

NO MORE

Bang bang, a shot rang out
in the night. Mother keeps on
cookin'... 'sides we hear 'em
every night,
and like our neighbors it's kinda
like it's starting to be alright.

Nobody runs to call the cops
no more. 'less they're shooting up
your house
or killed someone at your door.

I mean like nobody gets bent
outta shape or all uptight
Everybody's chillin' an' it's alright
Somebody somewhere gettin' popped
in the night. 'long as it aint us
it's alright

All thru with supper gettin' ready
for bed. The man came to tell
my mother that my brother was dead.
And as she cried her grief and sank
to the floor, it wasn't alright no more
no more
it wasn't alright no more.

— Joy Campbell

(schools cont. from p 1) In an effort to get this funding we have held two meetings in which city councilors were invited to support our goals. The first meeting was held on December 12, which turned out to be the worst snowstorm of the winter, (it's not enough ACORN has to fight city hall?). Sixty five members braved mother nature that day, no city councilors turned out. We tried again this March, this time Councilor Salerno was the sole councilor to bother to show up. So ACORN we know what happens next don't we? As Charles Fenton so gracefully put it at the insurance forum, "If the mountain won't go to Mohammed,

then Mohammed must go to the mountain." In other words, city hall, here we come. Other guests at the meeting were Officer Miller from the police anti gang unit, Mrs. Burnette, parent councilor at the M.L.King school and Mr. Sullivan, Youth Activities Coordinator, Dorchester YMCA. All greatly reinforced the need for free after school programs for children of our area. The people of the community know our children are a priority and they are at risk on the streets. We will provide programs, we will get the funding, but only if we stand together and act.

This campaign has recently become even more important to me. This weekend I lost two very close friends because a sixteen year old was walking around with a gun. That boy didn't learn to kill in school, but on some street corner. Politicians please hear my cry - hear my friend's family cry - my neighborhood cry - and seriously think about doing something to solve this problem. Our kids are getting shot down in the streets, like dogs, like animals.

Loudalla O'Bryan ACA MEMBER

