

A CONDENSED STUDY COMPILED FOR THE  
URBAN LEAGUE OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

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## II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Black and poor people of Champaign County continue to be plagued by a multitude of problems which, on the surface, appear to be economic in nature. While the problems of poor people are obviously related to their lack of money, when one speaks of economic problems he must invariably raise the question, "Why are "they" poor?"

In the case of poor whites the answer seems fairly simple, they merely lack the educational and/or technical skills to command a decent salary. For blacks other dimensions must be added to answer this question.

The black citizen of Champaign County is faced with the gamut of problems associated with impoverishment from high unemployment and underemployment, underachievement in school, disproportionate infant mortality, high crime rates, into every facet of his daily life. While most of his problems manifestly are economic, the underlying cause of the black citizen's problems is the insidious racism which, although largely subtle, is woven into the fabric of community life.

At this writing, the "down" economy of the Nation has had its effect on Champaign County but for the county as a whole not nearly so much as for most parts of the country. Champaign is a rich county largely because of the exceedingly high fertility of its soil. The economy of the county evolves around the rich farmlands and the relatively high technical nature of its industry. The industry is basically farm and light, or clean.

The largest employers in the county continue to be the University of Illinois and Chanute Air Force Base. One of the larger employers, Magnavox, recently closed its local operation and will be supplanted by So-Lo Cup Company in late 1972. The nature of industry here continues to demand high educational and/or technical skills. That fact, coupled with the rampant, though largely subtle, racism has served to keep the poor and black at the bottom of the economic ladder.

The high incomes of the more affluent make this one of America's richer counties. The average household income (based on 1970 figures) was \$13,265 for Champaign-Urbana. The resultant high cost of living works an even greater hardship on the poor than in less affluent communities.

We thus find that the overriding condition among blacks here remains one of poverty and powerlessness, social disorganization and frustration plunging rapidly toward thorough alienation. High unemployment has not been characteristic of this community - except for blacks. Blacks continue to be disproportionately unemployed, underemployed and last hired, first fired. While the physical condition of housing has changed perceptibly in the past two years, the density of public and apartment dwellings is causing much alarm.

The Frances Nelson Health Center has done much in the way of providing for the minor health needs of the poor on an emergency and out-patient basis. However, there is no substitute for regular and continual consultation with one's private physician which only the affluent can afford. There is much hostility among youth at the secondary school level. And, while dropout figures remain unreliable, underachievement among black youths is still grossly disproportionate to their numbers. Drug usage among the young remains alarming even though hard drugs (heroin etc.) do not seem to pose the threat apparent in the larger cities.

The general areas discussed above are merely a sampling of the kinds of problems with which we must deal as an agency; they do not come close to exhausting the list of problems facing the poor, nor do they adequately portray the intensity of the problems. We believe, however that the structure and contemplated action of League committees and staff lend themselves to making some impact on the problems selected for League attention.

### III. METHOD OF RESEARCH

The method of research used in this operation, was setting up appointments to interview people, who have an active part or influence in the plans and decisions made, which in turn affects the people living in Champaign County. Some of these people included were school principals and administrators, top political figures, county board of supervisors, city officials, community organizations, everyday people, and the like. When we were not attending some kind of board meeting, interviewing someone, or watching a special T.V. program pertaining to our research, our work was carried out at a library. We had access to both Champaign and Urbana public libraries, and the ones located on the University of Illinois campus. Staging interviews and meetings with these importantly busy people, at their best available time wasn't easy, but we worked to the best of our ability in doing so. Our results are in the pages that follow.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF DATA

A. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

We believe that none of the day-to-day needs of people can be met without a decent income. Implicit in this statement is a need for adequate jobs paying a decent wage. It is a lasting battle, at this point in time, merely to get a job, any kind of job. Therefore, our attention is currently focused on the employment aspect of this programmatic area with emphasis on those industries where high educational demands are not a requisite:

