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# OC Putting More Emphasis On 'Human Relations' Matters

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SANTA ANA—Unlike past years, county administrators are putting more emphasis on "human relations" matters.

Two years ago, when the county human relations commission was formed, county supervisors were reluctant to give it permanent status and a budget for more than one employe.

County Administrative Officer Robert Thomas has said this year that the commission's director will participate in budget study sessions when other department heads handling "people programs" make their pitch for funds.

Budget sessions begin Thursday. An approved budget is due in July.

One of the commission's major efforts, noted in its last six-month report released this past week, has been monitoring the success of programs to intensify hiring and promo-

tion of minorities, commonly called affirmative action.

Morry Lindros, commission director, said its employment committee has been working with groups in Anaheim and Huntington Beach to set up task forces to help each city develop its minority hiring plans.

The committee's goal, he added, is "to encourage local government to set an example through its own employment practices."

During the last six months of 1973, he added, the commission listened to 40 complaints of discrimination in hiring and referred "several" of them to the state Fair Employment Practices Commission (FEPC).

Abe Moya, one of the commission's two field representatives, was assigned to the FEPC's new minority advisory committee set up to keep it informed of local efforts to increase minority hiring.

County Supervisor Ralph Diedrich praised the report as "deserving of a lot of reading. I know I'm going to be using it as an aid."

In accepting the report, supervisors also authorized personnel administrators to distribute copies of it to all other departments.

Among the commission's other activities listed in the report were:

—Advocating the use of Spanish-speaking personnel in county schools to deal with

parents as well as students who do not know English.


—Helping the Orange County Fair Housing Council investigate complaints of housing discrimination;

—Developing a course for county high schools on "students and the law," similar to one already in use in Los Angeles and La Habra,

—Attempting to relieve police-minority youth tensions by getting "all parties in a complaint to sit down and talk to one another."

## DEATH PENALTY

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