

CORE'S ACTION

CORE'S method stresses a dramatic new element in race relations — direct nonviolent action. Through the years people of goodwill have used many ways to fight racial discrimination — education, persuasion, legislation. In CORE's program these approaches are strengthened through the addition of direct nonviolent action.

THE CORE WAY

is *direct* because it pits CORE members against those responsible for a specific discriminatory practice.

is *nonviolent* because even in the midst of the most strenuous projects, CORE members strive to maintain an approach of goodwill and refrain from any kind of physical aggression, no matter what the provocation.

is *action* because it goes beyond education and persuasion, with standing-line techniques before ticket offices and sit-downs in restaurants.

THE PATTERN OF ACTION provides that a CORE group first *investigates* the suspected area of discrimination; then seeks through *discussion* with persons involved to bring about a policy change; after that, *appeals to the public* for support and attracts attention to the unjust policy by such *educational* methods as picketing; and finally, if none of these has succeeded, begins *demonstration* techniques such as sit-downs in restaurants.

TEN LOCAL GROUPS across the country, most operating under the name Committee of Racial Equality, are affiliated with CORE. They have ended discriminatory practices in employment, restaurants, hotels and recreation facilities. Applauding the passage of legislation against discrimination, CORE groups organize projects to test whether the laws are being observed and enforced.

WHILE EACH LOCAL GROUP is largely independent and self-governing, all have accepted a *rule for action* that identifies them as CORE affiliates.

THE RULE FOR ACTION requires a strict adherence to nonviolence on CORE projects — regardless of any violence initiated by others. This attitude of goodwill is a positive force in winning public support, non-interference by police, and often the respect of the opposition.

JOIN CORE if there is a group in your vicinity. If not, you may wish to help organize one. Advice and help in such action are available. Write:

Billie C. Ames
Group Coordinator
3403 Rex Avenue
St. Louis 14, Missouri

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Roger N. Baldwin	Ira DeA. Reid
Allan Knight Chalmers	Arnold M. Rose
Harold Gibbons	George S. Schuyler
E. Stanley Jones	Lillian Smith
Will Maslow	Howard Thurman
Dorothy Maynor	Goodwin Watson
A. J. Muste	Charles S. Zimmerman
A. Philip Randolph	

AFFILIATED GROUPS

Baltimore, Maryland	New York, New York
Chicago, Illinois	Omaha, Nebraska
Cincinnati, Ohio	Pasadena, California
Columbia, Missouri	St. Louis, Missouri
Evanston, Illinois	Washington, D. C.

NATIONAL OFFICE

513 West 166th Street, New York 32, New York

No Religious or Political Connections

CORE

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GRANT'S an example of

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STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF WISCONSIN
816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

On January 1, 1953, the only eating place in downtown Baltimore open to Negroes was in the bus station. Today all downtown dime-store lunch counters are open to everyone, regardless of color.

Behind this lies a story — the story of the Congress Of Racial Equality (CORE) and three of its local groups.

The first campaign of Baltimore CORE was to open lunch counters to all. Careful negotiations, followed by leaflet distributions, quickly produced policy changes at Woolworth's and Kresge's.

The rapidity of these changes was no accident. Negotiations were made easier because these same companies had faced CORE in another city: The St. Louis group had worked patiently for years before successfully opening all downtown dime-store counters there to Negroes.

But in Baltimore there was one holdout — Grant's. Negotiations stalled. As a means of making their protests known, colored and white CORE members sat at Grant's lunch counter during busy hours and tried to get waited on. The first sit-ins in the Summer of 1953 brought no results. The Governor's Commission talked with management. Still no change. Baltimore CORE resumed sit-ins on an enlarged scale and stepped up discussions with Grant's national office in New York.

At the suggestion of Baltimore, New York CORE picketed Grant's Harlem store, asking customers to refuse to buy there as long as the Baltimore store kept its counter closed to Negroes.

Finally, a CORE member — acting as proxy for a stockholder — raised the issue at Grant's annual stockholders' meeting. Company officials promised to look into the matter. A week later they announced their Baltimore store would serve everyone regardless of race.

This success is a dramatic example of the CORE way and of the effectiveness of the Congress of Racial Equality working through its local action groups.



