

Sugg. busing

Jan. 17, 1975

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Mayor Kevin H. White,
Boston Mass.
Dear Mayor
and Dear Friend:

When people move into a neighborhood they just naturally expect their children to go to a neighborhood school. They can often be taken, and called for after school in safety. This gives parents and children the peace of mind that makes life a little happier and easier for all concerned. If our Constitution and the Bill of Rights assures us of "Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness", then haven't parents every right, especially for the safety of their children, to the freedom of choice as to which schools parents and their children will feel safe and happy with?

The real issue is, or should be, quality education in every neighborhood school. To achieve this, why not start the bussing of highly qualified teachers around to the various schools, and not the children and students. As most teachers have automobiles, all that bussing money could be saved. With our country now pleading to conserve gasoline and oil, the situation now is just ridiculous. With hundreds and hundreds of busses chasing around in our cities, it is just about giving the majority of people everything they don't need and don't want - - among which are fear, hatred, violence, bloodshed, foul air pollution, traffic congestion, accidents, the wasting of fuel and oil, the wasting of tax-payers' money on bussing contracts and drivers, more and more police, state police, and guards, etc. for protection.

We are playing a dangerous "numbers game" with our children's lives with the idea that there should be a certain number of this kind of children and a certain number of that kind of children, a certain number of blacks and whites. This is nothing but a dangerous numbers game with our children's lives.

Our great democracy functions and is based on the idea that the majority rules and not the vociferous and articulate minorities who are forcing the majority to their will by their pressure tactics. If the minorities are opposed to the majority rule they are free to leave our country. If the Supreme Court insists on forced bussing, isn't this in effect inflicting cruel and unusual punishment on the majority of people? It will be like the saying, "the operation was successful but the patient died." Parents could never accept this. The Bill of Rights is supposed to protect us against this. Laws are made for the benefit of the people and not the other way round.

The way to achieve integration in safety and happiness is to start with the kindergarten classes and first graders and then work up through the elementary classes. Little children just naturally love each other, and love to play together, so parents would not fear for their safety. As for the teen agers, integration would be peaceful and come naturally when they understand the meaning of brotherly love which includes tolerance. Teen agers can readily understand that there could be no enjoyment of any sports or athletics, if there were no rules, laws, or regulations to follow, so in order to enjoy life itself we need to follow the rules and laws of brotherly love,

tolerance, respect, justice, that quality education should bring. and quality education could bring this if all the school classes ^{programs} would include periods of study and discussion on such vital subjects as ethics (knowing the difference between right and wrong), spiritual and moral values in life, comparative religions (no creeds or dogma), and the part that religion and prayer played in the lives of our greatest men and women, and in establishing and developing this great country. We strongly urge that the above subjects and courses of study be included in the programs of all our schools and prisons and other institutions. Wouldn't this lay the foundation for brotherly love that is so badly needed before we can have a peaceful and meaningful school integration? We believe that this, along with a moment of silent prayer (again, no creeds or dogmas) before and after these periods of ethical studies would make not only happier and healthier students and people, but a happier and healthier country and economy as well.

Respectfully yours,