- 1) So-Lo- Cup Company of Chicago - This company has purchased the Magnavox plant and will begin operations in late 1972. We must make contact with company officials now, ascertain their employment plans and let them know of our expectations in regard to our constituents. There will be a major renovation of the plant to accommodate So-Lo Cup production operations. We should assure that blacks and poor people have equal access to all jobs at all levels from the outset.
- 2) Mass Transit Employment - The Mass Transit District is a public operation but indications are that it is autocratically run and that blacks, who comprise nearly 50% of the drivers under private management, are effectively being squeezed out of those jobs - now down to three black drivers from earlier nine.
- 3) Emergency Employment Act of 1971 - This program was designed to ease unemployment and underemployment due to the national economy. Guidelines were included with the enacting legislation. There are indications that some local bodies have flaunted or ignored these guidelines to the detriment of black and poor people.
- 4) Building Trades Employment - This industry, if opened, offers the best opportunity available for our constituents to earn a livable wage. There are many obstacles in this area to be overcome.



- 5) Civil Services - Chanhute, University of Illinois, and Local Bodies -
  - A) Exams - There is question that exams are administered equally and concerns that they are culturally biased.
  - B) Other Criteria - We should ascertain considerations other than the exam in employee selection and reverse the process which keeps blacks and other poor people out of the system.
- 6) Kraft Co. - Kraft Foods has been under scrutiny regarding hiring policies for several years. They have made some advances - and some promises - but much more needs to be accomplished.
- 7) Underemployment and Unemployment Among Women - We should ascertain the extent and reasons for both and make resolution for the elimination of same. This may include establishment of day care centers and referral to or initiation of training programs as well as the eradication of sexism and racism.

Here Are The Sequence Of Events As  
Reported by - Charles Guerrero and Catherine Reed

Jim Whithers-Association Chamber of Commerce - Urbana  
Subject: So-Lo Cup Company

The company plans to hire between 400-600 people and plan to open its doors in late 1972 (no definite date). The addition of So-Lo Cup Company to Urbana will bring revenue to approximately \$12,000 in city taxes. Champaign-Urbana was chosen over <sup>an</sup> alternative site (Mattoon) because of Sanitary district there having problems of environmental nature.

Commerce Library - University of Illinois - Looked up information in several sources, and was able to locate in the Illinois Book of Corporations the following information on So-Lo Cup Company:

So-Lo Cup Company

Main Office - 7431 So. East End Avenue - BU8-2800  
Branch - Highland Park, Illinois  
Officers - President - Leo J. Hulseman  
Executive Vice President - R. McHugh  
Vice President - R. F. Hulseman  
Vice President - John F. Hulseman  
Secretary - Robert L. Hulseman  
Treasurer - Steve A. Johnson  
Director of Sales - Arthur H. Jones  
Credit Manager - R. Alschliman  
Purchasing Agent - J. Phillips  
Production - Paper Cups and Plates (2654)  
Employs - 1000  
Capital - \$1 Million +

Mayor, Charlie Zipprodt and Bernadine Stape<sup>K</sup> - These two people were allegedly unaware of anything concerning So-Lo Cup Company other than the Company would be coming to Champaign-Urbana and there would be job opportunities.

CONCLUSION: We feel that So-Lo Cup Company will close both of its operations in Highland Park and inner city Chicago and move them to Champaign-Urbana. By doing this and employing 700 people the Company could save the cost of paying 300 people. This would still be more economically feasible, than its present operations. However, since they plan to compete with Dixie Cup for the number one spot, there would be some definite expansion going on that would still be more economically feasible in this area than in the high income area of Chicago. There seems to be a wall of secrecy surrounding the Company. What we are interested in is the affirmative action for equal opportunity program the Company may have in regards to minorities, especially blacks.

Public Service Career Program - Jerry Lewis

Although the program had been contracted over a year ago, it was not put into effect until March, 1972.

Basically the program provides a total of 93 jobs - 58 ~~entry-~~ entry level and 35 upgrading of existing personnel. Criteria: minimum age 18 and certification of being disadvantaged. This certification is being performed by the Illinois State Employment Service.

Some aspects of the program: Training with up to 20 per week transportation furnished to and from the training sites for the first four weeks. Supportive services include a comprehensive follow-up program with comments by supervisor and also by the worker; medical care and day care. As of this writing not all of the 93 positions have been worked, however there has been some placements made.

