

For several years, the Michigan Department of Education has been concerned with developing an educational program designed to create harmony and understanding among the various racial, religious and socio-economic groups of our society.

It is, therefore, not unusual to find included among the several state curriculum planning committees, one whose major responsibility is the improvement of human relations in our schools.

As one of its recent activities, it met on two occasions with key personnel from publishing firms to discuss the problem of the treatment of minority in textbooks. An outgrowth of the second meeting was a request that the committee develop criteria useful in the selection of human relations content in textbooks.

The guidelines which follow are intended to assist persons in making textbook selections. We strongly urge those charged with this responsibility to use these guidelines. In this way, it is more likely that students will be directed in their reading to an unbiased understanding of all groups in our society.

I wish to express my appreciation to the committee on Better Human Relations for its efforts in making this fine publication possible.

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