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Investigation will ease tension

Last week's gunshot death of a black man during the course of an arrest and the resulting disorders in the black community tend to make it easy for the amateur sociologist to gain a platform to offer his own explanation and solution for the events.

Unfortunately, most of these explanations are based more on bias than fact. All sides have their own prejudices that prevent a true critical evaluation.

While the local "public" media dwelt at length on the property damaged and assault aspects of the incidents, the blacks were more properly concerned with the circumstances of the man's death. It willtake a lot of courage for black people to put their faith in the sincerity of a white power structure's

investigation of the tragedy, and certainly the political process has failed the black man all too often.

There is one area of common ground for all interpretations of the events of the past week. Actions in the black community can not be considered as a simple reaction to the death of Connie James. His cause has served as a flame which has rekindled old black fears and heightened their awareness of injustice.

While Fountainhead can not condone violent means to even the worthiest goals, we support a thorough investigation of the circumstances of Connie James' death in the hope of easing groundless speculation and accusations.

Who are the real terrorists?

By BRENDA PUGH Staff Writer

A recent Fountainhead editorial comment stated that the "death of a Black citizen does not justify the terrorist actions that followed." This is very true, but who are the real terrorists, and who is really afraid?

I submit that the terrorists are the law enforcement agents brought out to contain the Black community. As a resulty of the efficiency or inefficiency (e.g. "mistakes," "accidents") of other such agents, at least four Black men have been killed or wounded in the Greater Greenville area-none with perfect justification. The blockading of a whole section of the city is equivalent to caging a whole community because of the actions of a few people in that community. In the absence of bars, these agents armed themselves with rifles, shotguns, and other such "riot" equipment to fight against what? Against youths with fists, sticks, bricks, and other miscellaneous items. The precedent had been set, however, when

Officer Williamson defended himself from a citizen's fist with his gun.

Now who is afraid? I further submit that there was no fear among the Black people on West Fifth Street Wednesday night. If Williamson had not been afriad of the Black man/men, why did he draw his revolver? This was illegal if no one had drawn a deadly weapon on him. If the agents were not afraid for themselves, why did they wear bullet-proof vests against the sticks, etc., previously mentioned? Why were the Campus Police armed and following Black students as they walked across campus? Why were all the agents so anxious to protect those parts of Greenville that lay outside their barricades?

It is clear that terror leads to terrorism the cop kind. It is also clear that the action of terrorism leads to violence—the car busting kind. Since "terror yielding terrorism yielding violence yielding terror" is a cyclic process, whites show good judgment to be in terror—as long as they terrorize.