



# *Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee*

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Freedom comes through organization and mobilization. Political Freedom that is. It can safely be shown that political freedom is a necessary prerequisite for any other kind of freedom, i.e. economic, social freedom. By political freedom we mean the right to decide one's political destiny. The first and most necessary step for this to happen is that each person be counted as an equal in the political addition(ONE MAN-ONE VOTE). It is interesting to note that the underlying economic philosophy of the Republic is based upon a decentralization of economic power with no single individual able through the use of economic power to influence or control any other individual, this is the basis of Laissez-faire economics or free market economics. Small independent producers each unable to control any of the factors of production so that the price arrived at for producers or consumers goods is "the Natural price". Which is the price that no one sets but somehow set itself. Our Political process were based to a large extent upon this economic system both deriving in the 18th century in this country most exemplified by Jefferson and Paine( although Paine was well aware of the limitations of the system) The economic process has broken down and with it or because of it (no need to postulate a cause effect relationship for our purposes) the political system has also collapsed. The GM production worker does not have much to say about economic decision making as does the pres. of GM. Likewise the Sharecropper does not have the same economic standing (from the point of decision making) as does the plantation owner). Consequently, or because of this, political power has also evolved into a few central hands, in each political unit, City county state. If the above is correct it would seem that there are two courses of action. One in the economic sphere the other in the political realm. Leaving aside the economic for the moment let us take the political. The public is only now coming to realize identify the right to vote as a right, the same fashion as they now identify the right to sit and have a hamburger or a cup of coffee. This transition in the mind of the public must be completed. If we examine those countries which have attained independence through legal means, namely the African nations, we see that the strategy adopted was to repeatedly harp on the one man one vote theme. Harp on it from the point of not of the literate being able to vote, but of only age and residence as the only requirements. The assumption on the part of the leaders which was carrying out this campaign(implicit if not explicit) was that they were so well organized around this concept that they could trust the people to dilute them into office given the opportunity to do so. Hence all tactics and strategy was geared around this. organize to protest the denial of the right to vote, through organization( and in many cases struggle and bloodshed) enough people eventually came to demand the right to vote and at that point came independence. Problems such as literacy, and economic freedom

and what sort of Socio economic system to follow were only brought up after independence and after political power has been consolidated.

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