Jules Feiffer
Some Civil Rights Related Cartoons, 1960-1966

Illustrations by Jules Feiffer. Copyright © 1960-1966 by Jules Feiffer. Originally published in B’nai B’rith. Used by permission of Brandt & Holcunan Literary Agents, Inc. on behalf of the author. Any reproduction of this content is strictly prohibited. All rights reserved.
Dier since he was knee high to a grasshopper. I'd say to Little Ben, 'Little Ben, you're shiftless an lazy.' An' Little Ben would shuffle a step or two an' say, 'Guess I is, Mr. Tom.' We got along fine that way. Little Ben an' me.

I'd keep tellin' him what he was an' sure enough come the day.

An' he was growin' up jes' fine till them outsiders come along an' told Little Ben jes' because I told him he was shiftless an' lazy didn't make it so.

Well, after that Little Ben didn't listen to me the way he use to. I'd say, 'Little Ben no matter what anybody says, you're shiftless an' lazy an' didn't do no good.'

An' he'd say right back with, 'Mr. Tom, no matter what anybody says, you're a racist, you're a killer an' your time is comin'.

Well, I beat him up pretty good for that an' anytime I'd see more agitations around I took a gun to them, but it didn't do no good.

I begun t' worry if I wasn't like what Little Ben said.

So I killed Little Ben.

That's what he gets for mak' in' me believe his dream instead of his believin' mine.
AS PART OF A FACT FINDING, TROUBLE SHOOTING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM SENT OUT TO SEEK WAYS OF RESTORING BI-RACIAL COMMUNICATIONS IN SOUTHERN CITIES, I WOULD LIKE TO REPORT OUR FINDINGS.

NO. 1 - IT IS OUR CONCLUSION THAT SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES ARE SEMANTIC. THE NEGRO COMMUNITY HAS DROPPED THE USE OF THE COURTESY WORD "SIR", REPLACING IT WITH A WORD FOUND TO BE FAR LESS APPEALING. IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT OF THE WORD "SIR" MIGHT WELL OPEN OTHER AREAS FOR DISCUSSION.

NO. 2 - IN TALKS WITH WHITE CIVIC LEADERS IT BECAME CLEAR THAT INCREASED TENSION WAS DUE TO NEGRO LAPSIS IN THE TECHNIQUE OF NON-VIOLENCE. SOUTHERN MODERATES FEEL THIS TO BE A BETRAYAL OF THE NEGRO REVOLUTION AND INSIST THAT ONCE THE NEGRO COMMUNITY SURRENDERS ITS ARMS OTHER AREAS FOR DISCUSSION MIGHT WELL BE OPENED.

NO. 3 - SOUTHERN MODERATES DEMAND THE CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT OF NEGRO CHILDREN IN SUNDAY SCHOOLS TO BE A DELIBERATE PROVOCATION. RETURN NEGRO RELIGION TO THE HARMLESS PURPOSES IT WAS DESIGNED FOR AND OTHER AREAS FOR DISCUSSION MIGHT WELL BE OPENED.

FINALLY WE FIND THAT WHITE CIVIC LEADERS REMAIN PERTURBED AT OUTSIDE AGITATORS - A PRIME EXAMPLE BEING THEIR ANGER AT OUR FACT FINDING, TROUBLE SHOOTING PRESIDENTIAL TEAM. WHEN IT TRIED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE NEGRO COMMUNITY, THE DISSOLUTION OF OUR TEAM MIGHT WELL SERVE TO OPEN OTHER AREAS FOR DISCUSSION.

OUR PRESENT ATTITUDE IS THAT THE MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE SHOULD BE CONTINUED.
MY FATHER SAYS THAT "THANK GOD IT'S A BLESSING WE DON'T LIVE IN THE SOUTH WITH ALL THIS GOING ON.

ABSOLUTELY, MY FATHER AGREES.

MY FATHER SAYS: "HA! AND THEY CALL THIS A DEMOCRACY! DON'T THEY KNOW HOW THIS LOOKS TO THE UNCOMMITTED COUNTRIES?"

EXACTLY WHAT MY FATHER SAYS. MY FATHER IS VERY INTERESTED IN UNCOMMITTED COUNTRIES.

MY FATHER SAYS, "I'M ASHAMED TO CALL MYSELF AN AMERICAN WITH LITTLE ROCK AND ALL."

MY FATHER QUITE DEFINITELY AGREES. HE'S ALWAYS BEEN ASHAMED OF CALLING HIMSELF AN AMERICAN.

MY FATHER SAYS THAT "THANK GOD THERE'S NONE OF THIS NOISECASE HERE IN NEW YORK."

MY FATHER GOES RIGHT ALONG WITH YOUR FATHER. THEY CAN THROW THE REST OF THE COUNTRY AWAY AS FAR AS MY FATHER IS CONCERNED.

WHERE DO THEY SEND YOU?

THORSTEIN VELENS ACADANY IN SCARSALD. HOW ABOUT YOU?

"THE PANDIT NEHRU SCHOOL. IT'S IN NYE."
Billie came over to me in the morning and said you promised to take me to the zoo today, Daddy, and I said I'm sorry, Billie boy, but Daddy has got somethings else he must do today.

And Billie's Momma said now you stop bothering your Daddy, Billie boy, and I said don't scold the boy, Charlotte. I know just the way he feels because I still remember what it was like when my Daddy disappointed me.

And Charlotte hugged me and called me her honey bear and said you're too gentle for your own good, Daddy, and I said it's a bad thing when a father has to break a promise to his son. That's the way a child can turn sour.

And Charlotte said no child of ours will turn sour so long as a man like you is around, and I hugged her and said you're my little girl, then I picked up my bat and I said I'd best be on my way. I'm late as it is.

Hit one for me, Charlotte yelled, and for me too, Daddy, Billie boy yelled, and I yelled back don't you worry about me. I'll do fine.

And then I drove downtown to the civil rights demonstration.
Originally published in *New York Post*:

```
FEIFFER

I tried going through the courts, and that didn't work.

I tried freedom riding, and that didn't work.

I'm trying rioting, that doesn't seem to be working either.

I tried sitting in, and that didn't work.

What is it you people want?

©1947 Kurt Egger
```