

From: Lee Evans  
San Jose State College  
San Jose, California

One of the purposes of the Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles is to present new and meaningful alternatives to young black people as to how to cast off the oppressive links of second class citizenship imposed upon us by this society.

The Olympic Games work shop chaired by Professor Harry Edwards of San Jose State College will explore one such avenue. We hopefully will open the eyes of those who have "never believed the Negroes would take the idea of a boycott seriously" and we also hope to mobilize black people behind whatever tact we do assume relative to a boycott.

My own position on a boycott is this:

The olympics is something that I have dreamed of participating in ever since I first learned how to ~~run~~. This does not however mean participation at any price. And my own manhood is one of the prices that I am not willing to pay. A second and more important price that I am not under any circumstances willing to pay is that of slamming a potential door to freedom in the face of Black people.

If this door can be opened by my

not participatory, then Gentlemen, I  
will not participate!

The workshop at 1:00 Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> is  
extremely important to me for the above  
reasons.

signed

Lee Evans

San Jose State College

San Jose Calif

From: Tommie Smith  
San Jose State College  
San Jose California

I want to clarify several points that I am alleged to have made at a recent speaking engagement in Fresno, California. First of all, <sup>story</sup> it was erroneous from the stand point of what was actually said. Several points that I made were taken completely out of context.

The Olympic game are and always have been of extreme importance and significance to me. I did make the statement in Fresno that I would give my right arm to participate and win a gold medal. However, gentlemen, I am not will to sacrifice my manhood and the basic dignity of my people to participate in the games. I am quite willing not only to give up participation in the games but my life if necessary if it will mean opening a door or channel by which the oppression and injustices suffered by Black people in the U.S.A might be alleviated.

I will definitely be at the olympic games on the 23<sup>RD</sup> of November and I hope that others will be there. I intend to participate fully in the discussion of the pros and cons of a boycott and hopefully the athletes' attitudes about

This will be clarified on this issue.

There is a chance that a boycott will come out of the conference. At the very least, a strong statement denouncing the policies of our racist society will be forthcoming.

If the group decision is to boycott, I will participate wholeheartedly. If it is not to boycott I will most certainly endorse the above mentioned statement.

Any further statements, comments, or dialogue from me will be forthcoming after the November 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference.

Tommy Smith.

~~286/820 - Rolf Petersons~~

From: Professor Harry Edwards  
Chairman: Olympic Boycott Workshop  
to be held: Second Baptist Church 2412 Griffith, L.A.  
Time: 1:00 - 3:30 ~~7:30~~ of NOV - Black Youth Conf. France

This is to clarify the point that the workshop on the "Pros and Cons of an Olympic Boycott" will not be undertaken at a clandestine meeting at U.C. L.A., but will be only one part of an array of workshops to be held at The Black Youth Conference in Los Angeles. The conference will be housed at the Second Baptist Church and not at U.C.L.A.

Secondly no athlete has been asked to speak for all athletes regarding a possible boycott. Neither, to my knowledge, has any athlete endeavored to do so. Neither Tommie Smith, Lee Evans, or Lew Alcindor ~~have~~ made any statement to me or anyone else concerning their intentions ~~during~~ the '68 Olympic games.  
about participating in

Signed  
Prof. Harry Edwards  
Chairman: Olympic boycott workshop  
Black Youth Conference