Think organizing is a luxury? Think twice. For hotel and restaurant workers in California and Nevada, organizing is our future!

And we salute CTWO's Minority Activist Apprenticeship Program for its role in moving young people of color to join in the struggle of working people and minority communities.

If you believe organizing in the workplace is vital to the fight for social justice in this country, then join us. We're looking for a few committed people -- and we encourage people of color to apply -- for jobs in organizing and research.

MAAP grads and others -- we want to hear from you!
Call Karl Lechow at (213) 556-1924.

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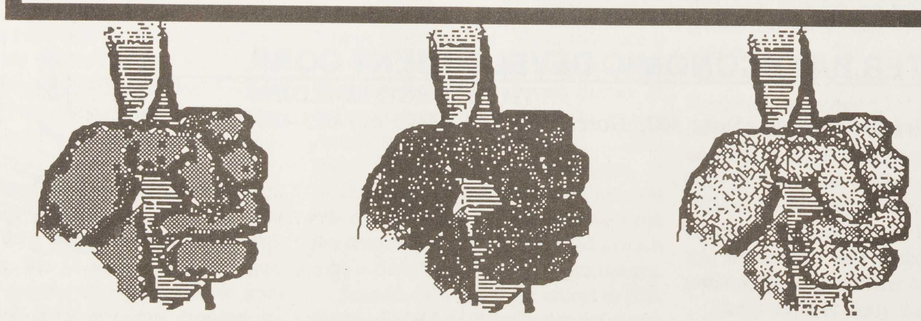

Red Apple: continued from page 13

build a sense of identification with other peoples of color.

Secondly, different communities need to build relationships so they can break down their racist stereotypes of each other, and begin to respect the different political realities of different communities of color. In Washington, D.C., for example, various Asian and African-American activists developed the Afro-Asian Relations Council to build cooperative relations between Asian merchants and Black community leaders.

They have been holding cultural awareness workshops which lead community members and leaders through the history of oppression of both communities, examine the perceptions these communities have of each other, and explore what the communities are willing to do to improve the situation. The workshops are just "the bird seed stuff for building a relationship between Asians and African Americans," explains Margo Okazawa-Rey, one of the workshop facilitators in the council.

Thirdly, communities of color need to target the larger systemic processes that control economic, social, and political realities.

Alleviating tensions and building cooperation between Korean merchants and the African-American community may be difficult, but in broader terms interracial coalitions around class issues are fundamental. "It seems so central to have coalitions," Fraser insists. "Otherwise, people lose sight of the larger processes involved. Who is really in charge? Who owns the banks?" Lucius Walker, executive director of the Inter-Religious Fund for Community Organizations, has been brainstorming plans for an organizing project to build Asian and African American unity. To date, there is no joint organizing project in Brooklyn which targets the larger economic processes such as redlining, or political processes like representation to the community board.

While applauding consciousness-raising efforts and awareness trainings, community activists like Fraser believe that there will never be a real motivation to find a common ground until the communities involved discover that the material and political benefits from taking action together outweigh the problems in making it work.

Order extra copies of the CTWO 1991 Calendar; it makes the perfect holiday gift for your community and labor activist friends and family. Only $10

The CTWO calendar incorporates artwork from the indigenous peoples of Asia, Africa and the Americas. Original design by John Beam — only a limited number were printed so order yours now!

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