

# THIS MONTH

September's Community Calendar presents a current analysis of the **Bakke Decision** by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD). As schools and workplaces resume operations this fall, the effects of the Bakke decision on minority people, especially youth looking for education, training, or work, will be felt. The certain dismantling of affirmative action admission and hiring programs will undoubtedly lead to increased struggle against this racist attack on equal opportunity and democratic rights. See the other side of this month's calendar for more on the meaning of the Bakke case.

**Prisoners in the Folsom Adjustment Center**—the "Hole"—have been on strike since July 11 against inhuman conditions in the maximum security section.

People can help put pressure on the prison authorities to improve conditions and meet prisoners' demands by writing J. Enomoto, Director of Corrections, 715 "P" Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, as well as congressional representatives. There will be a special support program on Sept 13, and a Folsom prisoners' radio program each Sunday (see listings). For more information, contact the Folsom Strike Support Committee, PO Box 31223, SF, CA 94131, or call 626-3131. There will be a support demonstration, see September 9 listing.

The **Teamsters Strike Against Safeway Corporation** has spread from warehousemen and drivers at the Richmond district center to Lucky's, Alpha Beta, and Ralph's markets. Safeway has reportedly hired an "army of goons" and private security guards to intimidate strikers. There have been many beatings and serious injuries, and one picket was run over and killed in Vacaville. Support the Safeway workers' struggle for decent working conditions by not shopping at any of these stores. For more information on how you can help, contact the Teamsters for a Democratic Union Strike Support Committee at 652-0263.

**FRI 1** "Trip to Tibet!" Jack Service, former US Foreign Service Officer to China, will speak about his recent trip to Tibet, as the keynote speaker of the 1978 Convention of the US-China Peoples Friendship Association, 51.50, 8:30 pm, Jack Tar Hotel, SF, childcare available, for more info call 863-0537.

"Where We're Coming From," by Marcia Bryant and Charmaine Crowell, a statement by two black artists about the arts and their struggle to maintain their dignity in the acting industry at La Peña Cultural Center, 8:30 pm, \$3.50, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

"Fua Dia Congo!" African Dance Concert sponsored by Everybody's Creative Center, 9 pm, \$3 general, 354 21st, Oak.

1800: Gabriel Prosser leads a mass slave revolt in Virginia.

1865: 400 Dakota and Cheyenne warriors led by Sitting Bull attack a force of 2,000 soldiers led by cols. Cole and Walker, driving the troops south and inflicting much damage.

1961: Liberation Front of Eritrea begins guerrilla operations.

**SAT 2** Noon 6 Orientation Workshop, sponsored by East Bay Alliance Against the Briggs Initiative (EBACABI) at 3250 Adeline Street, Berk, 10 am, free, childcare available. 3

Maggie Kuhn Speaks on China, founder of the Gray Panthers and recently returned from her second trip to China, she will speak on "The Role of the Elderly in Social Change in China," 8 pm, \$1.50, Jack Tar Hotel, SF, childcare available.

"A Day to Remember: August 28, 1963," marks the 15th anniversary of civil rights march on Washington, DC where Martin Luther King, Jr delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech on KQED-TV channel 9 at 7 pm.

"The Louisiana Playboys," a Cajun Fiesta with music from Bayou country, the irresistible rhythm of the Black/French community in the Louisiana Delta by the best Cajun band west of the Mississippi, La Peña, 9:30 pm, \$5, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Repeat Taft-Hartley Picnic & Rally, sponsored by Local 164 Molders and Allied Workers Union and Equal Rights Council, speeches, food, entertainment, 1-5 pm, free, Diamond Park on Fruitvale above MacArthur, Oak. 3

Keith Jarrett: Vermont Solo. Jazz pianist Jarrett in an outdoor concert featuring his own compositions, improvisations, 11 pm, KQED-TV channel 9.

Joy of Movement, free dance, music and drama workshops all day at Everybody's Creative Center, starting at 10 am at 354 21st Street, Oak, call 451-1230 for more info.

1945: After driving the Japanese from their land, the Vietnamese, led by Ho Chi Minh, declare the independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

1921: W. Va. miners strike. Mine owners' airplanes bomb striking miners.

**SUN 3** "Trade Unions and US-China Relations," as part of the US-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) 1978 Convention, labor leaders will speak on this subject. Other topics include "Factory Life in China," and "China's Agriculture," and a festival of recent films, call 647-2706 for more info.

