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UA12/1 Statement

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WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY 42101

Office of the Vice President
for Student AffairsSTATEMENTSTUDENT BODY
Western Kentucky University

The recent article about the student mother that was published in the magazine section of the College Heights Herald on April 28, 1987, reflected, in my judgment, a terrible insensitivity to the absolute necessity in today's society for all of us, black and white, to avoid promoting and perpetuating stereotyped notions.

I think that the greatest need we have on our campus today is to understand and care about others. In considering the needs of others, we must be able to put ourselves in their situations and see life from their points of view. If we do this, we can better understand our fellow human beings. When we, blacks and whites, can view each other with respect and compassion, we will have achieved a major accomplishment.

I am confident that this incident has heightened our awareness as to the need for a more meaningful dialogue between black and white students. Hopefully, we can all benefit from this experience as we, working together, attempt to improve the "quality of life" for all Western students.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jerry R. Wilder".

Jerry R. Wilder
Vice President for Student Affairs

JRW:lt