

## SOCIAL PRINCIPLES

THE SOCIETY MUST AS A CONCEPT BELIEVE IN THE EQUAL WORTH OF EVERYONE OF ITS MEMBERS.

All media of education, formal and informal, must consciously seek to destroy the myths which breed complexes on the basis of race or the materialistic image of man (which equates social and human worth with job and money).

THE SOCIETY MUST ESTABLISH REAL EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

There is no point in claiming in theory and law that all doors are open to all citizens regardless of class, creed or race and at the same time ignoring the social reality that social, economic and even psychological factors handicap some and advance others.

There are practical measures necessary for equality to be realized:

Everyone must have at least certain minimum material requirements. A job with adequate income for food and other basic needs; decent housing; the availability of proper public services, in particular, health care.

There must be adult education and guidance so that the right parental attitudes can come from every home for the direction of the children.

The highest standard of education must be available to all. This is official theory today but not practical reality. Apart from the severe handicaps which children suffer coming from every survival centred homes, a social condition which must be corrected, there are added problems in the way the system is organized.

That is why we say equal opportunity education calls for a properly organized education system. It calls for the re-education and motivation of the teachers. The prejudices this system encourages in some about teaching children in certain areas and the gulf of understanding or misunderstanding between teachers and students with less fortunate social backgrounds are factors that have to be eliminated.

There has to be a change in the class and cultural bias in the content of education. The physical facilities have to be upgraded especially in the primary schools.

In addition there must be no institutionalized barriers blocking the way of an individual who has developed the competence and ability to hold any position.

Therefore we say:

ALL ORGANIZED STRUCTURES IN THE SOCIETY MUST SERVE THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY.

The system now is based on cliques, in particular in government and business, whose operations amount to an organized denial of equality. There has been considerable waste of our human resources through such denial, on the basis of petty politics and ethnicity in the main.

All organized interests, which determine material advancement, must treat all citizens as equal.

The establishment of a system of people's participation in government and the economy will eliminate wide areas of abuse.

**ALL ORGANIZED INTERESTS MUST OPERATE IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE GOOD OF THE SOCIETY AS A WHOLE.**

No group, whether it is a sports group, a Business organization, an ethnic cultural group, a religious body or whatever, should promote group interests in opposition to the interests of the society as a whole. Their particular areas of concern must be developed in harmony with the goals and principles of the New Society.

From the People's Parliaments it was clear that the concept of "a Society whose ideological basis is man" drew out of people a deeply felt concern for social principles which deal with people at a more directly spiritual level. One of NJAC's deep concerns, which was also reflected among the people, was the state of family life today. We see the need for a specific principle on the family.

**THE FAMILY MUST BE RESTORED AS ONE OF THE BASIC, CHERISHED UNITS OF THE SOCIETY.**

Despite the many pressures that put the family unit under strain in our society today, the role of a well knit family in the full development of an individual has found no substitute and family breakdown is certainly one of the causes of the many mal-adjusted individuals in this society.

We say too:

**LOVE MUST BE THE BASIS OF HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS.**

The experiences of the struggle in 1970 show us how this Love is integrally related to the political process. We just need to remember the feel of that period of intense struggle. As it was expressed in "Conventional Politics or Revolution?" this way:

"New and more positive relations between the two major Black races was only one aspect of the more meaningful relations between Black people...We began to understand what Brotherhood means. When we called each other 'Brother' and 'Sister' we meant it. This form of communication brought a kind of togetherness among Black

people which was transforming social relations and work relations...In the vast humanity of the mass movement we were able to discard the sickness of capitalism and its anti-people values...the spiritual force of our people coming together brought people from all categories of the Society into the mass movement. We discovered our common bond of experience which transcended the distinctions of status in the old social values”.

Within this framework, government statistics show that all crimes against the person – assault, rape, robbery, etc., dropped to an all time low in 1970.

Love involves a recognition of social responsibility, When we see each other as brothers and sisters, we talk and relate to each other differently, we see our responsibility to each other, we are able to co-operate more readily and work towards the common good.

More than any specific benefit, Love is the very essence of a truly human existence.

The lesson of 1970 is that Love is possible/ A substantial proportion fo the population was involved in that new ethos in the society. It is an ethos that can permeate the entire society.

In such a society there is no doubt that we would –

**RESPECT AND ELEVATE THE WOMAN/LOVE THE CHILDREN/HONOUR  
THE OLD/RESPECT AND PREPARE THE YOUTH.**