I HAVE THE RIGHT…
Not to justify my existence in this world.
Not to keep the races separate within me.
Not to be responsible for people’s discomfort with my physical ambiguity.
Not to justify my ethnic legitimacy.

I HAVE THE RIGHT…
To identify myself differently than strangers expect me to identify.
To identify myself differently from how my parents identify me.
To identify myself differently from my brothers and sisters.
To identify myself differently in different situations.

I HAVE THE RIGHT…
To create a vocabulary to communicate about being multiracial.
To change my identity over my lifetime - and more than once.
To have loyalties and identification with more than one group of people.
To freely choose whom I befriend and love.

Bill of Rights For Racially Mixed People
By Maria P.P. Root

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

The Pennsylvania State University is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. It is the policy of the University to maintain an academic and work environment free of discrimination, including harassment. The Pennsylvania State University prohibits discrimination and harassment against any person because of age, ancestry, color, disability or handicap, national origin, race, religious creed, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. Discrimination or harassment against faculty, staff, or students will not be tolerated at The Pennsylvania State University. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to the Affirmative Action Director, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901; Tel 814-865-4700/V, 814-863-1150/TTY.

Multicultural Resource Center
220 Grange Building
The Pennsylvania State University
State College, PA 16803
Phone: 814-865-1773
Fax: 814-863-0704
Web Site: www.equity.psu.edu/mrc/both
Interested? Contact: Diane Farnsworth (dgf1@psu.edu)

U.Ed.OVP 04-9

Blends of Traditional Heritages

A Biracial Discussion Group
A Unit of the Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity
B.O.T.H. is a group for all students who classify themselves as bi/multiracial with one parent of African/African American descent and the other parent of Caucasian/Hispanic/Asian or other background. The group meets to share a common experience, to discuss pertinent issues to their worldview as biracial individuals, be exposed to articles, books and documentaries focusing on biracial topics and connect with others like themselves.

**HISTORY**

B.O.T.H. began in 1992, when Diane Farnsworth, a counselor at the Multicultural Resource Center, read an essay from a biracial student she was advising. The student talked about her experience as a biracial person. Diane was unfamiliar with the complexities of issues a biracial student may face. She then realized there were many more students like the one she advised. She decided that there should be a place where biracial students could come together and share their experiences. Diane then began the group with another faculty member. They decided to call the group B.O.T.H. (Blends Of Traditional Heritages)

**ACTIVITIES**

B.O.T.H. members meet biweekly and share a common experience through personal stories, watching documentaries and discussions about dating, discrimination, family and society. At the meetings, the group has speakers, but they also have fun doing extracurricular activities. During the fall B.O.T.H. comes together to celebrate the end of the semester.

Diane Farnsworth & D'Andre Wilson: B.O.T.H. Advisors

Members of B.O.T.H. on their way to the 2002 Multicultural Conference in New York