

Kidnapping or Lynching?

To the Editor of the AFRO:

Regardless of the fact that crime has been rampant for the last score of years, it remained for the kidnapping of the son of a national idol, to arouse the country to a sense of its utter helplessness to cope with crime, as it is today.

This condition comes as a natural consequence of the laggard attitude of our government in demanding a uniform respect for all laws.

When a mob takes a prisoner out and snuffs out his life, officials sit complacently twiddling thumbs. But when news of the kidnapping was flashed over the wires, the President got busy. True the kidnapping is an atrocious crime, but lynching is more atrocious. There is a chance for the baby to be returned to its parents none the worse for its experience, but there is no hope for the return from the dead for the victim of mob violence.

Now each state seeks to demand more drastic laws to deal with kidnapping. Why not make it a bit more unhealthy for those who practice mob rule?

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