Keep the pools closed

The Jackson Citizens Council opposes the opening of the municipal swimming pools in the City of Jackson on an integrated basis, and urges the Mayor and Commissioners to keep them closed. There have been no racial incidents at these locations for the very good reason that none could happen. We do not want to see this peaceful situation changed.

If the experience of the past decade of the Negro Revolution proves anything, it proves that integration does not bring racial peace; it brings racial violence and friction. Integration does not bring improved opportunities for all; it brings lowered educational standards. Integration does not bring brotherhood; it brings Black Power.

Integrating the municipal swimming pools in compliance with the demands of Black Power agitators. If we indeed managed our own destiny, the pools would be open, and segregated, as they were for years. Remember?

The sponsors of the Statement of Belief and Intention have no monopoly on good will. Every decent citizen desires harmony, good order, a decent family life and a chance for everyone to better himself economically. Every decent citizen dislikes hate, discord and violence. Most of us are on the side of the angels.

But, gentlemen, all of you who sponsored the Statement of Belief and Intention, do you seriously believe that we have to have interracial swimming parties in order to enjoy these benefits of an orderly society?