Chôro, Brazilian carnival music, the street music of the '30s in Brasil taking its life from the people, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9 pm, \$2. 3

"Democracy and Human Rights in China," Stanford professor Victor Li, having spent this summer in China will speak, 8 pm, \$1.50, Jack Tar Hotel, SF, childcare available.

1972: El Paso, Texas. La Raza Unida holds its first national convention with over 3000 attending.

1921: 700 miners battle hundreds of hired gunmen.

1969: Death of Ho Chi Minh.

"State of Emergency/Prison Poets," a radio program providing a "critical communications link between prisoners and the people of California," and featuring updates on the Folsom prisoners' strike, with Max Schwartz, also a listener call-in, on KPFA radio, 94 FM, 10 pm to 12 midnight every Sunday.

# SEPTEMBER 78

**MON 4** People's Wall, on channel 9 Open Studio, is a film by the Haught-Ashbury Film Collective about a local mural titled "Our History is No Mystery," 8:30 pm.

1893: Panic of '93, a recession hits the US closing 400 banks in six months; for the next four years of depression, five million workers are unemployed.

1962: Rio Grande Valley farmworkers arrive at Texas state capital after 400-mile march demanding \$1.25/hr minimum wage.

1970: Chile, election of Marxist president Salvador Allende in open election.

1896: Geronimo, Apache, and his band, surrendered after years of resistance.

**TUE 5** "Tupamaros," directed by Jan Lindqvist in cooperation with the Tupamaros of Uruguay, this 1972 film takes a view of this renowned urban guerrilla organization from the inside, also being shown in *In the Jungle There's Lots to Do* with a presentation by David Hathaway, 8:30 pm, \$2, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

People's Wall, see September 4 listing.

1917: Following US entry into WWI, federal police begin arresting outlaw leaders, over 200 are sentenced to 10 to 20 year terms in prison.

1877: Crazy Horse murdered by soldiers.

1882: First Labor Day parade in US held in NYC, 30,000 men and women march.

**WED 6** Benefit for African Liberation Support Committee, an evening of revolutionary culture with the Family Nitoto, a slide show from Karabo (Azanians in exile), speeches and more, 8 pm, \$2 donation, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

1972: The Northwest Territories Supreme Court rules that native people hold aboriginal rights to over 400,000 square miles of the western Arctic.

**THU 7** Terry Garthwaite, Bobbie Hawkins and Rosalie Sorrels, an evening of music and tales by these three terrific artists, 8:30 pm, \$3, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

"The Battle of Chile," a film about the Popular Unity years in Chile, benefit showing for La Peña Cultural Center Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berk, 7:30 pm, \$3.50 at the door, \$3 in advance, call 835-0810 for more info.

1878: Northern Cheyennes who were sent to Indian Territory for their part in the Custer Battle, start the trek back home under chiefs Dull Knife and Little Wolf.

**FRI 8** Irwin Silber & Clay Newlin debate on building the new communist party, sponsored by the Bay Area Guardian Club and the Bay Area Coordinating Body, each speaker will give a half-hour speech, a 15-minute rebuttal, and be questioned by a panel, 7:30 pm, \$2 donation, Everett Junior High School, 450 Church, SF, childcare available. 3

Testify Against the Kruggerand at the Board of San Francisco hearings on a resolution to urge electronic and printed media not to advertise the coin, at 2 pm, call 834-5767 for more info.

Workers and Professionals Solidarity Dinner, sponsored by California Homemakers Association's organizing drive for low-income workers, spaghetti dinner, door prizes, entertainment, speakers, St Joseph Church, San Pablo and 32nd, Berk, 5 to 8 pm, \$2 donation, \$6 per family, childcare available, call Michelle at 654-7020. 3

Barbara Hammer Films, sponsored by the East Bay Area Coalition Against The Briggs Initiative. No on 6 at 3250 Adeline, Berk, 8:30 pm, \$2.50, childcare available. 3

Peña International, an informal evening of music initiated by the talented cultural workers of La Peña and created to encourage an exchange of cultural and political experiences in our community, 9 pm, \$1 includes a glass of wine, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

A Feminist Poster Show, sponsored by Goodman's Artworks Gallery; the posters are by the Women's Graphic Collective of Chicago and Red Pepper Posters of SF, 5:30-9:30 pm, free at 1121 Geary, SF. 3

Women in Music Festival, sponsored by the Berkeley Women's Health Collective with the Any Old Time String Band and Honey Creek, 9 pm, \$3, beer and wine available, at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, Berk, everyone welcome. 3

1965: Delano, Ca: Five-year strike against the grape growers begins with walkout by Filipino farmworkers (UFW).

