

"Issues in Ethnicity and Mental Health" - three day conference

October 25, 1979

The social implications of the upcoming 1980 census for minority groups will be the focus of a three-day conference on "Issues in Ethnicity and Mental Health" sponsored by the Urban and Rural Studies Program at the University of California, San Diego.

The conference, which runs Nov. 1 through 3, will be held at the Bahia by the Bay Hotel, 998 W. Mission Bay Drive, in San Diego. The theme of the event is "Data, Decision Making and Social Benefits."

The conference will feature a number of workshops led by government officials, journalists, social scientists, religious leaders, academicians, and political activists. It is the second annual conference sponsored by the UC San Diego Urban and Rural Studies Program.

"Members of minority groups are traditionally underrepresented in the official census," according to UC San Diego psychologist Charles W. Thomas, conference co-coordinator. "The aim of the conference is to help minorities understand why it is important that they participate in next year's census.

"Minorities are often more fearful than most about government intrusion into their lives," he continued, "but they don't realize that the census figures determine government policy, planning and the allocation of resources."

The conference keynote address will be delivered by Ethel Payne, a consultant to the Bureau of the Census in Washington, D.C. She will speak at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, with the workshops scheduled to get underway at 10 a.m. The conference is open to the public with a registration fee of \$75. Further information may be obtained from Paulette Bell, (714) 452-3690.

Among the topics to be discussed are "Strategies for Quality Decision Making," "The 1980 Civil Rights Movement--Will it Meet the Needs of the Masses?," "Life in the Ghetto--Concepts, Problems and Alternatives," "Using the Media to Improve the Quality of Black Life," "Black Males and the Criminal Justice System," "Social Action: Views from the Private Sector," and "From Black Rage to Alternative Lifestyles."

For more information contact: Paul Lowenberg, 452-3120

(October 25, 1979)