sociologist says racial barriers are coming down

Black lower-class youth in the South have high hopes for the future and many don't think that race will prove an obstacle to their goals, according to Dr. Arthur G. Cosby, a sociologist with the Texas Agricultural Ex-

spite the limited attainments Despite the limited attainments of blacks and the present oppor-tunities they have, most hope to greatly improve their situation, research by Cosby and J. Steven Picou of Ohio State University

as high as the hopes, a study of urban and rural Louisiana youth showed. Black males expecting to be in professional occupations ed 49 per cent of thos from urban areas and 38 per cent from rural. Medium expectations with jobs such as managers, akilled labor, clerical work and sales being representative, com-posed 36 per cent of urban and urban females, 64 per cent had high expectations and 38 per cent medium. Rural females split evenly at 49 per cent for both.

evenly at 49 per cent for both.

"A rather surprising finding was that substantial proportions of the respondents indicated that they thought their race would have 'no effect' on the eventual attainment of their occupational goals," 'Cosby said.

"It had been expected that the perception of race as a block would rank very high among

In 40 out of 42 comparisons made in an East Texas study over a two-year period, the pro-portion of blacks who considered race a block was less than excted. In the study black and white attitudes were compared at their sophomore and senior years in high school.

At their sophomore year 43 per cent of the blacks felt race would

The data also suggested that a fairly large proportion of the students thought their intelligence and limited knowledge of opportunities open to them would limit their chances of getting better

approximately 57 per cent of the urban males and 57 per cent of

Since educational achievements are linked closely with the job a person will have, Cosby attempted to determine factors that youth felt would limit their education.

"Lack of money was by far the most common response," he said, with some 82 per cent of the rural

keep them from achieving the education they desired. Substantial proportions of both groups of females felt the same way.

To blacks, the lack of technical schools or colleges nearby was also a factor. In their senior was also a factor. year, 46 per cent of the black youth felt that it would affect-their careers, while only 26 per cent of the whites thought so.

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