

B-2096

03 SEP 1970

SUBJECT: Black Panther Party Endorsement of the Women's Liberation Movement and the Gay Liberation Movement (RM)

there was divided opinion within the leadership of the Black Panther Party (BPP) over the BPP's official policy of support for the Women's Liberation Movement and the Gay Liberation Movement. Huey NEWTON, the BPP Minister of Defense, was responsible for the statement of support for these movements which appeared in the 21 August 1970 issue of the Black Panther newspaper. Raymond Masani HEWITT, BPP Minister of Education, opposed this policy, because he felt that it would alienate young blacks. Elaine BROWN of the BPP Los Angeles Chapter also opposed endorsement for the Gay Liberation Movement. David HILLIARD, however, supported NEWTON's position.

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