"BLACK POWER" STATEMENT BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF NEGRO CHURCHMEN

We, an informal group of Negro churchmen in America are deeply disturbed by the recent developments and some of the important human realities in the controversy about "black power." While we are not disposed to any particular racial or cultural terms or concepts that have been bandied about in our discussion, we do believe that all human beings are equal and that the same old problem of power and race which has faced our colored citizens in this country from the beginning of its history.

We realize that neither the term "power" nor the term "Christian" is a monolithic concept. It is a concept that has gone through a long history of development in the context of race relations in America. The fundamental distortion facing us in the contemporary black power movement is the lack of understanding and respect for Negro and white Americans. It is this distortion that we seek to address in this statement.

As a result, the power of white men and the consciousness of black men have both been distorted. White men have been conditioned by the lack of knowledge and understanding of the nature of power, and therefore, they lack the moral and ethical framework to deal with power. Black men, on the other hand, have been conditioned by the lack of power to deal with the concept of power.

Therefore, we are using "black power" not in a racial sense, but in a sense of the power of the people, the power of the community. We believe that power is the ability of the community to make decisions for its own good and to control its own destiny.

Our purpose is to emphasize the importance of power in the context of the黑人Americans' struggle for freedom and equality. We do not believe that power is a zero-sum game, but rather, it is a game of development and growth. In this sense, we believe that power is the ability of the community to make decisions for its own good and to control its own destiny.

We call upon all citizens to join us in this struggle for power. We believe that the power of the people is the key to a just and equal society. We believe that the power of the people is the key to a just and equal society. We believe that the power of the people is the key to a just and equal society.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


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