**SAT 9** Workers' Conference Against the Briggs Initiative, sponsored by ABACABI, Union WAGE, Gay Caucus Local 2 and others, for straight, gay, organized and unorganized workers, 9 am registration, free, conference is all day, Mission High, 18th and Dolores, SF. Call for childcare 285-1803 or 552-5245. 3

"The Battle of Chile," a film about the Popular Unity years in Chile, a benefit showing for the Chile Newsletter, published by Non-Intervention in Chile, 7:30 pm, \$3 advance available at La Peña and Modern Times Bookstore, \$3.50 at the door, Horace Mann Jr High, Bartlett and 23rd, SF.

Interested in Health Care? The Berkeley Women's Health Collective is seeking new members. An introduction to the collective will be held from 11 am to 4 pm, bring a bag lunch, childcare available, call 843-1437 for more info. 3

The Battle for Bernal Heights, this program focuses on the attempts made by residents of the Bernal Heights district of SF to address new housing developments, KQED channel 9, 10:30 pm.

Sons and Daughters of Life, jazz concert at Everybody's Creative Center, 354 21st, Oak, \$2.50 general.

Vicki Randle, one of the strongest women's bands that have grown out of the vast wealth of musical talent in the Bay Area, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

**Demonstration in Support of Striking Folsom Prisoners**, sponsored by the Folsom Strike Committee. In support of striking Folsom prisoners. Speakers are Fleeta Drumgo, Luis Talamantes, David Johnson in front of Folsom Prison, Repesa, California.

Berkeley Women's Health Collective introductory meeting for women interested in becoming new members of the collective, which provides good health care for women and children, 2:08 Ellsworth, Berk, 10 am to 4 pm, childcare provided, free, call 843-0194 for more info. 3

1976: Death of Mao Tseung, leader of the Chinese revolution.

1971: Attica rebellion begins.

1919: Boston police strike.

**SUN 10** Workers' Conference Against the Briggs Initiative, see September 9 listing.

"To Brings or Not to Brings," broadcast live from KPFA's studios and simulcast at KPOO, a panel discussion on the Briggs Initiative with Angela Davis, Joseph Waller, Cecil Williams and others, with tapes of Senator Briggs, at 4 pm, KPFA-94 fm.

Women's Support Group, for former mental patients, 2-5 pm at 558 Capp Street, SF, sponsored by Network Against Psychiatric Assault.

Pena Benefit to Buy a Piano, an all keyboard contest highlighting piano, music from the classics, ragtime, jazz and social protest, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

"State of Emergency/Prison Poets," see Sept 3

1897: 19 striking miners in Lullwater, Pa. shot down by sheriff's deputies.

1975: Automobile carrying AIM members explodes. Government officials leak rumors that AIM group was en route to Oklahoma to assassinate President Ford.

**MON 11** Chile Special, on the 5th anniversary of the overthrow of the Allende government, radio station KPFA will have music and interviews, 6:45 pm, FM 94.

Free Chile Demonstration, to protest \$126 million in loans by Wells Fargo to the Chilean junta in 1978, held at Wells Fargo headquarters, 420 Montgomery, SF, at noon.

Chile Teach-In, a complete evening of programming to answer and discuss your questions about Chile, includes films, panel and music slides, 6:30-11:30, 50 cents donation, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Bay Area Interfaith Council (BAIC) Conference, on the state of community services after the dust has settled following Proposition 13 cuts, people working in areas of community service with city, alternative or religious community projects are urged to attend, at YWCA, 2134 Allston, Berk, call 841-0881 for more info.

Black Single Parents Rap Group, sponsored by Bananas at 3025 Shattuck, Berk, 7 pm, free, childcare available, contact Bananas at 548-4344 for more info.

Quillapayun, on KQEC channel 32, Chilean folk group sings new Latin American songs about Chilean peoples struggle, 8:30-9 pm.

1973: Chile, US-backed military against the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende. Allende was assassinated and Chile's move towards socialism temporarily stopped as severe repression now exists for all throughout Chile.

