

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR NEGROES TO VOTE

It is very important for Negroes to vote. They could get their rights by voting for civil rights and the Bill of Rights. But I believe that they are afraid to vote. The White people in power of course do not want them to vote, because they might vote them out of office. If the Negroes all got together and voted, they would vote the Whites out of office and put Negroes in.

But the Negro people are afraid to vote. It is very difficult for just a handful of people who are Negroes and who are registered voters to do anything. The Negro people must work together in order to get anything done.

Margaret Harps, 14

Voting is important for every citizen in the state of Mississippi, and not only in Mississippi, but all over America. We must be given the chance to elect the person who we think is best prepared for the job of making this country in which we live a better place to live. America is not a country where only one man can vote; it is a country where every man can vote. A man's color makes no difference. Every man must give the man who can't help himself a chance to stand up before the people of the United States and be a free man in the country which we call free America.

Charles Alvin Thomas, 17

One reason is that if Negroes could vote, they would have more success than they have.

If all the Negroes were voting not only in Greenville but all over the United States, they could put in somebody who could help us, instead of having someone like Mr. Johnson for governor of Mississippi and Mr. Eastland for senator.

If Negroes were voting, I'm sure they would elect someone to office who would give them better jobs and better schools and better employment and a number of other things.

But if the Negroes don't vote, there's nothing that can be done about it. It is entirely left up to the people in Greenville and all over the United States.

Hattie Whipps, 14

Negroes should vote as they please. The Negroes' votes are as important as the Whites'. Negroes would have more freedom than they have now if they could vote. If Negroes could vote, they would vote for someone who could help them. Whites want others to believe that Negroes are nothing. But this is a lie, Negroes should register. If more registered, they would have more power to win their freedom.

Nathaniel Hurt, 15

I think it is important for Negroes to vote because they want Mississippi to have freedom, and they want civil rights, and they also want to have more pay on their jobs. The people want to have freedom to go into any restaurant they want.

That's why the people should vote.

Darnell Ward, 16

1. If Negroes could vote, they would have better support in life.
2. If Negroes could vote, they would have their equal rights.
3. Negroes should vote so that they can stand up to the White Man.
4. Negroes should vote to get what they want out of life.
5. Negroes should vote so they can improve their living conditions.
6. Negroes should vote so that they can be as free as the white Man.
7. Negroes should vote to show the White Man they have the ability to do the same things that he can do.

Jesse Santeos, 16

EQUAL RIGHTS

I think we should have our equal rights just like the Whites. We should go in places where the Whites go and get service just like they do. I think we should have our equal right to get the same pay.

Donald Ward, 16

WHY I CAME TO FREEDOM SCHOOL

I came to Freedom School because I wanted to learn more than I was learning in regular school. I wanted to learn more about Negro history and how the White Man never payed the Negro enough, so the Negro couldn't have nice land like the White man did.

Gloria Jean Gibson, 14

JOBS, HOUSING, AND SCHOOLS

The Whites get the best of all, even if the White man or lady has the same education as the Negro man or lady. The largest pay goes to the Whites. The Negro may work at least 12 hours a day and yet get as little as \$15 or \$20 a week.

The White houses are different from the Negro houses. They are large houses with complete baths, kitchens, living rooms, and dining rooms, while the Negro houses are three-room houses with the bath on the porch or in the back yard.

I think they should build all houses the same, but the only reason they don't is because most Negroes don't have the money.

The White schools are better equipped than the Negro schools. They get new books. When the books get old, they give them to the Negro schools.

Margaret Harp, 14