

TRANSCRIPT

To Whom Does This Concept Benefit, And Where Do People Of Colour Stand?

Episode 1: Home & Community

(Soundscape audio starts: bells chiming slow and mellow.)

Male Voice 1:

We are a prospering people. Wherever we live or earn our lively hood. We have bounties beyond those known to the people of any other day.

Male Voice 2:

Attractive home of John and Margaret Bryant. The home they've always dreamed of, the happiest investment they have ever made. At last the Bryants have all the space they need. Big floor-to-ceiling closets for each member of the family.

(A second track of the same male voice begins to overlap, hearing both at the same time.)

Male Voice 2:

Its own living areas a feature in the plan of their home at your convenience and privacy for various family activities.

(Back to a singular voice track.)

Male Voice 1:

... The celebrations in which whole communities participate... To provide for the well-being of others as well as for our own. We have our charities, our churches, our synagogues, our cathedrals.

(Soundscape music continues to play, it becomes ominous, and sweeping noises begin and become more and more intense.)

(Female Voice 1 begins, then Male Voice 3, and Male Voice 4. The tracks overlap, hearing all three at once.)

Female Voice 1:

Nobody! in Nova Scotia or in Canada or in the world. has the power to rob me of my personal dignity. Whether it's my next-door neighbour or whether it's the Premier of Nova Scotia.

Male Voice 3:

We live a decent kind of life. We fathers have a bit of time to watch our kids and play with them. You can't tell where the playing ends and where the work begins. We mix them here; we learn by living. Playgrounds, schools, libraries are meant for everyone... They're meant for everyone... They're meant for everyone.

Male Voice 4:

You see the generation in the north end of Halifax in the negro slums called Africville.

(Male Voice 5 begins, with Male Voice 3 overlapping.)

Male Voice 5:

So why is it that Black people don't own the land where they live? White people own that land. We've never been taught property value. How you gon tell me to love this property that exploits me every day? When the average black man works the first Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday for a landlord.

Male Voice 3:

At the centre of the family activity area, an efficient kitchen saves countless steps and needless effort in the preparation and serving of meals.

(Female Voice 2 and Male Voice 2 begin, playing at once.)

Female Voice 2:

Father came from Oklahoma. His uncle was going to ah have this ah plantation. But the white people around him that had plantation, they wanted his, so they decided to get rid of him. Well in fact they gonna lynch him... well in fact they gonna lynch him, well in fact they gonna lynch him.

Male Voice 2:

The superb Lennard magic cycle refrigerator... top to bottom, the Lennard magic cycle is built with all the most wanted features to help you live better.

(Back to a singular track.)

Male Voice 6:

And have you, as I have heard, spend your lifetime fighting racism in Nova Scotia?

(Female Voice 1 and Male Voice 2 begin and overlap.)

Female Voice 1:

You can say that, yeah. Uh, racism began with me, I would say at birth, but I fought on my own terms and with my own weapons... Weapons... Weapons.

Male Voice 2:

We can see the scenic grandeurs of our nation... And the cities build by all the races and nationalities which have come to people our great country.

(Male Voice 7 and Male Voice 8 begin and overlap, with Male Voice 2 playing quieter underneath.)

Male Voice 7:

Is it too much to ask you to grant us human dignity? Should we be put down and shot to death for this request? If so, you can aim your guns. What the hell do you think we care about dying if you're going to deny us the right to live?

Male Voice 2:

The Bryants have had opportunity for individual expression in this and other interiors throughout the house. In their selection of such things as wall and floor coverings and the accent colours of fixtures and appointments. The patio, easily reach through sliding glass doors provide an outdoor living room ideal for separate activities.

Male Voice 8:

In the best path for our black progeny. See what people don't understand, we are saying and we're not asking, you see, the die is cast, as I said, we're not asking. We're saying that this is the way it's going to be.

(Soundscape becomes the primary track, becoming calmer, then slowly ends.)