A. EDUCATION AND YOUTH INCENTIVES

- 1) Results of School Integration - Both Champaign and Urbana desegregated their schools several years ago. No one has seriously assessed the effects of that move. There is even question in one or two instances that blacks have been resegregated within schools. At any rate, have we accomplished anything more than placing blacks and whites next to each others? Are the schools truly integrated?
- 2) Curricula Evaluation - What is being taught, and how? Are positive attitudes being fostered? Are youths being taught saleable skills?
- 3) EMH Evaluation - The fear remains that a disproportionate number of blacks are in EMH classes due to factors other than ability to learn.
- 4) Needs of Pre-School Children - Are they being met? What else needs to be done?
- 5) Use of Drugs On School Children - Some evidence abounds that "hyperactive" children are being tranquilized so that they "might learn better". Are there cultural differences, etc...which might make black children tend to seem more hyperactive than whites? What are the dangers of drug usage? Benefits? Do parents submit to its use because "they" (school people) know best?
- 6) Citizen - Administrator - Teacher Dialogue - If our children are to get the kinds of benefits due them through education there must be increased dialogue among the above on a continual basis.
- 7) Educational and Career Resources - College bound youths of our community should be made aware of needs and resources for attending college as well as where they might attend. Non-college bound be assisted all along the way to see the merit in preparing for a career. Less than half of all high school graduates ever attend college and only 20% of all jobs require college training. Youths should be helped to develop skills early and be exposed to various career fields.

- 8) Tutorial Program - While major emphasis must be placed on providing for quality education in the first instance, attention should be given to the needs and desire for tutotial assistance for those needing/desiring help, now.
- 9) Douglass Center Library - Several problems have surfaced as to politics of funding the Center library.
- 10) Use of Title I Funds - A major stipulation of Title I was that parents of poor children should help determine the kinds of programs on which funds were to be used. Also, these funds were to be used fir programs to augment the educational opportunities of the poor. There is concern that governmental guidelines have not been followed.

Here Are The Sequence Of Events As Reported By:  
Marsha McDaniel

I interviewed Joanne Dorsey but she wasn't able to give me too much information about what's happening now because she is no longer working with the schools. She is now working with truant children. She did however, tell us of instances where children were put in EMH classes because they were trouble makers and they stayed there because their parents didn't know what EMH classes are. She told us that Taylor Thomas and Henry <sup>eyes</sup> ~~Mayers~~ are a help to the Black students at school. Mrs. Dorsey also told us tha t she disapproved of the work-study program because some of the children wash dishes.

I questioned Mr. Taylor Thomas from Urbana High School about children being improperly placed in EMH classes and he informed me that the students are already in EMH by the time they get to high school. Mr. Thomas said that some students placed in EMH really need to be in there but some are also put there because they are discipline problems.

Bussing - Mr. Thomas said there wasn't much difference in learning. All students improved some because of better materials. The better students were kept in their original school.

Results of NAACP Survey (5/10/66)

There is a single standard curriculum for each grade in all of the schools with a plan for each teacher to space presentation and mastery as children are ready. In each of these units the basic interest is the child and the attitudes he develops for living in a democratic society.

What is the comparative reading level of white and non-white children who are entering junior high school as reflected in the results of reading tests taken in the 6th grade?

Ans: This information is not broken down on the basis of white and non-white children. However, the reading level of 6th grade children of lower economic income area, namely: Columbia, Switzer, Gregory, Washington and Marquette, tend to be a little lower than schools representing the higher economic income group. The difference is not brought about by race, but by the general cultural environment in which the children are reared and the nature ability of the children.

Programs directed at culturally deprived children

Champaign Community Unit IV Schools have a project accepted under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 which is concerned with up-grading and adjusting school learning experiences to make them more accessible to the educationally disadvantaged. The project has been operating in Washington, Gregory, and Marquette schools since January 31, 1966 and has been extended to other levels for a six week summer session.

The goals in this program have been to improve motivation, interest, school attendance and achievement.

Much emphasis is placed on developing pride and belief in self, social habits, positive attitude toward school and a desire to help himself which is necessary if school achievement is improved and the child more nearly approaches his potential.

Additional personnel was necessary to reduce class size and free teachers of clerical duties so they could have time to plan and prepare learning activities. Five classroom teachers were added to the teaching staff in order to lower the pupil-teacher ratio.

