

## WHY SHOULD WE?

The colored man should not complain of unfair treatment. He should cease his protests against "Jim Crowism." The so-called intelligent colored man, the highly educated colored man, and the colored man who claims to equal the white man in the literary world do more to discriminate against the race to which he is identified than the white man. We are not surprised at the ignorant negro, but, when the highly educated and the alleged refined negro man sets himself in a "Jim Crow" corner we should not

complain when the white man "Jim Crows" them. We are utterly surprised at some of the colored people in this city. The native Washingtonian is hardly guilty of "Jim Crowing" himself. It is the new negro and the interlopers who come to this city seeking social notoriety that discriminate against themselves. It is the negro who is afraid of the white man. It is the apologetic negro and the toady. The colored society of this city is made up of a conglomeration from other cities. It is composed, to a great extent, of the inferior negro who has no standing at his own home. The ladies of Washington, that is, some of them, are imposed upon. They are good-natured and hospitable; but the men who don't know how to appreciate good treatment judge all females alike. Generally speaking, the negro is his own enemy. He doesn't know how to discriminate between that which is good and that which is bad. An escaped convict is received upon equal terms in our society as the most refined and highly cultured gentleman. The people of this city are imposed upon. The great trouble with many negroes who come to this city is, they are ashamed of their nationality. If we could teach the negroes to know, that is, those who are ashamed of their race, that they must be content with their complexion, perhaps conditions would change. Just why a black man wants to change the color of his skin we don't know. You will never see a cultured white man trying to be black, or a Jew wanting to be something else. The only nationality in the United States that seems to be ashamed of himself, his color, and his hair, is the negro. The only nationality that will "Jim Crow" himself is the negro. And why we don't know. The negro often attempts to ape after the white man or woman. But very soon you find him drifting back into the same old rut. Originality is what the negro should be taught.