

RACIST PROFESSOR CHASED OUT OF IOWA

sds new
left
notes **extra**

Harvard Professor Richard Herrnstein refused to address over 500 students at the University of Iowa who had come to confront him about his racist views on the genetic inferiority of black people. Herrnstein is the author of the "I. Q." article, published in the September issue of the Atlantic Monthly. In addition to "proving" that black people are less intelligent than white, Herrnstein states that "unemployment runs in the genes".

As early as half an hour before the scheduled speech on Friday, Feb. 25, the auditorium was packed. SDS had demanded that the Harvard professor speak about his article, and students decided not to wait until Herrnstein came out to start debating the issues.

Some people questioned whether it was right to call the magazine piece racist. In answer to this, one speaker said that although Herrnstein tries to avoid speaking about the subject, those who publish his works are clear about where he stands. For instance, the editors of the Atlantic, in providing a background for the article, said: "Both the Moynihan and the Coleman reports grappled with the idea that something within the black community was holding back its economic and social advance." In other words, it's not slumlords, bankers, and ghetto merchants who are responsible for the oppression of black people, but black people themselves!

Speakers discussed some of the programs that Herrnstein's Nazi theories are leading to, such as a bill recently passed in Indiana which forces women on welfare with more than two children to be sterilized or lose their welfare checks. For over half an hour speeches and debate continued inside the auditorium. Meanwhile, outside, the police had refused to let in over 100 students. The Dean of Students, a former ROTC commander, went out to try to pacify the crowd. He said Herrnstein had a right not to answer questions about his article. The response was chants of "Let us in"

and "Cops off campus!"

Inside, students began to chant "We want Herrnstein" as 4:30 passed and there was still no sign of the good professor. Fearful of showing his face, Herrnstein had hidden outside, behind a back door, listening to the discussion inside!!

Finally, the chairman of the psychology department walked onto the stage and said, "It is with great regret that I must announce that Prof. Herrnstein does not feel he can speak on the subject he has come here to talk about." His voice was barely audible above the boos and hisses of the crowd.

But Herrnstein was not able to leave the campus all that easily. Over 60 students converged on the faculty club, where they found the professor was being hid while waiting for the next plane out of Iowa. It was only the fact that they were forcefully kept from entering that prevented them from questioning Herrnstein about his views.

Mass opposition to the racist lies being fed students and working people is not limited to Friday's victory at Iowa. The day before over 400 people attended a forum on Herrnstein and Racism that was given at Harvard Univ. by several different groups of students and faculty, including SDS. In many areas SDS chapters are waging concrete fights against racist textbooks. In Seattle students succeeded in getting The Rise of the American Nation, a book that praises slavery and is used at 12 area community colleges, thrown off one campus.

People from around the country will be coming to the SDS national convention. Plans will be made there about how to strengthen these fights against racism, as well as building a movement that's going to fight all attacks the government makes on people here and around the world. EVERYONE IS INVITED!!



help plan the fight against racism

COME TO THE SDS CONVENTION

MAR. 30 - APR. 2
Harvard University

for tickets and info
write or call:

SDS Convention Committee
P. O. 423 Prudential Center
Boston, Mass. 02199

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