Projects for the culturally disadvantaged at the secondary level are in operation in each of the three junior high schools. Summer school benefits are available to all grades and high school pupils who reside in the five Title I target area schools. Programs in the junior high schools are essentially the same for all children except where compensations are necessary to meet the needs of the pupils within a program.

Number of white and non-white teachers in the school system

The total number of teachers, including elementary, secondary, adult education, school of practical nursing, and summer school, shows 688 white teachers and 70 non-white teachers.

Number of Blacks in administrative positions

There are six - Miss Calumese principal Gregory School; Mrs. Wesley principal Washington School; Mrs. Clark supervisor EMH Program; Mr. McMurray principal Marquette School; Mr. Palmer director of guidance, Sr. High School; Mr. Stratton, supervisor OE program Sr. High Schools. The three principalships are the highest held by Blacks and the average salary is \$12,500.

I obtained a copy of the Equal Educational Opportunities Committee Report from the Champaign Community Unit IV School District. The committee was requested to: Make recommendations concerning methods which can be adopted to deal with educational problems, make recommendations for reasonable actions, within the power of the Board, concerning the alleviation of the minority group discriminations within our schools and to examine all programs and practices that relate to equal educational opportunities and recommend improvements changes or modifications.

6-13-67 The Committee found that:

- 1) Segregation as described in federal court decisions, does not exist in the Unit 4 Schools
- 2) Racial isolation exists in the elementary schools in Unit 4.
- 3) Racial isolation exists at the junior high level in Unit 4, specifically in Jefferson Jr. High School.
- 4) Beginning September 1967 racial isolation will not exist in the Unit 4 Schools.

Based on these findings the committee made these recommendations:

- 1) The Board of Education recognize publicly that racial isolation in the schools has underirable educational and social effects and the administration should strive to eliminate racial isolation from the Unit IV School System.
- 2) The Board of Education should take immediate steps to achieve racial balance in the 3 high schools by September 1967.
- 3) The Board of Education declare September 1968 as its target date for elimination of racial isolation throughout the elementary level in the school district.

6-29-67 - The Board of Education Response:

- 1) The Board assured the committee of full cooperation and its support
- 2) It is their continuing policy to end racial isolation in Unit 4 Schools.
- 3) Racial isolation shall be eliminated throughout Unit 4 System by 9/68.



C. HEALTH AND WELFARE

- 1) Ambulance Service - It is a fact that blacks in need of ambulance service in North Champaign-Urbana are in trouble when it comes to getting existing firms to respond to calls. What can be done?
- 2) Consumer Cost Analyses - The high cost of goods, foods and services hits the poor especially hard. Our task is to assure that there are no poor or color taxes.
- 3) General Assistance - The Township Supervisors use their discretion in awarding assistance to clients. We need to document their practices and press for changes where necessary.
- 4) Welfare Reform - H.R.I. and Other Plans - Self explanatory but we must ascertain local practices and push for a decent plan for the needy.
- 5) Drug Use and Abuse - Pills and Pot are what's happening here. Major concern is that so many youths are "testing". Why? What can we do to reverse trend? Alcohol over-use should not be ignored - including among teenagers.
- 6) Health Delivery Systems - Infant mortality is a prime indicator of the overall health of a community. In this regard, especially considering local affluence, blacks have much to be alarmed about. What is being done? What should be done?
- 7) Malnutrition - There is not much indication of malnourishment locally but we should not assume that there is none here. Much mental retardation (approximately 75%) is due to malnourishment and, thus, is preventable.
- 8) Delivery of Service - Public and Social Agencies - There is question that our constituents receive the services due them and needed by them. A multipurpose center (for centralizing services) would curtail some of this problem.

- 9) System of Criminal Justice - Just recently it was stated that "blacks are the cause of most crime locally" and, incidentally, "the most victimized". The questions are, "Why?" and "What can be done about it?" Further, we want to ascertain whether or not blacks are equally protected on the streets, in their homes and in the courts.
- 10) Frances Nelson Health Center - The Center has delivery capabilities but needs other kinds of assistance. Our ultimate hope is that devlivery of services becomes so good that FNHC will soon outlive its reason for being.

Here Are The Sequence Of Events  
As Reported by Donna Bell

LWRO (Local Welfare Rights Organization)  
Mary Jean Adkisson, Chairman

This organization was set up to help mothers understand the welfare system. Although the organization is a member of the Welfare Rights Organization (National), it seems to deal with local affairs rather than national.

