

RECRUITMENT OF RESIDENCE HALL STAFF

Penni Johnson

Throughout the 1968-1969 academic year, Indiana University has devoted considerable time to a basic theme, FOCUS: BLACK AMERICA. In addition to the obvious educational benefit for the University community, the FOCUS project apparently will result in a more cosmopolitan student body encompassing greater numbers of students from all races and ethnic backgrounds. To keep pace with this changing population, the Residence Halls Counseling and Activities Office would like to achieve greater representation of all races and ethnic backgrounds on its residence hall staff.

In the past, recruiting procedures that relied in large part upon the initiative of the applicant have not produced large numbers of staff from minority groups. Thus, in hopes of achieving a more cosmopolitan staff and in hopes of providing greater opportunity for graduate study at Indiana University, a more active plan for staff recruitment is now underway.

Personal contact has been made already with students and staff at Alabama State College, Stillman College, and Tuskegee Institute. At present, recruiting teams from the residence hall staff would like to visit Wilberforce University, Central State University of Ohio, Fisk University, George Peabody College, and Tennessee Agricultural and Industrial State University. Included in the proposed recruitment teams will be representatives of the several levels of staff currently operating in the residence halls, as well as individuals knowledgeable about the graduate school and life at Indiana University.

Teams will be seeking to recruit not only black students who are interested in Student Personnel Administration, but also those who are interested in other areas of graduate study with the possibility of working as a Resident Assistant. In addition to this effort, alumni and friends are asked to encourage interested and qualified black students to consider graduate study at Indiana University and to seek graduate assistantships in the residence halls.

COULD OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM BE WORKING

Thomas R. Fiutak

Across the country, college students absorb the brunt of their parents' attack on the American system of higher education. This is because of the apparently flagrant violation of the objectives of higher education by conspicuous students. The problem that the students confront in defense of being students is a matter of definition. What past generations have termed "objectives" of higher education, and what is the current objective may differ in two ways: First, from the standpoint of relevancy and second, from the viewpoint of whoever is defining the objectives. It is this discrepancy of viewpoints which accounts for the reaction of the general population toward the attitudes of today's college students.

The problem of relevancy is opposed to time-honored ethics. Denying one's own immediate pleasure for higher future goals is a basic rationale for hard work. Denying the immediate is viewed by today's student as being superficial. Therefore, to define the goals which the past generation thought appropriate a rhetoric has been used which pictured the student as looking beyond the present and toward some greater, often vague, reward.

These goals have become irrelevant to many students and because of this students have incurred the wrath of adults who use the rationale of hard work as the basis for life. Students who enter college today have a scope of interests provided by today's communications that is as varied as the world news and as current as "now". This awareness has crept onto campuses because as members of a micro-community in the larger society of the world, students come to college with a desire to learn what life is all about, as well as p-orbitals, tensile strengths, and shorthand. Not satisfied to learn about a subject, students demand to experience sociology, to see a virus, and to challenge a computer. In short, students demand that the campus be relevant to life.