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# Instant Equality Not Guaranteed

THE United States of America became great by combining people with different backgrounds into a more or less unified nation.

Success in this respect motivated adoption of the motto, "E pluribus unum," translated "Out of many, one." If present trends continue, the motto might need to be revised to read, "E unum pluribus," meaning "Out of one, many."

Diverse pressure groups dedicated to the proposition of making everybody equal, while grabbing all the extra goodies they can reach for themselves, are splintering rather than unifying.

Few phrases used in public documents have been extrapolated so boldly for ulterior purposes than, "All men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

This statement was used in the Declaration of Independence but not in the Constitution of the United States, perhaps because the first us-

age held "these truths to be self-evident."

It is self-evident today that we have become so obsessed with the so-called rights of the minorities that we frequently overlook the fact that the majority has rights, too.

It is equally plain that some spokesman demanding "equal rights" really mean "special privileges" and "unequal benefits." Misleading uses of the terms make truly fair treatment difficult.

Few will argue that rights of every American include the opportunity to obtain the best education available, to achieve as much as he is able and to live as well as he can afford.

Nowhere in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution or in the tradition of free men is it stated that people are entitled to these things without putting forth efforts of their own.

Yet, the privilege of being supported in comfort without working is an "equal right" demanded by some, and which Congress has

piecemeal enacted into the law of the land.

So, rather than unifying the people on the basis of equal standards, producers and non-producers are being driven farther apart. They tend to resent one another increasingly, as each segment feels the other enjoys privileges and money they don't deserve.

Nowhere is "e unum pluribus" more apparent than in the White House, as the administration bows first to one splinter group and then to another.

The American concept of freedom is not to make everybody fit into strict patterns of equality, like clones or robots, or to enact laws providing for instant education, instant culture and instant success. It is to provide opportunities to achieve these goals.

The American concept of constitutional government intended that national policies conform to the will of the majority. Unless the majority exercises its will by demanding its "rights," it may soon find that it doesn't have any!