

SOCIOLOGY

Negroes Also Prejudiced

► NEGROES are much more inclined to oppose interracial marriage than most white people seem to think, according to a recently completed study of prejudice among Negro and white families of various nationality and ethnic backgrounds.

Almost no Negro queried for the survey said that he would encourage his child to marry a white person. Two sociologists, Dr. Donald J. Bogue and Jan E. Dizard, at the University of Chicago, found that a substantial percentage of Negroes (17.2% of the middle class Negroes queried, and 13.0% of the slum Negroes) claimed they would try to prevent an interracial marriage.

Other Negroes said they would "tolerate" the marriage, and 80% said they would permit their child to marry a white person if the romance had already developed without their knowledge.

But there is no evidence of a desire for interbreeding of the Negroes and whites among the Negroes or even interest in promoting it, except among a very tiny majority, the sociologists concluded.

Begun in 1960 and only recently completed, the study included a total of 721 Negro and 839 white households in various social, economic and ethnic groups within the city of Chicago.

Understanding current racial tensions requires an understanding of the situation from the viewpoint of the Negro as well as the white, believe the scientists.

While slum Negroes tend to feel sorry for themselves when faced with discrimination, middle class Negroes tend to become angry.

Negroes tend to blame the white culture and traditions for racial discrimination and, hence, they believe a good part of the solution of the problem of race relations is one

of changing the white culture, the survey showed.

Yet most Negroes do not place all of the blame on the white community. They seem willing to adopt the position that some but not most of their troubles are their own fault because of behavior patterns and the Negroes' general outlook on life.

The survey also showed up prejudices of the whites who tend to make verbal expressions of sympathy and tolerance for Negroes that suggest much less prejudice than their actual behavior. But even the amount of antipathy expressed verbally is substantial.

There are signs, however, that anti-Negro attitudes are softening.

Another fact brought out by the survey is that anti-Semitism seems to be at a low level of intensity among the U.S. population now. Feelings of antagonism toward the Japanese, so strong only a few years ago, are now surprisingly scarce.

• Science News Letter, 85:367 June 6, 1964

ENGINEERING

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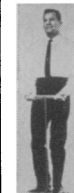
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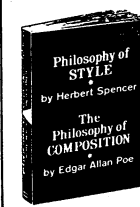
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