

Continued Singing Of Dixie Constitutes Intentional Insult

Dear Editor:

I am a white student who is thoroughly disgusted with the insensitivity of the whites who claim that they are not racists, yet cling to the specious argument that the majority should prevail on the Dixie issue.

Let me offer an analogy—something that might happen even to a white man. Suppose that my name is William and that I despise the nickname Bill. Every time someone calls me Bill, I get furious, although I realize that no offense is intended. This attitude may be foolish or strange, but it is not subject to arbitration by the majority. If I tell a person that the name Bill is offensive to me, he can do one of two things: (1) he can stop calling me Bill, thus demonstrating the bare minimum of respect for my feelings, or (2) he can continue to call me Bill; but, if he does, he cannot pretend that no offense is meant — he is knowingly and intentionally insulting me. Invoking the majority opinion on the name Bill is totally irrelevant.

If a Black man tells you that Dixie is offensive to him, and you continue singing Dixie, you are intentionally insulting him. An intentional insult to a Black man is racism, and no amount of rationalizing will change that.

The great silent majority on this campus had better do some soul-searching and try to be honest with themselves for once. This genteel racism is just as dangerous as violent overt racism, because it permits gunslinging punks to believe that their vicious acts are approved by the majority. Anyone who sings Dixie now is an accessory to the attempted murder of last Friday night — you cannot wash off the guilt by saying that someone else's finger was on the trigger.

And you cannot wash off the guilt by saying that Dixie is only a fight song for school spirit, especially after the revolting display of undisguised hatred staged last

Friday at the corner of Arkansas Ave. and Dickson. The abuse was not limited to blacks. The Kappa Sigs had so much hatred to dispense that the few blacks on campus were not a big enough target. They shouted their vicious obscenities at freaks, peaceniks, and any other white suspected of being a 'nigger lover.' If the administration of this University really wants to combat racism and prevent a bloody riot, a very good first step would be to expel Kappa Sigma from the campus immediately and permanently. Hundreds of witnesses could be found to confirm the hate-mongering reported above. And freedom of speech is no defense for KS — a person who yells 'fire' in a crowded theater is not exercising freedom of speech; he is inciting a riot.

That kind of poison will make the whole community uninhabitable, for whites as well as blacks.

I do not like to be a white Uncle Tom, but I am truly afraid viciousness that a black man faces to expose myself to the kind of every day. Please do not print my name.

Name Withheld

No More

By GERALD JORDAN

The second shot has been fired. This one, fired by what was perhaps an enraged bigot, felled an innocent man. The UofA black student, who is presently recuperating in the hospital from a gunshot wound, isn't likely to forget that he was shot by a person yelling "Nigger, get off the street."

The Dixie issue revealed the widespread polarization between blacks and whites, which clog progress on this campus. The shooting, which occurred Friday night, merely sharpened this polarization to crystal clarity. There's no doubt . . . the struggle is now on the basis of black versus white, or more popularly niggers versus

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