**TUE 12** Juan Antonio Coretejer Speaks, Secretary General of Liga Socialista Puertorriquena and one of the foremost revolutionary leaders of the Puerto Rican struggle for independence and socialism will speak at Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission, SF, 7 pm, sponsored by the October 30th Committee, in solidarity with Puerto Rico, childcare provided. Call 648-4974 for more info. 3

"We Are Arab Jews in Israel," made in 1977, this absorbing two-hour film examines the conditions, experiences, grievances, and hopes of Arab Jews who poured into the new state between 1948 and 1960, 7:30, 9:45, \$2, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th Street, SF. 3

Support Gay Rights, Berkeley City Council action on gay rights ordinance and resolution condemning Prop 6, 7:30 pm, Council Chamber, Grove & Allston, Berk. Call 655-3841 for more info.

Charito Planas Speaks, former LABAN Party candidate in the recent Philippine national elections speaks in a forum sponsored by the International Ass'n. of Filipino Patriots, and KDP, 7:30 pm, free at Glide Memorial Church Freedom Hall, 430 Ellis, SF. 3

Welfare Workshop, sponsored by ProPer Collective, how to apply for foodstamps, MediCal, AFDC, GA, 3:30-5:30 pm, South Berkeley Library, 1901 Russell, Berk.

Better Half, a program for older citizens, provides a much-needed voice for retired seniors who are lacking much needed information on services, and their fight for an equal place in the community, noon, KPFA FM 94.

"The Promised Land," directed by Miguel Littin in 1973, was produced during the Popular Unity years in Chile, based on events in the '30s when depression created social and economic upheaval and led to the first, short-lived, socialist republic in the Americas, presentation by Eric Leenson, 8:30 pm, \$2, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

The Long March, a program telling the story of the 1934-36 march in China and its role in the Chinese revolution, KQED channel 9.

Communists Workshop on fundraising at 2218 Off BLACK LEADER IN South Africa 843-4010 for more info. 3

1977: Steven Biko, black leader in South Africa, killed in prison.

**WED 13** Pedro Buskovic Speaks, co-manager of economy of Chile under the Popular Unity government of Salvador Allende, and current leader of the Socialist Party of Chile in exile, will speak at Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission Street, SF, 7 pm, \$2, \$1 unemployed, sponsored by Comite Chile en Lucha, childcare available. 3

Benefit for Folsom Prisoners on Strike, speakers, slide show, poets, music and food in commemoration of September 13, 1971 Attica prisoners' strike and massacre, sponsored by the Folsom Strike Committee at the People's Cultural Center, 721 Valencia, SF, 7:30 pm, \$3. 3

Benefit for AIM, a monthly event in support of the continuous struggle of Native Americans for their rights and land, current information on legal and legislative battles along with music and literature, 8 pm, \$2 donation, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

1966: Rebellion of slaves and indentured servants betrayed by house servant.

1971: Attica Rebellion crushed.

**THU 14** "Could They Kill Victor Jara?" A multimedia program using music, interviews, slides and commentary, presenting and continuing the work of Victor Jara, produced by La Peña with Rafael Manriquez, Louisa Teish, and others, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Collecting Unemployment, by the ProPer Collective, 7:30-9:30 pm, 1606 Bonita, Berk.

A Closer Look, channel 9 KQED looks at the attempt by Planned Parenthood to provide alternative funding for abortions for poor women, 7:30-8 pm, rebroadcast, 9 pm Ch 32.

1964: Free Speech Movement begins in Berkeley, Ca.

1971: Attica Massacre, Attica prison, NY. After holding four of five cell blocks for the past four days and negotiating with government authorities for basic democratic rights, Governor Nelson Rockefeller orders 1300 state troopers and the National Guard to attack the unarmed prisoners: 28 prisoners and nine guards murdered, 150 prisoners wounded and nine "missing" after the attack.

1918: Eugene Debs sentenced to ten years in prison for opposing US entrance into WWI.

**FRI 15** Free Chile Rally, at Glide Church, 330 Ellis, SF, 7:30 pm, sponsored by Free Chile Center, will feature Isabel Allende and Isabel Letelier with music by Pueblo Unido, \$3 in advance, \$3.50 at the door.

African Dance and Ensemble, the traditional and authentic music and dances of West Africa, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk, 9 pm, \$2, 3

1836: Pittsburgh, Pa. 5,000 women in cotton mills strike for the ten-hour day.

1963: Four black children killed in bombing of church in Birmingham, Alabama.

