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Attention: Dr. Gerbner

Date: 10/18/95

From: Offie Wortham, PhD.

Number of pages: 4

Additional comments:

Thank you very much for the materials. Tonight my mind will be digesting your research, and out will come a series of exciting workshops

and activities for youth & adults.

I'll send you the finished product.

Offie Wortham

Local Resident Publishes Major Article

- APPENDIX D -

Offie Wortham, of Countryside in Sterling, has written a unique article entitled, "*Valedictorians: Profiles of Excellence*" for the prestigious Bulletin of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Circulation was to all middle and high schools in the country. The article, which was a summary of almost three years of research, was also published in the May issue of the organizations' magazine for student leaders, *Student Activities*.

The article was significant, because Dr. Wortham had Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Howard, Georgetown and George Washington Universities distribute a four page questionnaire that he had designed to all students in their 1985 freshman class who had been high school valedictorians. Valedictorians from more than 111 high schools, 29 states, and six foreign countries completed and returned the survey. This information coupled with a six-month literature search at CEEB, ETS, Phi Beta Kappa, MENSA, NEA, and the federal Information Retrieval Center at Columbia University, supplied Dr. Wortham with more data on the life- styles and habits of Valedictorians than anyone else nationwide.

The findings show many things, among them the conclusion that when the performance of students whose parents have the same educational level is compared - *there are no significant ethnic group differences in performance*. More than 94 percent of the students wrote that the most important thing parents could do was to help their children develop a love for learning and to give them all the freedom of expression needed to promote curiosity and self-confidence.

Study patterns, TV viewing, dating, student activities, access to cars, the effect of working, birth order, pre-school education, and even sun-signs were examined in the research. Copies of the article can be obtained by contacting Dr. Wortham at 3 Glengyle Lane, Sterling, VA 22170, or by calling 430-6246. Future editions of the Loudoun Times Mirror will possibly carry excerpts from the book that Dr. Wortham is writing which highlights individual comments directly from the students.

Valedictorians, "*Profiles of Excellence*" for
(NASSP).

CAREER SUMMARY

Versatile project manager and administrator with a proven ability to take programs from concept to tangible end results. Experience with diverse public and private organizations has been concentrated on creating human relations programs focused on conflict resolution, interracial education, crime prevention, accessing educational objectives as well as a wide range of organizational and community development projects. Grantsmanship and fundraising has been an integral part of most projects.

- CHRONOLOGY -

Educational Consultant: 1982-95 - Designed and marketed workshops and seminars on Trans-Cultural Awareness© and Multiculturalism to high schools, colleges and businesses. As an Organizational Development Specialist, worked as a Senior Editor/Writer with Unisys, AT&T Bell Labs, IBM Marketing, Trenton Board of Education, and Martin Marietta Astro Space. Presently, structuring HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing project in Philadelphia.

National Conference of Christians and Jews (NCCJ), Georgia Region

Program Director: 1980-82 - Developed Human Relations programs and visibility for organization. Initiated and managed city-wide seminars and Trans-Cultural Workshops© for officials in the criminal justice system, private industry, academia, and social and religious organizations for the peaceful settlement of Cuban refugees in Georgia following an uprising in Miami, Florida.

Girl Scouts, USA, New York City

Internal Consultant on Interracial Education: 1978-80 - Wrote proposals and training programs for 160,000 volunteers and 6,000 paid staff. Wrote Management By Objectives (MBO) guidelines for the National Office. Designed and wrote proposals for the Executive Directors of the Girl Scouts and the National Urban League for a nationwide joint program. Conceptualized and conducted racial awareness workshops, seminars, conferences and retreats for all national staff and field directors. At request of the Executive Director, redesigned entire national training program for all volunteers to qualify training for accreditation. Wrote Girl Scout manual for Training the Trainer.

Youth Services Commission/Mayor's Criminal Justice Improvement Team, Philadelphia

Dir. of Planning/Research: 1976-78 - Wrote plan to coordinate 160 youth serving agencies. Represented Mayor Rizzo and Managing Director at meetings nationwide and at Scotland Yard. Conceptualized and implemented the first computerized program in the world to predict where burglaries would occur in a city. Lowered burglary rate by 20% for the next 3 years in Philadelphia.

Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc. (OIC), Philadelphia

Special Project Director: 1975-76 - Administered \$100,000.00 grant with staff of eight on special 6 month assignment conducting nation-wide research effort to create an alternative youth community (OLYMPUS) for incarcerated young adults for the Pennsylvania Department of Welfare.

Pennsylvania Law & Justice Institute, Philadelphia

Associate Director and Coordinator: 1973-75 - Worked closely with top law enforcement officials and judges to design and manage three statewide retreats in the Poconos on criminal justice system improvement. Conceptualized and directed a city-wide conference at Temple University to completely reorganize the Neighborhood Watch Program in Philadelphia. KYW "Man of the Day."

National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students (NSSFNS), New York City

Director of Systems and Research: 1971-72 - Supervised and directed four programmers in the design and implementation of a project which "matched" 50,000 students, from 28,000 high schools, with 3,000 colleges and technical schools. Funded by HEW and the CEEB.

Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio

Director of Interracial Education: 1969-71 - Administered \$300,000 annual Rockefeller and HEW program for 102 "high-risk" students. Formulated policy for administration, faculty, and students for affirmative action program for college (The New Direction Program). Produced a model program (on file in ERIC) for colleges attempting to work with culturally and economically diverse students. Academic administration included curriculum development, creation of university-wide diagnostic and counseling center, and implementation of supportive services for all students. Institutionalized program before funding ended. Organized national conference of administrators of special programs from Alaska to Puerto Rico with CEEB grant.

Arthur D. Little (ADL) and City of East Cleveland, Ohio

Human Relations Specialist: 1968-69 - Operated storefront office on interface of fastest changing community in the nation changing from white to black. Worked with city officials to help people-of-color peacefully assume proportional representation in the city and school administrative structures. Program success chronicled in a two-page article in The New York Times.

White Plains Community Action Program (CAP), White Plains, New York

Community Organizer and Poverty Center Director: 1966-68 - Organized community center in depressed area of White Plains, NY. Cited in Congressional Record for activities at high school to control and re-direct 2,000 students and staff following the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- EDUCATION -

Ph.D. Interracial Education Administration ... The Union Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1974.

(Dissertation on file in Dissertation Abstracts International, University of Mich., Ann Arbor, and on-line through ERIC at Columbia University Teachers College.)

BA International Relations/Political Science ... San Francisco State University, 1966.

Physics Major ... Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, 1959-61.

Cert. Computer Technology ... The IBM Electronics Apprenticeship Program (2 1/2 yr.)

New York State Regents Diploma in Art from high school, Peekskill, NY.