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1-16-1964

## Stormy Negro Claims Integration Only Word

Stan Eames

*University of Maine*

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### Repository Citation

Eames, Stan, "Stormy Negro Claims Integration Only Word" (1964). *Social Justice: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion*. 150.

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# Stormy Negro Claims Integration Only Word

By STAN EAMES

"Integration, segregation—they're just words to me. They don't mean anything," said controversial James Meredith Tuesday.

In an afternoon press conference, the Negro whose entrance into Ole Miss caused tumultuous rioting in 1962 said he felt no concern with integration.

"I'm concerned with the advance of citizenship," he announced, "and integration is not a vehicle of full citizenship." Meredith listed the number one problem in America today, according to him, white supremacy. He warned that a second Civil War could be in the making, this time between races, not sections.

He nearly had a small war of his own at Colby Monday. Addressing a standing room only crowd, he was heckled badly. When the police escorted the heckler outdoors, they found a shotgun and shells in his car. He was arraigned in Waterville court on a disorderly conduct charge Tuesday.

Continuing his meeting Tuesday afternoon, Meredith said the civil rights legislation has clearly run its course. He said, "the civil rights movement was turning before President Kennedy's assassination; the movement is more pronounced now."

"I feel the bill will be passed, but will be only a truce. I'm almost sure it's not satisfactory to me and suspect it is not satisfactory to other Negroes."

Meredith said calmly that 1963

was the most decisive year in the fight for equality, agreeing with a statement made by rights leader Martin Luther King, but, he said, "I'm not sure the decisions were the ones we wanted."

He said the only significant backlash in civil rights during the past year was "a lot of energy, effort and money spent that was not needed."

He referred to the national guard used by the federal government in major segregation crises last year. "I think," he said, "the federal government is overusing the guard. It should use the national guardsmen to prevent violence, not promote it."

He was referring to the four Alabama national guardsmen tossed in jail for throwing bombs, "to keep themselves in work" said Meredith.

At the evening address in the Memorial Gymnasium, he called on the educated populace to discover society's ills concerning this problem. He said it is their responsibility to actually apply the solution once found, not just retire with a salvaged conscience.

The issues we face today could be more explosive than was slavery 100 years ago, he asserted.

Startlingly, he said "As an individual you are entitled to prejudice and discriminate, but it is wrong to discriminate against a minority because of their race or color."

He discussed briefly the history of the Negro civil rights movement and the corresponding increase in white supremacist feelings.

During a question and answer

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# Stormy Negro Claims

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period, the graduate of 188-year-old Ole Miss implied that it is impossible to legislate opinion and said he "could care less if white attitudes are changed by legislation."

Meredith, rocking on his heels and speaking deliberately, said of the NAACP and its legal fight against white supremacy: "No organization could ever expect to solve this problem. No problem is solved unless the basic group in America, the Anglo-Saxons, want it solved." He acknowledged the rights organization as the oldest, most effective in the legal area over the years.

The notoriously-famous Negro said one of the biggest problems the Negro faces today is housing, linking with this school segregation.

He was asked whether the public accommodations segment of the civil

rights bill before Congress was an infringement on the rights of the majority. It couldn't be, he proclaimed, because the majority determines what will become law.

He commented on Negro opposition to the Mummer's Parade in Philadelphia that was forced not to use traditional blackface by a NAACP-oriented court order. "It didn't seem so significant to me," he said, shrugging his shoulders. He noted that this reflected more on the Mummies than the Negro.

"I think they (Mummies) were wrong if they started to use it knowing it would offend many people, but the court order was very unfortunate."

He lastly answered a question about the Black Muslims, the Negro supremacist sect. "I think this organization represents clear proof of the seriousness of the problem we face. It is clearly outside the mainstream of . . . American Negro life.

"I feel," he concluded, "that because the American Negro is predominantly Christian, this group will not generate mass support—because it is not Christian."

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## Union News

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Friday, January 17

Movie, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*,  
11:45, Auditions 7 and 8:30