**SAT 16** Hail Five Years of Resistance in Chile, the program includes speeches, songs, and messages from the People's Front of Chile, 7:30 pm, free, at APUMEC Hall, 3256 E. 14th Street, Oak, call for childcare at 653-4840. 3

No on 6 Campaign Headquarters Open, come celebrate and find out what you can do to defeat Proposition 6, sponsored by the East Bay Alliance Against the Briggs Initiative, music, food and dancing, 8 pm, \$2.50 at 3250 Adeline, Berk, childcare available. 3

No on 6 Orientation Workshop, see September 2 listing.

No on 6 Open House, stop by and check it out from 10 to 4 pm at 3250 Adeline, Berk, call 653-9582 for more info.

Benefit Fiesta, with Mirasol and Caribbean steel drums of Pan Fever performing for human rights in Chile, at the Starrs Plough and La Peña \$3 admission to both events, \$2.50 in advance, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Benefit Garage Sale, by the East Bay Women for Peace and Northern California Alliance for Survival, 1220 Bonita, Berk, 10 am to 5 pm. 3

Orientation Program sponsored by the Medical Rights of Women Coalition, 10 am to noon at 4079A 24th Street, SF, call 285-0770 for more info.

"To be Young, Gifted and Black?" a Lorraine Hansberry film at Everybody's Creative Center, 354 21st Street, Oak, \$2 donation.

1810: Mexican Independence Day.

**SUN 17** Gay Health Workers Against the Briggs Initiative, a general meeting at Pacific Center, 2329 San Pablo, Berk, 7:30 pm, call 653-8711 for more info.

Bread and Roses, visiting from San Diego with folk music, songs of the people, their lives, their struggles, this acoustic band of two women and two men for whom music and culture are a part of social change, 9 pm, \$2, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Aquarius Rising Dance Theater Auditions, intermediate and advanced dancers, free at Everybody's Creative Center, 354 21st, Oak, 1-4 pm.

"State of Emergency/Prison Poets," see Sept 3.

1970: Anniversary of the September massacre of the PLO in Jordan, Black September.

1868: Working Women's Association founded.

**MON 18** Pablo Neruda, a poetry reading in honor of the fifth anniversary of his death September 23, 1973, featured is Margaret Randall on her return from Cuba, La Peña, 8 pm, \$2, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

**TUE 19** What Happened in Chile, this program examines the status of human rights and the economic conditions in Chile. Produced by members of Non-Intervention in Chile, channel 9, KQED, 11:30 pm.

"Mexico: The Frozen Revolution," directed by Raymundo Gleyzer in 1971, this color film is a comprehensive socio-historical analysis of Mexico, shows the result of a revolution which has failed to live up to its promises, 8:30 pm, \$2, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

How to Do your own Uncontested Divorce, by the ProPer Collective, 3:30-5:30 pm, South Berkeley Library, 1901 Russell, Berk.

1970: United Indian Nations, led by Tecumseh, declare war against US.

**WED 20** "Cantata de Chile," film benefit along with *One Way or Another*, for Free Chile Center at York Theater, 2789 24th Street, SF, 7 pm.

Benefit for National Community Muralists Network, featuring a showing of a group of films on mural with introductions by local muralists, 8:30 pm, \$1.50 donation, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

La Pena Puppet Theater will present a show on children's participation against the military dictatorship in Chile, 10:30 am, donations, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

1903: Cripple Creek, Colo. Miners strike, leading to virtual civil war in Colorado, after 15 months of fighting the miners win the eight-hour day.

1977: Socialist Republic of Vietnam admitted to the UN.

**THU 21** Picket the Philippine Consulate to oppose the Philippine dictatorship. Commemorating September 22 National Day of Protest, noon at 447 Sutter, SF, sponsored by the Anti-Martial Alliance.

Benefit for Puerto Rican Socialist Party, in preparation for the sectional congress in the US and in celebration of Grito de Lares, music, news and information about the National Congress of the PSP in Puerto Rico, 7 pm, \$2 donation, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Mental Patients Rights to Refuse Treatment, listen to the controversy surrounding mental patients' efforts to refuse drug treatments, on KPFA FM 94, 7 pm.

1972: UN recognizes Puerto Rico as a US colony and maintains its right to independence.

1904: Chief Joseph, Nez Perce, died in exile in Nespelem, Washington.

**FRI 22** City Spark Party, an exciting new Bay Area band performing original songs with political perspective in a mix of funk and latin rhythms, 9 pm, \$2.50, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Sheila Na Gig in Concert, traditional Irish music and dancing with a teach-in, Oakland Auditorium, 8 pm, \$3.50, 10th and Fallon, Oak.

