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Daily Beacon Article/Photo: "Prejudices Prohibit Love"

Commission for Blacks

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Hernton—'Prejudices prohibit love'

By CHRIS DORIAN

There is no one in America who has not been touched by the racism of sex, said Dr. Calvin Hernton at a speech yesterday as part of the Black Arts Festival.

Hernton, author in residence at Oberlin College, read from the last chapter of his latest work "Coming Together" and spoke on "Black Eros in White Society; or the Problem of Sex

and Love Among Contemporary Blacks."

"I am trying to instill a new consciousness among black men and women," said Hernton. He explained the 400 year history of blacks in America had instilled in blacks prejudices and misconceptions which prohibit them from loving one another until the mistaken ideas are removed.

"Power and domination are the characteristic modes of white sex, and

these have been transferred to blacks. The predominance of concern about interracial sex shows the racist myth hasn't been erased," Hernton said.

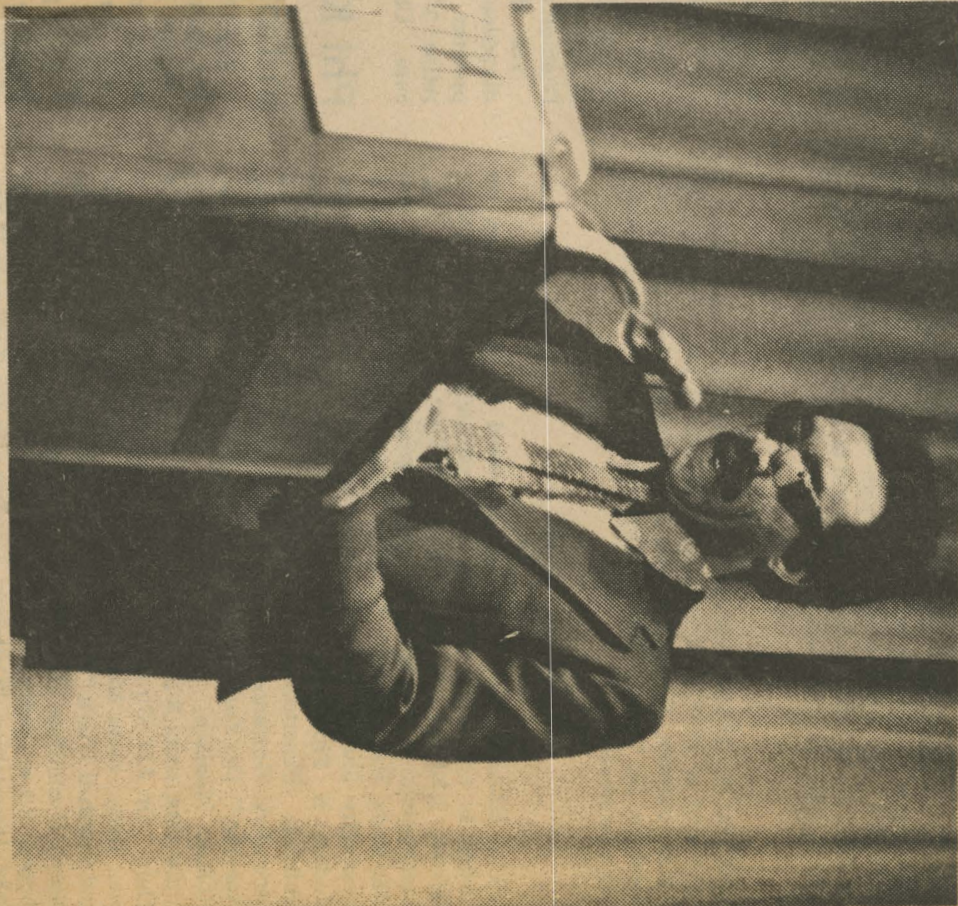
"White society has blown up interracial marriage to the level of a threat," he continued. "The black family must be rebuilt so that the ignorance surrounding that institution can be done away with. White is evil. History has proved this once and for all."

Hernton spoke out against the lack of respect he says blacks have for each other, and said it was due to the pressures of white society, which have forced the masses of blacks to be ashamed of themselves and to become "niggers."

There will be a black fashion and talent show at 8 p.m. tonight in the Alumni Memorial Gym. The show is being held as part of this week's Black Arts Festival.

Charles Evers, mayor of Fayette, Miss. and brother of assassinated black leader Medgar Evers, will speak at 8 p.m. tomorrow in the University Center as part of the festival.

But there is hope for change, said Hernton. When blacks come to a deeper understanding of themselves as individuals and as a race, then sex and love will no longer be tools to obtain things, but ends in themselves.



Dr. Hernton

Staff Photo by Harry Diamant
"I am trying to instill a new consciousness among black men and women," Dr. Calvin Hernton said yesterday during the Black Arts Festival.

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