

Collegian Offers Mini-Research

Inter-racial Marriage

This column is the seventh of a series of articles in an attempt to make known to the population at Behrend College and Behrend Collegian readers elsewhere, results of a mini-research projects done primarily by students in sociology courses.

by Salvador A. Parco

It is often said that the hope for racial integration in America lies among the youth. If this is so, the young people now should be more favorable towards, or even willing to personally go into, inter-racial marriage, than their elders. Young college students have especially been known for their liberalism. But is this necessarily true for the young college students in the Erie area?

Kathy Meyers (5th term, Sociology), of 8590 East Lake Rd., Erie, Pa., interviewed 76 persons - 32 blacks and 44 whites - last fall term to find out. Respondents were students of Behrend, Gannon, Mercyhurst and Edinboro colleges, and non-college students interviewed on a non-random basis. Kathy, the interviewer, is white.

While the sample (76) is quite small, the results may suggest something to the reader.

Only four out of ten respondents would consider marriage with a person belonging to the other race. Compared to a national Harris poll conducted in 1970, it can be said that there is an increasing willingness on the part of some Americans to integrate in the bedroom. In the 1970 poll, 72 per cent of white Americans opposed to a close friend's or relative's marriage to a black. (Time, April 6, 1974)

Age Factor

The hypothesis that those under 21 years of age would be more for inter-racial marriage than those who were 21 or older was not proven. There was no statistically significant difference between the two age groups. In fact, the percentages would tend to reverse the hypothesis, because 43 per cent of those 21 years and over considered inter-racial marriage, while only 37 per cent of those under 21 did so.

Sex may be a factor in accepting or rejecting inter-racial marriage. The males, regardless of age group, were found to be more liberal than the females. However, although 69 per cent of the males who were 21 and over were for inter-racial marriage, the difference between them and those who were under 21 was not

statistically significant. The females were substantially against inter-racial marriage. But among females who favored this arrangement, there were more who were under 21 years (33 per cent) than those who were 21 or above (21 per cent).

Both black and white respondents were predominantly opposed to inter-racial marriage. In both racial groups, more than 50 per cent of either age groups were similarly opposed to miscegenation. Among those under 21, there were more whites (69 per cent) than blacks (56 per cent) who would consider marriage to one of another race. Nonetheless, these differences were not statistically significant.

Education

Longer exposure to college education might encourage black-white marriages. In fact, in this study the students who were 21 years or over were far more receptive to inter-racial marriage than any other age group in or out of college. Nevertheless, the 63 per cent of the students who were 21 years old or over is still much lower than the 78 per cent of college students found in a survey conducted for the Boston Globe in 1970 who approved of inter-racial marriages.

Residence was significant only insofar as the urban dwellers were concerned, especially among respondents who were 21 years or over. This group was predominantly against inter-racial marriage. Among those under 21, residence did not matter - there were more against than for inter-racial marriage.

While six out of ten respondents would disapprove of black-white marriages, 32 per cent of them would date or allow their son or daughter to date with a person of the other race. If inter-racial mating was inevitable, dating and marriage between a white female and black male were more favored than dating and marriage between a black woman and a white man.

Love vs. Color

While some may argue that "love has no color" or "race is no object", a great deal of reluctance on the part of both races to go into matrimony with one of another race seems to be based on one's upbringing. Socialization in the family, in the schools, even in the church, tends to impress upon the individual that to enter into such an inter-racial marital

arrangement would threaten the comfortable status quo. Apprehensions about how offsprings of such a union would be treated by "society" still plague most of those who think negatively about an inter-racial marriage.

The fact that all but two respondents were willing to allow their children to play with children of another race is a sign that the boundaries are loosening. When two people who have the same education and family backgrounds fall in love, perhaps it is not a matter of race after all but of social class. Perhaps in another generation or so...

Flash...Behrend Streakers

Perry Hall scores another first for Behrend. As you know, Perry is number one in such educational supplements as snow ball battles, keggers and the good life in general. And now Perry has, shall we say, run the gauntlet.

It so happened a week ago Wednesday night that certain Perry partiers, we shall remain anonymous in name however, there's "still the same old faces", became somewhat dismayed about the disheartening phenomenon known as the empty

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PSU Baseball

Several members of Penn State's football team could help the baseball team this year. Quarterback John Clark is in contention for the third base job, defensive end Gary Hager could be the regular catcher and wide receiver Rich Koegal might win the first base job.

Pitching could again be a strong suit for the Lions despite the absence of Brian Masella, the team's top left-hander. Masella has decided to pass up baseball this year in favor of spring football practice. That leaves senior Tom Kirch as Medlar's only experienced lefthanded pitcher.

