

Granny replied, "What if a pig could fly."

"He's a good enough lamb, indeed," said Uncle Hiram. "It's too bad that he is black. The judge may refuse to give a prize to a black lamb."

This in itself seems to be very innocent, but I think it begins the process of establishing a kind of attitude that people take in this country, there is the built-in assurance of developing another generation of people to carry on the same kind of racist philosophy. I think this approach, attacking the textbook, will get at the basic causes of the attitudes developed, perpetuated, and promulgated in our educational institutions.

I think attacking these kinds of myths of black inferiority and white superiority is the beginning of establishing, once and for all, true democracy in this country.

We have, without the benefit of large funds, established a freedom school which many youngsters of different backgrounds and colors have attended.

Mr. Washington, here, has been the administrator of that school and he can tell you of some of the findings of changes in the attitudes of youngsters, that we have been witness to.

MR. WASHINGTON. Mr. Chairman, I too am happy to be here with you today for this hearing, you and your whole committee.

As I look over there I think I recognize a statue of George Washington, I said to myself, "My name is Washington, too, I wonder how I became last when Washington was the first President of the United States."

I will try to add to what Mr. Robinson has said about the importance of Afro-American history in changing the racial attitude. We at the freedom school, as he said a few minutes ago, are very proud of the school because it did quite a bit for all children regardless of race, creed, or color who attended that school.

I must open by saying that the best way to debase a race of people is to take away its history and culture. I am reminded of the history of Aesop, how he once saw the statue of a lion and a man. He saw this man using his bare hands to pull this lion's jaws apart. He was troubled. He knew a lion is stronger than a man. He walked around, studied and studied. The answer finally came. He said, "I know. The lion didn't make the statue. Man made the statue, to make man ruler over all."

This is why we have been saying over at the Harlem Freedom School that we are going to replace some of the missing pages of history that have been taken out. Then these can be used by all people who can be shown the various contributions that the Negro or Afro-Americans have made.

Since the end of colonization in Africa, the Negro in America has become more and more aware of the contribution the Negro has made in these United States and that an African heritage should be a source of pride, not of disparagement.

Many of the adults in the Negro community have been surprised by the fact that their history is not something to be denied and repressed, as they have for so long believed, but rather a source of pride and identification.

Out of a strong desire to not allow their children to grow up with the traditionally disparaging view of Negro history and culture,