Each member is or has been an ADC or disability recipient. The main function is to be an interperter between recipient and DPA or caseworker. This is learned through experience and knowledge of the system.

There are 4 social assistants all of them volunteers with no college degree.

The main goals of this organization is to change the welfare system to suit the needs of the people. The syste, is now run by a set of rules written up in a manual (LWRO). Complaint is that each case is an individual person not a number. Each individual in the system can not be guided by the same manuel. Needs are different for each individual. LWRO in Champaign, Illinois is geared toward individual needs rather than group

needs. If somethings occurs in the National Welfare Rights Organization, that directly affects the community of Champaign it is related to the people through the National Welfare Rights Organization.

There are five major fields of welfare that LWRO is concerned with.

These are:

- 1) Food Stamps
- 2) Caseworker Communication - better understanding and communication between caseworker and aid recipient is dropped from the system for what she believes to be unjust cause. LWRO works closely with Legal Aid Services in this area.
  - A. Appeals must be made within 5 days
  - B. Aid is continued until case is brought to hearing and judgment has been passed.
- 4) Disability -
- 5) ADC - There are 35 members in this organization with five active members. This organization is about the business of activating more members and letting the people know that they do exist.

Township Supervisors - Wesley Schwengel - Urbana

Function -

- 1) General Assistance up to but no more than 6 months
- 2) Director of Road Repair in rural areas

General Assistance - money for food, rent, utilities. This money appears in the form of credit rate. Maximum per month:

<u>Number of persons</u>	<u>Amount per month</u>
1	28
2	52
3	64
4	40
5	111
6	133
7	154
8	173
9	194
10	215

Each applicant's case is reviewed by Township Supervisor. Through his judgment each case is ruled on.

The Township Supervisor is not necessarily a member of the County Board. Each office (Township Supervisor, County Board member) must be run for separately.

#### Food Stamps

Food stamps are administered by the Champaign Department of Public Aid. Although the office is located at 501 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, Illinois.

Each case is written up by the caseworker. Paid bills are taken into court when the case is reviewed by caseworker. Each applicant should bring the completed form and verification of paid bills and expense accounts if any. The applicant's need is verified by the caseworker or some person that is knowledgeable of applicant's need.

Emergency food stamps are administered on a month by month basis or for a three month period.

Champaign Department of Public Aid has 5 people currently working with the food stamps program.

#### General Assistance

General Assistance is given only for a 6 month period because the applicant is then eligible for Public Aid.

Most money given by Township Supervisor is for food.

#### County Board - Amy Kummerow

The traditional function of the County Board was to assist its communities in general Health and Welfare. Such as:

- building roads
- sheriff department
- collect taxes
- set up court system

Since the change of times the county board is about the business of trying to meet the social needs of its communities. Although not much work has been done concerning this the board has brighter hopes for the future.

The board can only give what is asked for. It is up to the people in the communities to elect people who will see to it that their needs are met.

The County Board should be about the business of:

- 1) Setting up a workable public housing system
- 2) Improving County Nursing home facilities
- 3) Providing better care for aging citizens
- 4) Mental Health care

D. HOUSING

- 1) Public Housing - Scattered site, multiple units, density, proximity to others are the concerns.
- 2) Neighborhood Development Program - The NDP is in the latter stages; any work here must be done soon. We should be informed and involved.
- 3) Urban Renewal - Champaign has completed Phase I, other phases may follow. Urbana has been talking UR. We need to make inputs into both.
- 4) Housing Density - This item is related to public housing and apartment housing issues in North Champaign.
- 5) Low and Moderate Income Housing Plans - We need to be conversant with and inform the community of all beneficial plans. (235-36-37 - NDP etc...)
- 6) Now Directions - Implies that we should become aware of alternatives to the more conventionally known means of providing housing for low income groups.

Here are the Sequence Of Events  
As Reported by - Cheryl Hayden

Environmental Development - James L. Williams

Mr. Williams feels that the housing situation creates mostly social problems. He gave me some additional facts about the Harris Street Site, which was an addition of 102 new units, that were finally scattered. All of the 120

units should be completed by March of 1973. He explained that the modular homes (235) cost too much. The residents of the area can have a voice in where the housing will be placed, by going to HUD in Chicago and by sending their own representation to the Housing Commission. He suggested that I talk with James Gordon and William DeArmond.