BALTIMORE CORE INFORMS THE PUBLIC

While most of the CORE group wait for service inside, others outside tell passersby what is going on.

ST. LOUIS CORE SITS IN



Demonstrations like this, often on a larger scale, sparked the earlier dime-store campaigns.

NEW YORK CORE URGES BOYCOTT

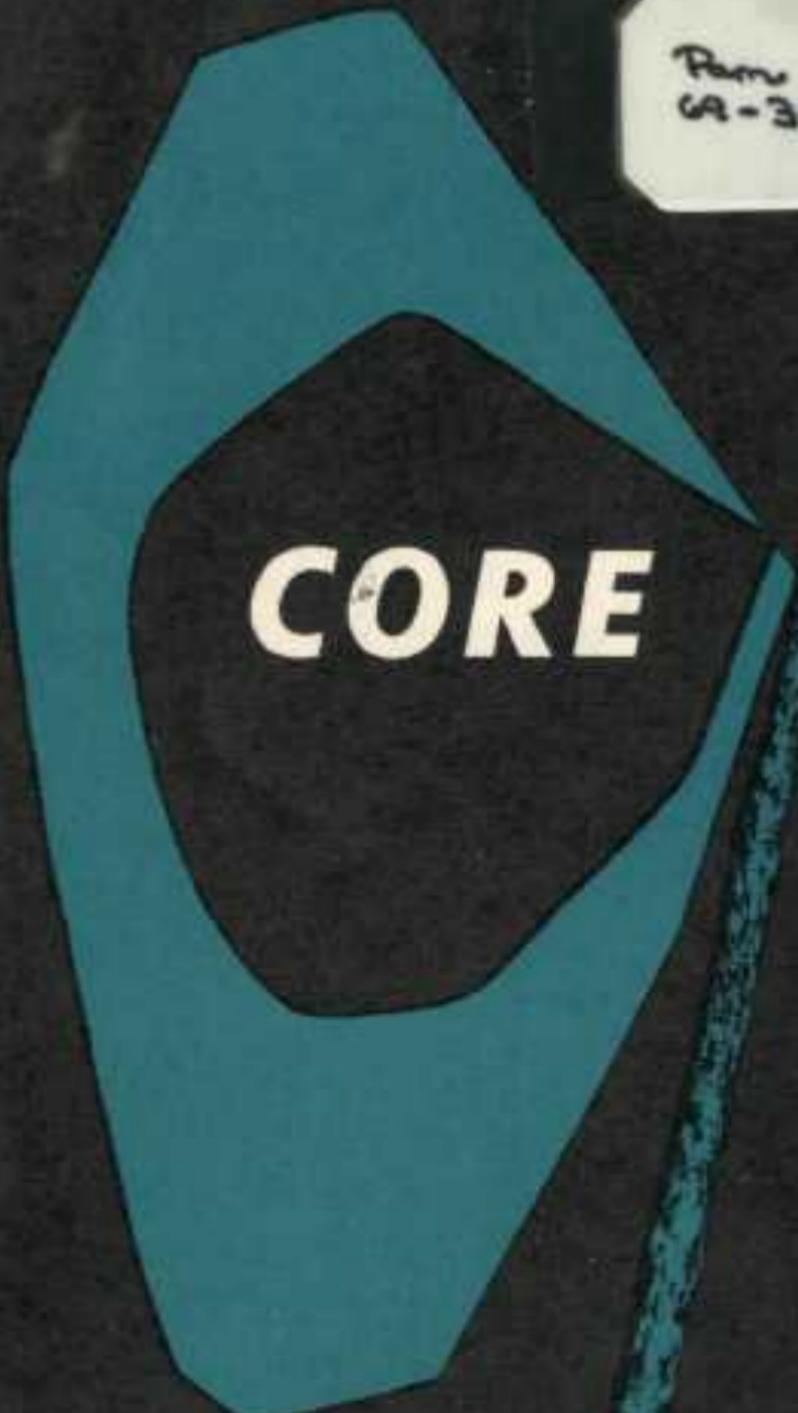


Picketing aroused community support. Leaflets asked the public not to buy at Grant's and to protest to Grant's national office.

What method is behind this and similar CORE victories?

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