

APPENDIX F
THE VOICE OF THE TRADITIONAL MISSISSIPPI DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The following are selections from the "Platform and Principles of the Mississippi State Democratic Party", adopted in Convention in the City of Jackson, June 30, 1960. (The Party has not yet adopted its 1964 platform; it will meet in Convention on July 28 in Jackson):

... We are opposed to strong centralized government, national or state.

We believe in States' Rights and local self-government, and are unalterably opposed to any encroachment upon the rights of the states by the federal government, or any department or agency thereof, and upon county and municipal government by the state, or any department or agency thereof.

We believe in the three separate and distinct departments of government as set forth in the federal and state constitutions, namely, legislative, judicial, and executive, and oppose the encroachment upon or usurpation of the functions of one by either of the others, and we expressly condemn the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Brown school case rendered May 17, 1954, and subsequent decisions of that court, and inferior federal courts, striking down state constitutions and laws providing for the conduct and operation of public schools and public education within the states...

We are opposed to any legislation, federal or state, setting up what is known as a Fair Employment Practices Committee, commonly known as "FEPC".

... We are opposed to the enactment by the Congress of the United States of the so-called anti-poll tax measure as being in violation of the rights of the states to fix the qualifications of electors and in violation of the provisions of the Constitution of the United States. We favor the poll tax and are opposed to any attempt to abolish it either by federal or state legislation.

We believe in the time-honored and cherished traditions of the South and opposed to any legislation, movement, or policy which would do violence to or destroy them.

We oppose the ratification by the United States of the Genocide Convention of the United Nations, the proposed Human Rights Convention and the Civil Rights Convention, the so-called World Government, World Court, or any other proposal of the United Nations...

We favor the amendment of the Constitution of the United States to limit the treaty making power of the President and the Senate...

We believe in the segregation of the races and are unalterably opposed to the repeal or modification of the segregation laws of the State, and we condemn integration and the practice of non-segregation. We are unalterably opposed to any and all efforts to repeal the miscegenation laws.

... We believe in the statements and principles of the Southern Manifesto, adopted by southern members of the House of Representatives and Senate in the Congress of the United States in March, 1956.

We believe in the separation of the races in the universities and colleges, in the public schools, in public transportation, in public parks, in public playgrounds, and in all spheres of activity where experience has shown that it is for the best interest of both races that such separation be observed.

... Under God, The Author of Liberty, we stand for individual freedom and personal dignity of the American citizen.

The following resolution was adopted in Convention in Jackson, on August 16, 1960 (after the Democratic Convention in Los Angeles):

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Democratic Party of Mississippi in Convention assembled in the City of Jackson on this 16th day of August, 1960, that we, acknowledging with humility the divine power of Almighty God, and standing fearless in our belief in constitutional government, the rights of the states, segregation of the races and the preservation of our traditional Southern American way of life, do hereby declare and affirm:

- 1) That we reject and oppose the platform of both National Parties and their candidates.
- 2) That we reaffirm and readopt the Platform and principles of the Democratic Party of Mississippi adopted... on the 30th day of June, 1960.
- 3) That we wholeheartedly approve the courageous and forceful Minority Report as to that portion of the National Democratic Platform entitled "Civil Rights" presented on behalf of the Sovereign States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The following are excerpts from campaign literature distributed in the Paul B. Johnson for Governor Campaign, 1963:

MISSISSIPPI REPUBLICANS ENDANGER MISSISSIPPI WITH TWO-PARTY SYSTEM

The "over-night" Republicans in Mississippi are playing with political dynamite by advocating a two-party system in our state.

These inexperienced, so-called Republicans proudly boast that "they are not bound by any deep-seated taboos and prejudices handed down blindly from past generations," but they never discuss the real dangers of a two-party political system in a state like Mississippi with a "block-voting" minority group that represents over 45% of our population.

These self-styled "young men and young women and older people with young ideas" either do not know or they deliberately ignore the facts of life as they exist in Mississippi today.

A DIVISION OF CONSERVATIVE MISSISSIPPIANS INTO TWO POLITICAL CAMPS, as now being attempted by these self-styled Republicans, WOULD GIVE THE BALANCE OF POWER IN MISSISSIPPI TO OUR MINORITY GROUP. This would be the end of our way of life in Mississippi and the peace, tranquillity, law and order we now enjoy in all of our communities would soon come to an awesome end.