Lonnie Clark - Feels that there is not enough individual housing and that instead of paying rent all of their lives, the residents would be able to own their homes by the time of retirement, and their social security checks could be used for other necessities. More 4 bedroom dwellings should be built for larger families. Recreation Centers should be close to housing, a small park or center, etc...There should be more Black representation on housing committee.

Modular House - is the completed structure of the individual modules. Two or more modules can be stacked, placed side by side or otherwise joined. The shell of the house is formed by panels. Panels for the walls, floors, and ceilings, can be assembled on the site. Pre-Fab are structural parts, fabricated in advance and assembled on the site. Mobile Homes - are thru-dimensional single family units, built to be towed on their own chassis, plus this they are not required to satisfy local building codes.

The public housing in Champaign-Urbana is usually not of the above type, they have all been built from foundation. Several people, that I have talked with have expressed an interest in having homes that can be scattered to different parts of the community but as of yet none have been approved for very many residents in the Champaign-Urbana area.

Public Housing in Champaign-Urbana are:

Lakeside Terrace - Urbana

Birch Village - Champaign

Dunbar Court - Urbana

Bradley Apartments - Champaign

Mt. Olive Manor - Champaign

In my own personal opinion I would like to comment on the 235 housing in Champaign-Urbana. I am thinking mostly of Dr. Ellis Addition. A great number of people living there used to live in the projects, Birch Village, Dunbar Court, and Bradley McKinley. These people also have young children which prompted them to want to move to a home of their own, plus eager to leave the condition of the projects. True enough there was a small down payment required, but the monthly payments were too high and wach year they got higher. For the quality of the buildings and workmanship, the residents of Ellis Addition pay too much for their houses. These houses have no real foundation, only enough reom to lay the piping is allotted, then the floor is layed. If any complications concerning plumbing should occur, the entire floor must be torn out and replaced causing an unnecessary amount of costly repairs.

E. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

- 1) Organizational Identification - Identify community individuals and organizations to support League - initiated actions.
- 2) Study of Mass Media - While all will need looking at, Cable T.V. is looming on the horizon and should have our immediate attention.
- 3) Voter Education and Registration - Self explanatory and an on-going process. If people are to be effective "within the system" the only way to be effective is to use the mechanisms of change of the system - and wisely.
- 4) Community Forums - Can be a tool to keep masses attuned to community concerns.

Here Are The Sequence Of Events  
As Described by Lena Roberson

The main point is to present CATV to the community in a format that the

people will take interest. Cable T.V. simply define is "a method of distinguishing T.V. signals through a wire (cable) rather than broadcasting those signals through the air". This will cost the consumer. There is a flat installation fee and a monthly charge. It usually runs low but it depends on the type of services that are offered. The one purpose for Champaign-Urbana will carry all existing stations, plus two far distance stations, either Chicago or St. Louis plus various channels for other groups. There will also be a community access channel, in which any group (race) will be able to telecast what ever is important to them. Cable T.V. has advantages of getting radio signals, police etc. It can bring in channels that this area can't get now. Also the training of its (hired) personnel can get some type of minority quota on it for Blacks.

Community Organization Meeting - Thursday, July 6, 1972 (noon)

The upcoming telecast on Channel 12 (WILL T.V.) will begin July 11 at 7:00 P.M. and on July 12 at 2:00 P.M. and again at 8:00. There has been 15 minutes timing allotted to folks from various groups to talk about the pro/cons of Cable T.V.

On Sunday, July 9, 1972 Mr. Barkstall will try to appear on the Ernest Westfield program for one-half hour to talk and answer questions about Cable T.V.

Now how to get the Black people interested in the community meeting? The radio spots have been suggested, this way the community will be exposed from an angle at the meeting about "What Cable T.V. can do for them". Mr. Delbert Smith who has been hired by the twin cities to see who will eventually get the franchise is willing to meet with the Black Community on Wednesday, July 12 at 8:00 P.M. This way an expert will be in to talk to the folks on what Cable T.V. can/can't do.