Medlar has some excellent right handers to throw at the opposition. The top man is Mitch Lukevics, who compiled a 7-2 record and had a 1.23 earned run average as a freshman last year. Senior John Maier (5-1,2.11) will be the number two man. Medlar also expects help from sophomore Steve Correll (2-0, 1.61) and freshman Steve Nielson.



Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Would you believe a Behrend student streaking faster than a speeding bullet through dinner one night last week?

keg syndrome. In order not to waste a congenial mood, and since there was very little moonlight to speak of, a new organization was formed, appropriately named Behrend's Accentuated Rear End Association of Serene Streakers. The stage was set, the lines were drawn, the moment of truth was at hand. Suddenly Flash, our precociously attired leader, shouted the awe inspiring words that would carry us step by naked step, yard by frosty yard, dorm to glaring dorm, "Come on Perry, let's show 'em what we got." All of us streakers were all s-m-i-l-e-s.

Out the door flew ten of Perry's

finest, clad in only our pride, what little we had left. Most wore hats, some sported goggles or scarves and there was an abundance of belts holding up non-existent pants.

Round Perry we flew, to Niagara we dashed, through Lawrence we posed for an occasional flash from the camera of some shutterbug hoping to catch the cheeky situation.

Upon our return, it was decided we were tired but not cold as most spectators thought might be the case.

The bare facts are, it was fun, something to do and "a rush". The guy's in Perry have pointed the way, now it's your turn girls.

Bus Chartered For Cleveland Theater

On Saturday evening April 20 Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* will be shown at the Cleveland Playhouse. Chartered buses will leave the Reed lot at 5 p.m. sharp and return at approximately 1:30

a.m. A ticket and round-trip transportation cost \$6.00 per person. The deadline for purchasing tickets is Thurs., Mar. 28. Anyone interested should return the coupon and money to Mr. Arno Selco.

Name	_____
Address	_____
Phone	_____
No. of places	_____
Amount enclosed	_____

Friday Studying Anyone

In its effort to become more active this year, the Keystone Honor Society is once again sponsoring a quiet place for students to study on Friday nights. This week the Seminar room in the RUB will be opened from 8-10 p.m. for all Behrend students wishing to study.

Keystone is also very busy discussing plans for the annual award banquet to be held later this term.

Anyone interested in working on the newspaper please see Linda Johnson

SGA Con't. . .

secretary-treasurer. Applications can be obtained at the RUB desk or in the SGA office.

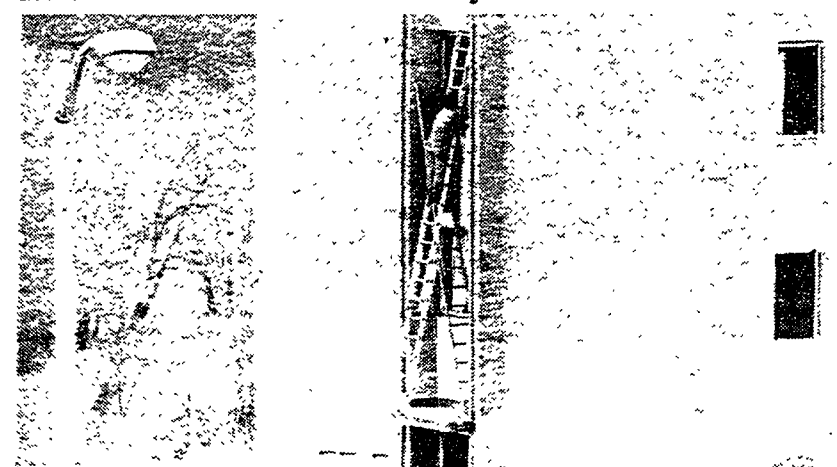
Soon, Behrend Students will see a voting booth in the RUB. Students will be voting on two topics. The first and main objective is the amendment of the SGA constitution to alter the positions of the executive board. The second point on the ballot will be to vote for branch campus positions although no one from Behrend is running.

President Mike Chircuzio mentioned his talk with members

of the administration about the thru way signs which are supposed to be put on major highways.

A third reminder was made to all clubs and organizations to get their budgets into SGA by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 27. Anyone who does not submit a budget by then will not be included when distributing funds.

A final request was made to any students interested in physical manpower for the Spring Arts Festival they are to stop in the SGA office or contact any SGA member.



Is vandalism really contagious? Well first of all it hit Perry Hall. Now it has rather mysteriously hit third floor Niagara. Will it go to Lawrence Hall next? Let's hope not.

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