

PRESS CONFERENCE
MAY 21, 1966 CONCERN
THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

Miss Ruby Robinson read the SNCC statement. Following the statement the SNCC was open for questions. Below are a list of questions asked and responses given.

QUESTION....Is desegregation as a goal out as far as you are concerned?

ANSWER.....We see intergration as an insidious substitute for white supremacy in this country for example: Any talk about intergration has always been initiated by the black community. After we initiated that action, we were beaten and jailed, and we went through a period of suffering, after that period of suffering we were redeemed. Redemption was being allowed to sit next to people like Jim Clark. We feel that that's not important, what's important in this country is that black people must have power and that's what we are moving toward.

QUESTION...We feel desegregation is not a goal how do you feel?

(ANSWER....If there is to be true intergration you're got to have initiative of that of the side. White people in this country have to initiate intergration that's not our problem to initiate it any more, we been head lifted and up started into white societies all our lives and we're tired of that, and what we need is black power.

QUESTION...You think with black power you can get the goal of intergration?

ANSWER.....The goal of intergration is irrelevant, that's not our problem.

QUESTION...What sort of power? Political, Economical

ANSWER.....Political economic power, that's what we said. Political and economical power in this country is what black people have to have.

QUESTION...How will you go about getting political power?

ANSWER.....We're already started in Ala. with independent political organizing organizations, and we are going to continue doing that in the future.

QUESTION...What are your plans for Georgia?

ANSWER....Well we will discuss that at our program meeting next month.

QUESTION...What about things like school desegregation guidelines? Is this something that doesn't interest you any more?

ANSWER....We are only out to see that there's decent education not intergrated education.

QUESTION..Is it true that you're not inviting to the whites to take part in your movement?

ANSWER....That isn't true! Mr. Jack Minnis is on our central committee. Nobody has been fired. The staff and the people that has been on the staff are still there.

QUESTION..Haven't some of the white people left SNCC?

ANSWER....So have some of the negroes.

QUESTION..But haven't some of them left because of the new policy?

ANSWER....None have left since the staff meeting.

QUESTION..Will you encourage whites in the future to take part in the movement?

ANSWER....We certainly will, we think that they have to get into the white communities in order to organize white community.

QUESTION..Then you do intend to use white power also?

ANSWER....We certainly do. Let me explain. The moderates in this community have always been sent to the black community. A casing point would be Lowers. Flowers is a moderate. Let him go to the white community. The white communities need moderation. The black communities do not.

not have power in this country to become powerful. As far as the basic things that concern their lives.

QUESTION.....Does this mean that you will vote only for negroes ?

ANSWER.....We will vote for the people that we can control and who will represent the needs of the people in that area.

QUESTION.....By control do you mean SNCC control ?

ANSWER.....No the people in the area that we organized they are the one who will control.

QUESTION.....Mr. Bond is it true that you are leaving SNCC ?

ANSWER.....No what I intend to do is take some time to work on my book. An upon completion of that to come back to my duties here.

QUESTION.....Whats the name of your book ?

ANSWER.....The Georgia House Is Not A Home..

QUESTION.....Mr. Forman , do you intend to stay with SNCC ?

ANSWER.....Yes I intend to stay with SNCC for the rest of my life unless I'm voted out. I serve as an executive sect. for 5½ years. I feel thats long enough time for the amount of pressure that has been upon me, and I feel that my role now as administrated of the atlanta SNCC Office I can help the movement. I will be working very closely with negro college students. I think we have to get thousands and thousands more students involved in the movement, and thats one of the things that I will be working on now.