The Berkeley article shows a lot of knowledge of the district and includes carefully thought-out criticism of the strike as a radical movement. Critics among the strike's leaders were teachers' insensitivity to the needs and desires of Third World communities, a lack of solidarity with lower paid, non-professional workers in the district and a failure to make contact with parents and show a concern for educational needs.

Some teachers pass Third World students on to the next grade without having taught them the material, thereby institutionalizing a system of non-education," Osawatomie writes. "For these reasons there is a lot of mistrust between black and other Third World parents and the teachers; parents were not inclined to support the teachers' demands. Black parents were especially afraid that if the teachers won, the money to pay their wages would come from the special school programs they had struggled for. They also feared that if the board had to lay off teachers after the strike, it would be the more recently hired Third World teachers.

"Early on, some teachers proposed that the Board raise the funds to make up the 7 1/2 percent wage cut by eliminating the ethnic studies program," the writer adds.

Osawatomie felt that gains had been made towards the end of the strike in unity between parents and teachers, but some of the organizational efforts towards this end have faded away since the strike. Berkeley Citizens' Action (BCA) has an ongoing education committee that parents, teachers and non-teaching "classified" school workers had at their meeting. Berkeley City council member Vytaus Micsonis, also a teacher here, is a member.

Anyone who wants more information about this effort to build a progressive school community can call Luane Rogers, 845-3829, for information.

Concerns to the claim made by Osawatomie, my experience has shown decreasing support for the teachers among classified employees.

Osawatomie mentioned that Albert Shanker, head of the American Federation of Teachers, was not made welcome during the strike, chiefly because of his reputation as a racist. Shanker, the Weather underground says, supported both Vietnam, red, white, and blue-red, supports unlimited arms to Israel, attacked community control of schools by New York blacks and Puerto Rican community and sold out teachers by accepting layoffs of chiefly Third World people. The ready acceptance of teachers' strike showed many schools, those that were unions, they are not unions that do the work. Some leftwing teachers; and the original school community can call Luane Rogers, 845-3829, for information.

On the other hand, Berkeley teachers' strike showed that the boards are not the only problem; the teachers are also a problem. "Serrano is ambiguous on the question of local control," he said. "Serrano is ambiguous on the question of local control."