

science and humanities as the emphasis and away from the saturation with useless sociology and sociology by-products, we are not going to have a population which is capable of assimilating technological progress. If we do not make these changes, the United States population will be so useless, so underproductive, so primitive, that the United States will be simply a dumping place of cheap labor employed in assembly of products bought from the better-educated, and therefore wealthier, nations abroad.

We must change the school system and get away from the so-called left radical reforms associated, for example, with the leadership of the National Education Association, with the ecologists, the environmentalists, and the "New Age" people generally. But that's not enough. We must also recognize that the New Age counterculture in our society is destroying the morals and the minds of our citizens. If we wish to survive, we're going to have to recognize that the old ways of looking at the world, the traditions of Judeo-Christian standards of morality, are essential to successful, durable survival of our nation, and we must return to those standards with an educational system and cultural program which match that. Otherwise, we shall not survive.

These three basic sets of actions, if taken, with all the mistakes and all the failures which we must expect with any such program, would ensure that this nation will survive and that we will come out of this depression. And the sooner we get at it, the better.

Census Bureau writes off U.S. population

by Janet West

From New York City to Brownsville, Texas to San Francisco, California, mayors and other city officials are expressing alarm regarding the preliminary counts of their populations that was conducted and recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Some undercount is always expected, but this year the Census Bureau outdid itself. It admits that up to three million people were not counted. Nationally, this translates into a potential loss of \$45 billion in federal funds to population-sensitive programs over the next 10 years, and a change in many of the districts for the U.S. Congress—either in the number of districts per state or their size.

Many seasoned political observers suspect that the Bush administration, besieged by an increasingly worsening economic crisis, is using the undercount as a politically more palatable enforcement mechanism to impose economic austerity measures. The ultimate decision of the final population count lies with the Secretary of Commerce, Robert Mosbacher.

Cities try to force a recount

Out of 39,000 jurisdictions taking part in the census, more than 4,300 cities, including 40 of the nation's 50 largest, have challenged the census in hopes for a recount.

In the 1980 census, New York City was undercounted by an estimated 450,000 people, costing the city an estimated \$675 million in population-based grants—\$150 per person per year. The mayor's office estimates that had there not been the undercount, the city would have had:

- 50% more Head Start slots for economically disadvantaged children;
 - 1,562 more entry-level policemen;
 - 12,500 more people in job training programs;
 - 2,857 more registered nurses;
- and additionally would have been able to feed all senior citizens in senior programs for two years; rehabilitated nearly 3,000 more units of housing, and repaved 38 major avenues. New York challenged the count, but it was never fully adjusted to the satisfaction of the city.

Now, after the preliminary count of the 1990 census,

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New York City estimates that 254,534 housing units were missed, an estimated population of 1 million people. City officials have calculated a figure of \$1.5 billion of federal funds that would be lost if the census count is allowed to stand. Planning and development personnel haven't begun to figure what impact that would have on the various programs, but they point out that although some programs get only a small grant from the federal government for their operating budget, all of the budget is federal money.

In the nation's capital, an estimated 30,000 residents were missed because the Census Bureau missed more than 10,000 of the city dwellings as well as several "group dwellings" such as dormitories at the various universities, boarding homes, and homes for the elderly. District officials point out that this number doesn't include a possible undercount of the homeless and illegal aliens. It is estimated that the federal funding that it would lose would be equivalent to \$200 to \$800 for every person who is not counted.

City after city comes in with an undercount from the census: Philadelphia—undercounted by about 90,000 people; Detroit—30,000 people missed; Houston—200,000; Chicago—almost 300,000; New York City—1,000,000; San Francisco—9,000; and in some counties of California, some of the smaller towns of less than 1,000 population were missed entirely.

Questionable methods

After the preliminary count is released to the cities, they are allowed 15 working days in what is called the Post Census Local Review program, to compare the count with their own records, drawn largely from statistics such as building permits, birth and death records, and utility hook-ups. This review program is relatively new, having only been initiated in the 1980 census. The local review process is now over, and the mayors, as represented by the United States Conference of Mayors, are "willing to pursue all remedial steps including legislative, judicial and administrative avenues to ensure an accurate count of the population."

Hearings before the House Subcommittee on Census and Population in the U.S. Congress on Sept. 25 in Washington, D.C., were held for the stated purpose of measuring the success of the Post Census Local Review program to date. Chairing the subcommittee was Rep. Tom Sawyer (D-Ohio) who expressed doubt that, even with the best checks and balances, the Census Bureau would be able, because of the very design of its programs, to find the several million people who may have been overlooked in the primary counting phase.

Several congressmen, the director of the Bureau of the Census, the director of the Government Accounting Office, and regional officials including six mayors—Jimmy Kemp, Meridian, Mississippi; Federico Pena, Denver, Colorado; Kurt Schmoke, Baltimore, Maryland; Richard Daley, Chicago, Illinois; Ygnacio D. Garza, Brownsville, Texas; and

Martha F. Wood, Winston-Salem, North Carolina—testified at this hearing. Although some testified in great detail as to the discrepancies between the cities' count and the census count, they agreed on several areas:

- The 15 working days is too short a period of time for review and for submission of challenges.

- The Census Bureau guidelines for recanvassing only 2% of the housing units challenged, fails to address the significant undercount, particularly in urban areas.

- The rule by the Census Bureau that the challenges could only be based on housing units is too narrow; cities must be able to challenge based upon population per housing unit, vacancy rates, and overall population.

- The Bureau did not provide enough technical assistance, and did not adequately train its field personnel.

The preliminary count is based on housing units, not on the more precise head count. One of the major points of contention by the mayors is the definition of a vacant housing unit. The Census Bureau admits that its definitions are different than that of local officials: "The Census Bureau considers vacant any unoccupied housing units that could be inhabited whether or not they are currently on the market. *Some units we classify as vacants would be considered uninhabitable by others* [emphasis added]."

But only housing units and group dwellings can be challenged, not vacancies or population count, according to the rules of the census. As one county official observed, "The housing units reported in the post census review were consistently equal to or greater than the projected dwelling unit count, while the population numbers were consistently and substantially lower than projections."

Contradictions abound

Rep. Mike Espy (D-Miss.) testified:

- "Overall, the preliminary report indicated that Mississippi added only 13,814 citizens to its 1980 population of 2.5 million. Using the standard formula of births minus deaths to calculate the natural increase of the population, Mississippi's overall population should have increased by 215,000. For the Census Bureau's preliminary numbers to be correct, Mississippi would have lost over 200,000 citizens to migration over the past ten years. There are currently 127,000 more Mississippians employed today than in 1980. It is difficult to understand how the workforce could increase by 127,000 if the overall population increased by only 13,800." He also pointed out that numerous state officials including the governor, the secretary of state, and the mayor of Greenwood, Mississippi, never received census forms.

Of particular concern to most mayors was the inability of the Census Bureau to address the problems of counting the elderly, students, prisoners, and the homeless. Also shocking was the fact that 1.5 million people nationally never received a form because the Census Bureau failed to print the post office box number on the address label.