

A Note to the SNCC staff about the Northern SNCC staff.

When you arrive at the staff meeting you will be meeting about 20 people who work in the Northern SNCC offices. Some of them you already know because they have been at meetings before or because they once worked in the South. There will be people at the meeting from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Princeton, NJ, Washington DC, Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco. These are the cities in which we have offices and Northern staff members.

Now in another paper I outlined what these Friends of SNCC and Northern SNCC staff members do...raise money, send supplies, pressure the government, calling the jails when someone gets arrested, etc. Some of the staff in the North often feel that their jobs are not understood by those of us who work in the South. They think that the Southern staff (and here I go making a distinction between "Northern and Southern" -- they are staff) doesn't think of them as a part of the staff. Whether this is because the staff doesn't know we have 24 people who work in the North or whether it is because we think that the work in the North is "easy", "soft", etc., this attitude can only hurt our Friends in the North and make them stop working so hard. Their jobs are not easy. They have to pound the pavements for money -- they get out at demonstrations that they have stayed up all night to organize. And they work from 12 to 14 hours a day to keep us going. In fact, you would probably be surprised at the number of staff people who work in the North who would rather be in the South in the field -- than work in those Northern offices away from the movement and the people in it.

This is one reason why we must include these people in our staff meetings and try to keep them informed about SNCC programs -- and involved in SNCC activities.

by Betty Garman

# FRIENDS OF SNCC

To the SNCC family there was one question on the list of questions that was sent out to you that I would like to address myself to at this time that is the question: what is Friends group relationship to Atlanta, to fund-raising, and to their own home? To me this is a serious question.

We know that Friends groups should dedicate their time to raising money and keep this supply line rolling in the South, and if something is happening in their own hometown, that they join some other group and help out but to use the name of Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. To me this is saying, "Baby, send me your money, we need it, but if there are problems in your own backyard, and there are, we cannot help you, find another group." This is not to me the same group some two years ago. Maybe it is because of our size; I do not know.

Maybe we need to ask this question: are we a movement or an organization? Are we not saying to the North, "Our problems are in the South, and we know that there are problems in the North. Let's wait until we become a national organization; have we waited too long to try to solve the problems in the world. The time is now and in order for all mankind to enjoy the freedom that we in the South are fighting for, we need to join hands in the South, North, East and West. Yes, freedom can come to this world if we in the South, North, East and West look around us and begin to work.

To me, SNCC is a group of Students who have dedicated their time to work whether in the South or North, but work to solve the problems that confront us. And if the Friends groups want to work in their own state, then we should encourage them to do so and if they want to do it under the name of SNCC that they do, but let us know what type of action they are planning and that if they need help, that we try to give to them as much help that we can.