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# The Reactor

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## We're in this together

You and I, as Pacificans, are all in this together. You and I live in a middle sized city on the edge of the United States.

The name Pacifica is more than appropriate, because not only do we live on the edge of the Pacific Ocean, we live on the Pacific plate, a chunk of the Earth that is on a trip toward Alaska. Pacifica and Los Angeles are on the same plate.

San Francisco is on the North American plate, and it won't be long geologically, (only a few million years) before we part company with San Francisco and head north.

Right now, however, Pacifica is at 37 degrees, 38 minutes north latitude, 122.29 west longitude. That puts us east of Santa Rosa and Petaluma, south of Athens, Greece, and practically due west of Modesto, Calif., and Wichita, Kan.

Pacifica's San Pedro rock is the farthest western point

on the San Francisco peninsula. In fact the next land directly south is on the Antarctic continent. Every point in the Americas to the south of Pacifica is also to the east of Pacifica.

On the bottom of the world Melbourne, Australia at 37 degrees, 52 minutes south, almost matches our position on the other side of the world.

Every day people move into Pacifica. Each day people move out. Each day, inexorably, Pacifica changes. The 1980 census showed a few thousand Hispanics, Blacks, Asians, Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and an Eskimo or two among us.

The 1990 census, when it comes out, will show more Blacks, Asians and Pacific Islanders, and fewer Caucasians in Pacifica. It will show, in an inexorable trend, that Pacificans are getting older and its young children are getting fewer. It didn't take a formal census to show us the trend. It is obvious that, like Daly City, Pacifica must change. In the sixties there was an effort made to keep minorities out of the San Francisco suburbs. Thanks to the demands and pressures from a lot of people of good will, that has changed drastically.

Who we are and where we are on the globe is important to us all. We're west of Wichita, east of South Korea, south of Santa Rosa and north of a big chunk of ocean, but we're also a long way from where we were only 25 years ago. How we act toward each other, and whether we accept each other, is even more important.