Animation Festival, featuring Mickey Mouse, Porky Pig and others at Ashkenaz 1317 San Pablo, Berk, 9 pm, \$2 adults and \$1 children.

1919: Great Steel Strike, 365,000 steelworkers strike for the first time, shutting down US Steel and all major producers nationally, demanding the right to unionize, 22 workers killed and thousands wounded.

1972: Marcos declares martial law in the Philippines, which continues into 1978?

**SAT 23**

Protest the Philippine Dictatorship, September 22 is a National Day of protest against the Marcos regime and a motorcycle and rally today upholds the liberation movement's spirit, sponsored by the Anti-Martial Alliance, KDP, and others, meet at 150 8th Street at 10 am.

Union WAGE Program Meeting, Jan Arnolds and other will give an overview of the importance of keeping and extending protective laws and the organizing drive around the Industrial Welfare Commission hearings, 7:30 pm at UW's new office, 37A 29th Street, SF.

Conjunto Caliente, a very hot salsa band, on the occasion of Grito de Lares, the declaration of the Republic of Puerto Rico in 1868, 8:30 pm, \$3, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

Tipica Cienfuegos, salsa benefit dance and concert for the People's Cultural Center, also playing is Lotus Company, an African dance and drum ensemble, Dove Hall, 3543 18th Street, SF, 9:30 pm to 2 am, \$3 advance, \$4 at the door, childcare available.

La Pena Puppet Theater, see September 20 listing, at 362 Capp, SF.

Berkeley Comics Art Fair, with Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and others, shows at 1, 3 and 5 pm, at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, Berk, \$1.50 adults, \$1 children.

**SUN 24** "Food, Agrusiness and Human Rights," an educational-cultural forum kicking off a week of protest against the corporate practices of Del Monte, sponsored by bay area human rights working groups, Earthworks, Friends of the Filipino People and others, guest speakers are Frances Moore Lappe, author of *Food First*, Pat Flynn of NACLA and others, 7:30 pm, \$1.50 donation, 1721 Valencia, SF. 3

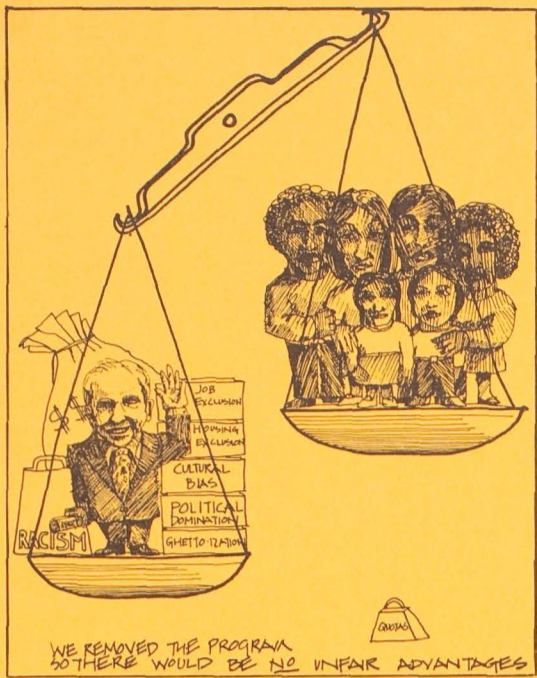
Champagne Brunch Benefit, for the senior meals, meals on wheels, home helpers, drop-in mental health center, at Bishops Coffeehouse, 1437 Harrison Street, Oak, 11 am to 2 pm, \$4, call 465-3986 for childcare.

El Cuadro Flamenco, an electrifying Spanish dance troupe which performs with colorful, passionate artistry, 8:30 pm, \$2.50, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 3

"1900," Bertolucci's grand epic film about Italian peasant uprisings and decay and decadence of the upper classes, follows Italian history from 1900 to 1945, 1:45 and 8:00, \$1 matinees, \$2 evenings, Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th, SF. 3

"State of Emergency/Prison Poets," see Sept 3.

# BAKKE DECISION THREATENS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION



On June 28, the US Supreme Court handed down its historic Bakke decision. In this ruling, the court found that an affirmative action program at the UC Davis Medical School which had been established to ensure minority representation was illegal because it violated the rights of one white male, Allan Bakke. The logic behind such a decision is an insult to minorities who daily encounter the racism that affirmative action is intended to help fight.

