

Draft for magazine article on segregation with ER's handwritten notes, 1959. In this draft for an article on segregation for the November 1959 issue of Educational Forum, ER predicts that 'segregation in all its strange patterns is on its way out in the world because of the wave of freedom that is passing over the world.' Segregation in the U.S., she argues, is harming America in its international struggle against communism.

Segregation has existed in the US for a long time. It has been less pronounced in certain parts of the country than in others. Owing to the fact that slavery was not really needed in the North, slaves never really became a part of the social fabric of the Northern states, but in the South they were needed to cultivate the crops and the pattern of slavery persisted until the war between the States and Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. This freed the slaves legally, but there is more to freedom than a mere legal pronouncement. Real equality can only be obtained by a change in the minds and hearts of men and that comes about very slowly. There is not yet real equality in the North, though there are not as many restrictions as exist to this day in the South.

Democracy is a form of government which tries to actually give equal opportunity to all its citizens and to give equal justice to all people. This is impossible as long as segregation exists. The mere fact of segregation means discrimination and there can be no equality where there is discrimination.

In the world as a whole there has been a tendency for the white race to look upon itself as the superior race because through early development in certain areas it was able to conquer and to hold in subjection many of the colored peoples of the world. As a result the colored peoples developed more slowly because of lack of opportunity. In the past few years, however, a wave has swept over the world and country after country in one way or another has managed to gain its freedom.

Segregation has not always been based on color. Sometimes it

it has been based on religion. <sup>or law</sup> It can take on many forms and one finds it between people of the same color and simply based on nationality or caste. But segregation in all its strange patterns is on its way out in the world because of the wave of freedom which is passing over the world. <sup>It</sup> Every nation which has newly gained its freedom is particularly sensitive to the attitude of other peoples. There is a desire for the recognition of the dignity of the new nation and its equality among nations. In many of the new nations at the start, they will have great difficulty, because there are only a comparatively few people in many of these nations who have a sufficient amount of training and education to set up and run their new government. Sometimes only one section of a nation is prepared to really understand the experiment in democracy which is being undertaken. ~~no~~ <sup>no</sup> matter how difficult this is going to make the first years of freedom, we cannot doubt but that freedom is going to come to more and more countries in the colored areas of the world. Therefore, segregation must slowly vanish from the relations between human beings.

The over-all struggle in the world today is a struggle between Communism and democracy. If communism understands the problems brought about by segregation, accepts the wiping out of segregation, and is more helpful to the new nations than those among us who profess democracy, then I think communism will have won a distinct advantage over the democratic nations of the world. It behoves us, therefore, to realize that the significance of the segregation of races is the effect that our approach as members of democratic nations, can have in the final decisions arrived at by these new nations, ~~who~~ <sup>they</sup> actually hold the balance of power for the future in

their hands. They hold this balance because they cover such large areas of ~~land~~ <sup>land</sup> ~~and~~ such great number of people.

We in the U.S. have a two-fold problem because what we do is watched ~~and~~ <sup>not</sup> therefore our actions have international significance. If we can/solve our difficulties and remove segregation from our country, why should it be possible to attract the colored peoples of the world to our philosophy, to our form of government, to our way of life when we are unwilling to give the colored people of our own country an opportunity for equality and justice? This is the underlying significance for us in the U.S. in the whole question of segregation and it is to be hoped that it will be recognized by our people throughout the nation and that serious ~~thought~~ <sup>changes in attitude</sup> will result. ①

Changes, particularly in the mores which have endured for several generations, are always painful and very difficult but it may well be that this is part of the problem of survival and therefore worthy of study by the best objective minds in our country and in the world.

① Some people hold that the black race cannot develop to the same heights <sup>10th</sup> as the white but that is <sup>no</sup> <sup>mentally</sup> <sup>disproved</sup> by the exceptions which have already done so in spite of all the handicaps placed in their way.