moderate students will be compelled to follow the more vocal or radical elements at the sacrifice of their own individuality. If the pressure to belong and to conform for the sake of the group becomes so strong that the group comes first and the individual second, if at all, then they too are no longer men but cogs in a machine, mere units not human beings.

If out of fear of pressure or reprisal a student does not voice his view or allows himself to be dragged along by any group then he has lost all that is really important, that which he is trying to build up, his individual qualities that mark him as a man, equal in rights and responsibilities. If the Negro wants to be able to share in the life here or anywhere as an equal he cannot subjugate his person out of fear or as a result of pressure to conform to the white mold or the black mold.

If indeed a black union does become a reality here there is going to be a good deal of understanding and respect needed from and for white and Negro students alike. Most of the students here have had very limited contact with Negroes or other minority groups and know little of the problems inherent when the minority confronts the majority or vice versa.

Many here never met or talked to Negroes before coming here and many have still not done this. Many come here with little or no personal views or ideas on racial issues. Many come here with very definite ideas on the matter: all too many have deeply ingrained prejudices, many come here full of the desire to help their poor black brother. For all these people there are going to be a great number of frictional situations, ill-feelings and feelings of helplessness.

For those with little or no contact or views of the racial friction they are going to be forced to face up to the issue and meet it responsibly with personal integrity or they are going to run from the issue and let others learn and grow and seek understanding without them. These people are going to let the issue pass them by without them. These people are going to let the issue pass them by.

Wake up and look around you and see what's going on. If you can't see then you need help too!

For those students here who have exhibited or feel prejudice it is past due for the rest of us to tell them that their actions are intolerable to both whites and Negroes. Deeply ingrained attitudes or prejudices cannot be erased overnight but they cannot be allowed to exist overtly here or anywhere else. We have to stop kidding ourselves by saying that there aren't any prejudiced people here. Its not just a matter of personality as many believe, stark naked, ugly prejudice exists and can be seen.

It now becomes the task and responsibility of students here to pressure their peers into showing respect for others no matter what their feelings.

Prejudice cannot be removed by pressure but pressure must be exerted to insure that it is not allowed to exist in the form of ugly incidents of name calling, threats, property damage or personal injury anywhere, anytime. Once the overt results of prejudice have been put down then comes the hard and long task of removing the prejudice, but not before.

Then there is the white liberal full of desires to help his poor black brother. These people and their attitudes are going to be rejected by those they think they are seeking to help. These liberals are going to be turned down flat and they may be hurt and disillusioned.

But what the Negroes, and any human being, wants first is respect and the chance to be a man. The condescending attitude of most liberals has hurt the racial issue more than it has helped. Simply by their attitude of lifting up their colored brother these people belittle those they try to help. What is needed and desired by the Negro is the opportunity to say I am a man the same as everyone else and I want to be able to help myself and feel integrity and respect. Paternalistic attitudes have got to be erased from the campus and the country.

What right have any of us got to look down on another human being no matter what our intentions are? It is this paternalistic attitude that any self respecting individual rejects. How can we place ourselves on some sort of a platform and look down on our fellow man? Brother (I wonder what that means, really means) we have got to realize that the only distance between the races has been established by attitudes like that and the distance doesn't place us above anyone.

If we want to help them we must first understand and realize the humanity and integrity of all men. We cannot expect to be received with any sort of welcome until we demonstrate that we desire to do so not out of any condescending feelings but out of desire to reach out and not down. Even then our help may not be wanted.

If the minority groups choose to work alone then that is their right. Ours is only to respect them as men and give them the freedom to advance and make their own mistakes with the same opportunity as we demand.

It is now up to the Luther College community to face the race issue. How it takes its stand will have long range effects on the campus and the students, faculty and administration. The question is whether Luther will act forcefully against racism or react to the issue with indifference, or worse, with prejudice?

**Comment:**

To the Editor:

Mr. Kant's article, "Edwards Tries to Explain Negro Boycott", in the Jan. 26 College CHIPS indicated that he had preconceived ideas, not only of the subject matter of Mr. Edwards' talk, but also of Mr. Edwards' ability as a speaker. I hope that in the future College CHIPS will be able to give a more accurate coverage to such events.

William Denham
Instructor of English