The Court's ruling will not only affect minority affirmative action programs in education; the implications of the ruling are that all affirmative action programs for women, disabled people as well as minorities are threatened.

Those who call the decision a victory for affirmative action have only analysed the decision in strictly legal terms. They have not understood how this ruling is part of the current political climate in this country. In order to protect and expand affirmative action in the future we must understand this and situate the decision historically.

## History of the Case

As a result of widespread people's pressure during the '60s and early '70s, UC Davis Medical School initiated a special admissions program for disadvantaged students to ensure representation from sections of the population that traditionally had been excluded from the medical school. This special admissions program was one of the more effective ones because it set aside a certain number of slots—16—out of the total number of students admitted, to ensure admittance of disadvantaged students.

Allan Bakke, a 38-year-old white male engineer, applied to the UC Davis Medical School in 1973 and 1974 and was denied admission both times. With the encouragement of a UC Davis administrator, Bakke sued the university, claiming that he was being discriminated against because he was not allowed to compete for the 16 slots set aside in the special admissions program for disadvantaged students. Bakke made the case that he was being discriminated against because he was white, and the affirmative action program had only accepted minority students. He argued that he would have been admitted if the program had not existed. Even though the special admissions program had accepted all minorities, the majority of the other 85 positions went to white people.

The California Supreme Court ruled in Bakke's favor in the fall of 1976, ruling the UC Davis program unconstitutional because it "favored" minority applicants. The University of California decided to appeal the case to the US Supreme Court. This decision was made despite protests from civil rights organizations to not appeal because UC's defense of the case was so weak—UC never attempted to give evidence of its own past discrimination against minorities.

## National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision

At this point the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD) and other anti-Bakke organizations were formed to put pressure on the US Supreme Court to overturn the decision. The NCOBD organized demonstrations in June and October of 1977 when over 20,000 people came out nationwide to protest. At the beginning of this year, the NCOBD undertook an educational campaign to link community programs and agencies potentially threatened by the decision. This campaign culminated in a people's trial in February and a petition campaign that had broad support to the movement. In April of this year over 30,000 people took to the streets in Seattle, Chicago and San Francisco to protest the nearing decision. Clearly, a broad cross-section of this nation had expressed its opposition to a ruling that would overthrow the principles of affirmative action.

## What did the Supreme Court Rule?

The court ruled in a 5 to 4 vote that the UC Davis special admissions program was racially exclusionary towards whites because it used a quota system and only admitted minorities; therefore it was illegal under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Also, the Court rejected the California Supreme Court opinion that the use of race as a consideration in the selection of students was not constitutional or legal. Though the latter part of the decision might appear to be a concession to uphold affirmative action, the decision in reality undermines the foundation of affirmative action.

## What Does the Decision Mean?

In striking down the UC Davis program, the Court outlawed the use of goals and quotas. Yet, quotas and goals have proven to be the only assurance that affirmative action programs will be effective in including minorities into programs which have traditionally excluded them.

Clearly, minorities are the ones discriminated as a group in this society, not whites. Affirmative action programs were set up to include minorities. In reality, minorities cannot exclude whites from a program that had seldom admitted a minority person before the implementation of affirmative action and which currently had the vast majority of the remaining positions filled by white people. Thus, by ruling the Davis program illegal, the concept of "reverse discrimination" is firmly entrenched in the law. The decision legitimized a concept which racist forces can use in the future to further attack and erode affirmative action.

In ruling that race can be used as one criteria but not the most important one in admissions procedures, the Court gives only a token nod to affirmative action. Justice Powell, in his opinion, says that race can be used to achieve a diverse student body in a similar way that schools would want to achieve geographical diversity. The equation of race with hometown or hobby is a ludicrous injustice—a new math that seeks to disguise old fashioned racism behind liberal notions of diversity and richness. Nowhere does Powell say that racial categories should be used to combat racial discrimination. Thus, the Supreme Court ignores the social reality that racism exists and that strong measures are necessary to combat it.

## Why are Some People Calling the Decision a Victory?

Many people, including some civil rights groups, have called the Bakke decision a victory for minorities and affirmative action. They base this on the fact that the court ruled that race could continue to be used as a criteria in the admissions process. They emphasize that the decision could have been a whole lot worse had the court ruled along the same lines as the California Supreme Court. This earlier ruling claimed that it is illegal for any program to even consider race in admissions. They also believe that since the decision was ruled narrowly to those programs that set quotas, most programs are safe because they do not employ quotas. Thus, they conclude that affirmative action is safe and future litigation will lead to expansion of these programs.



