

David R. Auble – “An Open Letter to the Black Brothers and Sisters” –Vol. I No. 1 pg. 2, 10, 12, September 1968

There has been a very natural and beneficial separation of our races recently and we certainly find no fault with this. You have been by yourselves developing Black awareness and standing strong with brace eyes shining from Black faces with pride in that Blackness. Yours has been a journey of the body and mind about which only you can know the beauty and the ugliness. Taking the advice offered by your leaders in the mid 1960's we have left you to pursue the cause of Afro-Americans while we took a long hard look at white USA and our role in it.

We haven't enjoyed the picture we have rotten from our study. America the beautiful is polluted and befouled by the insatiable industrial giants devouring the very life-blood of our peoples. America the free saw young men impressed into the military disservices to fight a repressive war against the heroic peoples of a foreign land with whom our boy's had no quarrel. We saw America the just convicting Huey Newton of society's crime. We saw a sick country where a plague called “Law and Order,” a new way to say “nigger” and an excuse to beat kids in Chicago, was sweeping the nation. We saw two political conventions where democracy was supplanted by political bossism and selections by coercion. This repressive society with its pigs and class idiocy turned our stomachs.

We studied, and bled and continued to exist in a repressive environment. You renewed a cultural pride, and bled, and continued to exist in a repressive society. It is now very apparent that we all, Black and white together, are going to face the question of our existence. The time is at hand when we must stand together in a common front to oppose the repressive society. Black people look at us. We are no longer in the main stream of American life and our position is irrevocable. We can never be Black, but we begin to understand what you have been trying to tell us about screwed up America.

Now we should talk frankly about the things that must be settled in order that we can join together. We cannot tell you how to conduct your movement, but we can honestly and openly discuss with you our concern over the future directions of our joint endeavor. It is our fervent hope that some of our experiences can be put to your service. And with reciprocity on your part we too can be enriched.

Everyday some petty politico tries to buy not only Black votes, but Black bodies and souls by promising “Black capitalism” and a “piece of the action.” Many Blacks, with souls reborn out of the civil rights movement, buy this ploy as the answer to yours of hard labor and busted skulls. We contend that this “piece of the action” is just a disguise to be used in the continued manipulation and repression of black people. Let's take a good hard look at that “piece of the action.”

A million or so Black men in the heart of a city, unemployed and poor are a meaningful threat to the present system. They cannot be ruled or controlled except by force to which they can respond in kind. But alas, someone comes up with the bright idea, why not employ these people, give them satisfactory [homes] and maybe let them have their own businesses. Once this is done the wealthy white man can exercise all of the societal and economic controls possible by virtue of the magnitude of white number and wealth. That is the mainstream. It's food in your belly, carpet on your floor, and a car in your garage. It is also sick. It is an end to your dignity, and end to your right to individual thought and an end to your creativity. We know. We've been in that oppressive bag.

Capitalism, modified but no more palatable, is the same economic system that gave us slavery and "sweat-shops." It has spawned a concentration of social elitism that is responsible for ghettos and unchecked official violence. This same despicable elitism has carried through to frightening sham called representative government.

Freedom!! Friends, until the people control the means of production and until the people have full control of the institutions there is no freedom. We can no longer tolerate the intolerable. Now is the time to make a radical departure and create a truly participatory democracy.

"Freedom Now" is our cry and humanity will be our beneficiary. Let us join together. The time for holding hands and singing songs like young lovers are wont to do is past. Now is the time to stand shoulder to shoulder and go forth with unraised fists like only young warriors can.