# HOUSING SURVEY MACALESTER COLIEGE

On Saturday, March 11, twelve Macalester students surveyed attitudes on fair housing amon homeowners in the blocks immediately adjacent to Macalester College. These three questions were asked:

1. Are you in favor of fair housing for minority group members?

2. What would your attitude be if a member of a minority group wished to move into your neighborhood?

3. Would you sign a petation which indicates your support of free and open housing?

With 233 homeowners home when the students called, the following results were obtained:

Question 1. 195, or 84% yes; 38, or 16% no.

Question 2. 150, or 64% in favor; 51, or 22% opposed, 32, or 14%, no opinion

Question 3. 107, or 46% signed the petition; 126, or 54%, did not.

In view of the fact that there are no minority group members (except for some Jewish families), in the neighborhood surrounding Macalester it appears from the above results that a vocal minority, less than one-fourth of the total, has been instrumental in blocking attempts of minority group members, especially Negroes (who suffer most acutely from housing problems), to move into the area. This is a case in which the minority is usurping the rights of the majority.

#### HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

A similar survey was made by 25 students of Hamline University in the 3rd, 5th, 6th, and 7th precincts of the 1oth ward of the city of St. Paul located in the Legislative District #42 North. It covers the area from Prior Ave. to Syndicate Ave. and from University Ave. to the Great North Railrod north of Hamline, Anout 20% of each precinct was covered.

A total of 303 residents ere surveyed. Two hundred and five or 64% of those surveyed favored open-occupany to the extent that they were willing to sign the statement to that effect. Ninety eight people, or 36% did not sign the statement In view of the fact that the area surveyed is located adjacent to an area populated by minority group members, it would seem that people close to the problem do not oppose open-occupancy.

Hamline University Congress endorses the statement with unanimous

approval.

Harlan Hanson - Co-ordinator - Macalester College Dick Fisher - Hamline University Bill McPherson - Macalester College

# PROTESTANT:

"A family's choice of homesite should not be obstructed by community forces motivated by racial bias. The right to live in the place of one's choice is as precious as the right of assembly. We deplore economic forces and the racial prejudices which have caused ghetto situations in our cities."

"A consensus of conscience" stated by Dr. Wesley C. Ewert, Chairman of the Minn. Council of Churches; January, 1961.

#### CATHOLIC:

"Enlightened people should understand that fair housing is a privilege and a moral right of citizenship. When people don't understand this, there must be more enlightenment."

Bishop Leonard P. Cowley, Dir. of Jewish Communispokesman for the St. Paul ty Relations Council of archdiocese; JoMarch, 1961. Minnesota, February, 1961

## JEWISH:

"The organized Jewish community religiously and civilly believe in fair housing for everyone, regardless of rade, creed, color, or national origin."

Samuel L. Scheiner, Ex.

### ENDORSEMENTS:

According to the 1960 Minnesota census, in St. Paul, 7005 out of 8240 Negroes live in one limited, overcrowded area because housing elsewhere is restricted.

We believe that housing restrictions based on race, creed, color, or national origin, deprive the individual of his inherent rights as a citizen, and agreeing with the above statements of the religious leaders of our community, we personally support free and open housing in our neighborhood.

Jim Luggar, Ex. Sec. of Cath. Interracial Comm. James Tillman, Mpls. Interfaith Hous. Comm. Dr. Roy Burt, Pres. of Minn. Counc. of Civl Rights Minnesota NAACP Ernest Cooper, Urban League Jewish Community Relations Council Minnesota Rabbinical Association

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# Instructions for Surveyors:

- 1. Be sure to cover the entire area to which you are assigned. You may have to do this twice during the evening. It would be wise to keep a private, informal record of which rooms you have covered.
- 2. Try not to approach large groups of people. We want to get the genuine opinions of the people.
- 3. Avoid discussions and arguments. Do not try to explain the movement. Merely read the statement below and the questions, record the data, and LEAVE.
- 4. Mark a plus (4) sign for an answer of "yes" and a zero (0) for an answer of "No".
- 5. The statement below should be read when you first approach a person to be interviewed:

This is an attempt to discern the attitudes of the students and faculty at Macalester toward civil liberties for minority groups. This is not to be a reflection of your feelings about certain methods being used to bring about civil liberties. Rather, we want to know whether you feel that certain civil liberties are desirable for minority groups and if you will support legal means designed to insure these liberties.

The date of this survey may be used publicly, but your name is not being recorded and will not be identified in any way.

These are the questions to be asked:

- 1. Do you think the Open Occupancy, (the opportunity for any person with the means to buy within any housing district, regardless of his race, creed, color, or national origin), would be desirable if and when a suitable bill is passed to that effect?
- 2. Would you as a future homeowner be willing to comply with a Fair Housing Practices law?
- 3. Do you feel that libraries, hospitals, lunch counters, restaurants, theaters, and schools should be segregated in the South?
- 4. What is your age?
- 5. Where is your home town?

1	ANSWE to 2	RS 3	Age	Hometown (City and State)