

July 20, 1977

Editor

Chula Vista Star News
835 Third Avenue
Chula Vista, California

Dear Editor:

Linda Cross's article on Herman Baca continues the tactic of personalizing a controversial issue, discrediting the person; consequently, dismissing the issue. However, it is not that easy.

This capable writer admits herself that there is truth in the issues he raises.. Ms. Cross wrote:

"Baca's charges of police insensitivity to and polarization from the minority community were true and the action he sought --the police chief's firing--eventually resulted."

"There is truth in his charges against National City and the school district which allows the media to feel justified in reporting his actions, but it is probably unfair for Baca to be depicted as representative of the South Bay minority community." (The Star News - July 14, 1977)

It seems to me that it is equally unfair to depict him as the ringleader of the circus, as a bankrupt political leader. The issues exist. Spokespersons are needed to address them in order to bring about positive change. As long as Herman Baca and others take up this challenge, they will play a vital role in a free society. It is easy to attack them. However, it is more valuable for the media and others to deal with the issues they raise.

Sincerely,

Frank X. Riley, O.S.A.