

Elementary and High School	High School
English	Economics
History and Social Studies	Problem of Democracy (Sociology)
	Foreign Languages

It is clear that in these categories will be found almost all the books in which an inter-cultural or multi-ethnic approach is important to us and to our children. 1966 is thus a crucial year.

We hope that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Committee, and the Board will give the textbook list this year much more than a perfunctory review. We are urging the VBE to revise and expand the list extensively, specifying the more inclusive version where there are two editions. At the very least local school systems should be able to use state funds to buy books which reflect these wider horizons. Of still greater significance would be for the VBE, through its approved list, to show clearly that it wants our whole state school system to respond to the best of modern educational thought and leadership, to adopt a more inclusive approach to society, and to reflect a more generous appreciation of the contributions of all groups to our development and our culture.

We know that there are professional educators, and members of the VBE, who are already concerned about this problem. Others, we are sure, will want to be fair but are genuinely unaware so far of these new developments in schoolbook publishing. Whatever the reason, however, there is not yet either the broad professional awareness among teachers, or the wide base of concerned public opinion, which are probably needed if the improvements suggested here are to be brought about. And that is what this brochure is all about.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

In 1965 an attorney, a member of the Portsmouth Council on Human Relations, raised this concern. Shared by the local group, it was taken up by the board and staff of the Virginia Council. There were some preliminary sessions with the VBE and the State Superintendent, where our delegation was well received. In order to gather information which would help the VBE to reach an enlightened decision, and enable VCHR members to arouse interest and mobilize support, the Council's Education Committee was reactivated and asked to concentrate on this project.

A trained librarian, a member of the Fairfax County Council on Human Relations, was able to draw on various sources including the extensive collection of the U. S. Office of Education in preparing a set of very