAKEASY, 1821 E. Aloha.

Questions And Answers About House Counseling

Q- I have recently moved out of an apartment which I cleaned completely, and I expected to receive my \$35 damage deposit. The landlord refused, saying that the oven wasn't clean enough. How can I get my money back?

A- A landlord can't withhold your damage deposit for the cost of routine cleaning, unless you agreed to that idea, in writing, when you moved in. If he still refuses to return your money, you can sue him in Small Claims Court. You don't need a lawyer and it costs only \$1 to file suit and around \$2.50 to serve the summons, all of which you will get back if you win. For more information on how to sue in Small Claims Court, call Seattle-King County Legal Services, EA3-0350 or MA2-8125.

Q- Our house has a steam heating system. For quite a while now the radiators in some of the rooms have been making a knocking noise. Is there anything we can do about it?

A- It is very common for a radiator, after many years of use, to develop a knocking or banging noise. The trouble may be caused by the water condensing and accumulating in the bottom of the radiator rather than draining out the pipes. A simple remedy is to "shim" carefully up the end away from the intake valve, thus tilting the radiator slightly in the direction of the drainage pipe.

Q- I would like to know if you could tell me of places which offer emergency housing?

A- We do have a list of organizations which provide short-term emergency housing. Rather than listing them all here, the best thing to do is to call us: EA9-8300, The Environmental Works. Ask for Gay or Marilyn

If you have a question relating to housing, write or call:

The Environmental Works
402 15th Ave. E
Seattle, 98112
EA9-8300.