

Understanding that there are many problems and questions in SNCC. I feel that I should deal with the core of the problem and this is, our true dedication, seriousness, honesty, and moral and responsibility to the cause of Freedom and to every human being, not only to the Negro in the South, but to every human being that is in slavery. I'm not saying that we are fighting to liberate Cubans from under the Communists or to liberate the South Africans from under their oppressors ~~and~~ physically as if we were over there fighting in their revolution, but that we are exemplifying a true revolution of human beings the result being happiness and freedom with that tactful weapon of non-violence and love. But let me remind you that in every revolution men have died fighting with arms and whatever other physical weapons that were useful and they in turn were dedicated, serious, and morally strong in giving their lives and taking lives for their cause,

Today we are fighting in a revolution with odds greatly against us, for all we have to offer are our bodies, our hearts and our minds, our strength, and the respect that is due to those we are fighting for. With odds as great as they are we have shocked the world with our success, but I asked, have we been successful?

For the time I have been in SNCC I have seen individuals play with the feelings of others. I have seen individuals mock the beliefs of other individual, I have seen individuals in the organization immorally use each other for for self gratification. I have seen us disregard respect to each other as well as to the female element in our organization. I have ~~xxxx~~ been seated in meetings and have listened to us ridicule our white brothers due to our own petty prejudices. I've watched us take the beliefs of people and use them to bring success to our movement and then sat back and ridicule those who believe and whp seriously aided us in the struggle for freedom. After all this, I have asked myself, what are we fighting for? Are we fighting to bring a social change to have people living in harmony and to bring about a just and honest government, or are we fighting to bring about a change in folkways, mores and morals for our own self gratification.

Today, before SNCC can move any farther, we must change our attitudes, we must bring dedication, honesty and set ourselves on some firm principles, for if not, we will crumble as great countries did and as organizations are doing. I'D like to say this, "as much as I disagree with the Black Muslims, I can't but help to notice the principles and standards that they uphold which has made them strong, even though we say that they are not doing anything, but at the same time ~~and~~ people are coming into their fold because of their principles and standards.

We can complain about decision making, programs, affiliations, position holdings, and the Black and White issue, but

until we know what we are as the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and dedicate ourselves to that cause and give due respect, we will never be able to lead, program, and make decisions for people. We will never be able to lead people who have beliefs in something besides themselves when we yet have no beliefs. For when times come that we are not able in our own great selves to solve a problem (and that day will come) we will lose because we have nothing to lean on and in that time the people whom we are fighting with and mocking will see us as we are, a bunch of radical, frustrated, scared, immoral and selfish individuals.

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