Right now the main point of the Community Organization is to try to sell Cable T.V.'s advantages of education, job listings, employment and



entertainment to the Black people. It is the job of this group to make sure that whomever gets this contract agrees to the terms of some type of minority input!

On July 11th at 7:00 P.M. a telecast on WILL T.V. was presented. They had Mr. Delbert Smith (consultant hired by Champaign-Urbana). He will write up the ordinance for the city once the franchiser has been selected. He also will help guide the city in trying to select a franchiser that will give these two cities the right service on the CATV.

On July 11th Mr. F. Dwyer Murphy hosted a panel discussion CATV. Each person, or if they represented a CATV operation was trying to influence the viewers. The people usually came up in pairs, talked, and if time was left questions were raised. The most important folks who spoke were: Dr. Don Mullally who is a professor at the University of Illinois in Radio and T.V. He was representing the University of Illinois. The University of Illinois is interested in CATV for class room purposes also in computer instructions like "Plato". Dr Edward Douglas also a professor in Radio and T.V. at the University of Illinois. He brought out the fact that most people still wasn't informed on CATV. The Mass Media of Champaign-Urbana wasn't doing their jobs. Mr. Vernon Barkstall was next (and last) in this telecast. He had a list of recommendations. Some were: There should be no hasty actions on CATV until the public could become more informed; There should be no discrimination in hiring blacks or in black franchisers. There should be a safe-guard against 2-way set ups so that no one can spy/listen in on the CATV owner.

On Wednesday, July 12th at 2:00-5:00 PM. the same panel was present. Dr. Smith begin by reviewing what Mr. Barkstall had requested from the last telecast. His main answer were assurances that those things Mr. Barkstall proposed wouldn't happen.

The Ministerial Alliance (black and white) asked for some time on CATV once it is here. Mr. Melvin Mitchell made his plea as a concerned Black

citizen. He felt those who had no money (black/poor) were to be left out in this decision on the CATV. The School Boards of Champaign-Urbana expressed concern in the CATV representatives.

Art Turner, Champaign Unit IV School District; Ralph Davis, Urbana Unit 116; and Dave Johnson from Parkland College all expressed one thing in common, the lack of funds, yet still wanting CATV in this area.

Professor Phillip Walker, a Black professor from Parkland College spoke as a interested Black citizen. He wanted a Review Board to be installed of representatives of the community to hear complaints about CATV, and to see that the Public Access Channel is free. As it stands now for the first semester any group/person etc...can use it free but after five minutes you pay. He wants the minority quota known and acted on for jobs with CATV.

## V. CONCLUSION

Our research project was scheduled to last the entire eight-weeks, of the University of Illinois summer school term. After losing the initial week in trying to get things organized, the crucial blow came when we were called upon by the Coalition, to render our services to a voter registration drive, that covered the last three weeks. The survey was carried out in various precincts to find out:

- 1) The number of eligible people registered to vote in each household.
- 2) The number of eligible people not registered to vote, in each household.
- 3) The number of people in each household, that would be eligible to vote by November 7, 1972.

We carried out this task very successfully, but only spent about four weeks doing our research thing.

There were also other minor problems over the eight-week period, such as crew members striking ill at times, there were personal problems, and problems with our interviewers etc...We could not work progressively with the already established Urban League committees, like we had planned, because people were generally busy, or out of town on business or vacation or likewise. Besides, this was an on-going project for the Urban League committees, therefore, their tasks were carried out indefinitely. On the other hand, we had to cram everything into the eight weeks that were allowed to us. We knew that it was impossible to sufficiently cover these huge problem areas, in the time granted to us. This is why we only covered specific portions of the problem areas mentioned. However, I think that the best possible results could have been attained, if the Urban League had recruited more planning

oriented students. It seemed hard at times to keep the crew committed to these urban problems, which is possibly my fault since I was the co-ordinator. In all, I do feel that this was indeed a great experience for me, and I am sure that the Urban League will benefit from this experience.

Last but not least, I will close with the following recommendations:

- 1) Maintain contact with the Urban Leagues of neighboring cities, exchanging help when needed.
- 2) The Black community badly needs a fire station, a co-op grocery store, and more recreation facilities.
- 3) More community committee people should work closely with the professional planner.
- 4) More black teachers are needed.
- 5) Need a sanitation department (could mean more job openings).

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