## What is the NCOBD's Position?

Essentially, in the Bakke decision a new form of racial thinking, "reverse discrimination," has been legalized and given social credence. It will have a widespread and penetrating effect on American race relations. This dangerous ideology denies that minorities bear the brunt of racism, and it thereby corrodes the underlying reason to have affirmative action in the first place. Under the guise of individual rights, the legitimization of "reverse discrimination" marks a watershed in American racism. Its importance is comparable to the legalization of the "separate but equal" doctrine which closed the door on Reconstruction and opened the way for Jim Crow.

Although the immediate impact of the decision will not automatically void many affirmative action programs, the rationale for illegalizing the programs is devastating to the entire foundation of the concept of affirmative action. Because the decision says that programs to remedy discrimination must not inconvenience whites by including minorities, the more a program takes race as a consideration the more "exclusionary" it becomes. Thus, the most effective programs are made illegal. This prevents any strong regulation and forced recruitment of minorities in the future. Those who laud the decision as a victory fail to understand the long-term effects of the decision—instead they have narrowly focused on the legal subtleties.

## Bakke, Briggs, Jarvis-Gann

Affirmative action came about at a time when a progressive political climate was being created by a people's movement for racial equality. Although affirmative action provided small gains for working people, the real economic, political and social conditions changed little. This can be seen in occupational and wage differentials and in unemployment rates for minorities. The rate of occupational gains for minorities was greatest between 1965 and 1970, which coincided with the initial enactment and adoption of affirmative action and anti-discrimination laws. During this same period, the median weekly earnings wage differential between full-time black workers and white workers decreased steadily. However, between 1965 and 1976 the annual black family income only went from 54% to 62% of white family income, a small gain.

During the 1970s a new pattern emerges and the gains made by minorities decline, because the '70s have been a period of economic stagnation and recession. In particular, the rate of black unemployment has increased to two-and-a-half times that of whites. The '70s are not unique in this regard. Throughout the history of the US minorities have been the ones to bear the brunt of the economic hardships during economic slumps.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was designed to correct unequal opportunities for minorities and women—and now the Supreme Court has turned these protections around, interpreting the law to protect white men from the meager gains of these very people. The Bakke decision implies that whites need the courts' special protection, that minorities are seriously threatening to push whites out of jobs. In fact, this is hardly the case. For example, while there is one white doctor for every 700 white US citizens, the ratio of black doctors to the black population is 1 to 3,800. Even pre-Bakke affirmative action programs leave many discriminatory programs untouched: in 1974 only 10% of the students enrolled in medical schools throughout the country were minorities. By 1976, this figure had dropped to 8.9%. After the many civil rights gains of the 1950s and '60s, only 2.1% of US doctors and only 2.8% of the nation's first-year medical students were black.

The Bakke decision is only one in a series of attacks on people's democratic rights. For example, women's rights are being curtailed by the attempts to block passage of the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) and to cut off funding for abortion. The Briggs initiative would deny the civil liberties of gay people. Legislation in congress threatens to take away Native Americans' treaty rights. And the Jarvis-Gann initiative has resulted in the Alameda County affirmative action office being dismantled, and 80% of workers fired so far from Prop 13 have been minorities.

## What is the Future of Affirmative Action?

There are over 1,000 suits in lower courts challenging affirmative action. Affirmative action for women and the disabled is also under attack as a result of the precedent set in the Bakke ruling. Any programs with strong enforcement procedures are likely to be struck down. Even before the Bakke decision, affirmative action programs were few and often token compared to real needs. For example, in San Francisco today, only 20% of the major corporations have any affirmative action.

## What Can We Do To Protect Affirmative Action?

Affirmative action came about through mass protest and struggle in the 1960s. Similarly, the gains of all working people are the result of people's struggles fought over the years. It's going to take the united efforts of people of all colors, ages and occupations to continue the fight for racial equality and justice and to prevent further setbacks. Affirmative action programs must be defended and expanded. This means in our workplaces, schools, and communities we strive to educate how the decision affects us and how we can organize against it. But affirmative action is not enough. We must rebuild a broad anti-racist movement to unite and push for the demands of full racial equality.

## Join and Organize

To find out more about organizing against the Bakke decision contact NCOBD, PO Box 3026, South Berkeley Station, Berkeley, CA 94703 or call 549-3297.



Our goal is to publicize the political & cultural struggles for radical social change in our area.

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