

✓ reconsider - SV to projects (local ppl)  
o other SNCC staff

WHAT IS THE STUDENT VOICE? WHO DECIDES ITS CONTENT? WHAT SHOULD THE VOICE BE?

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The first question should have read, "What is the relationship of the Student Voice to SNCC?" However, the fact sheet on the Student Voice" gives the information that I was seeking.

The paper states, "At present, the Student Voice is a twice-monthly newsletter, that is primarily a house-organ for SNCC. It prints news and feature articles about SNCC STAFF MEMBERS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES. It also serves as a vehicle for fund-raising and the sale of SNCC materials (i.e. records, posters) and as a means of letting both local people and groups and individuals in the North and South know what is happening in the movement across the South." Considering that the fact sheet indicates that the chief staff of the Voice consists of one person and limited equipment, the inadequacies which I should like to point out are understandable. Barring the fact that some consideration is being given to expanding the content of the Voice, I feel a constructive appraisal is in order.

As a vehicle for fund-raising, the Voice may very well serve its purpose. As a vehicle for informing local people, it has failed. As a vehicle for informing staff, as I feel some publication of the organization should, it has failed again. I feel that, as a vehicle for local people, the language is not in the most understandable form. Perhaps this is a problem for specific project organs. I agree with an expansion in content of the Voice, but it also seems to me that adequate staff has to be secured to make expansion possible.

✓ I feel that the staff needs a newsletter, or some stabilized form of communication covering programming in project areas; it should be ~~on~~ more expansive than the Wats Line reports. I feel that this can take part of the burden off the Voice staff. By expanding the Voice to include more articles of, i.e., articles which are submitted to the national news media, by using language and explanation calculated to reach our deprived areas, and by devising more systematic way of gathering news, the Voice could serve the remainder of the SNCC constituency.

I feel that the Voice staff must decide its content, knowing of course, that they will work in the broad framework of staff desires. In summary, I feel that the Voice should have a more educational nature. I feel that staff education can be covered by either a newsletter or some other means of disseminating the much and varied printed matter

that emanates from SNCC project areas.

WHAT IS OUR POLICY ON PAPERS DISTRIBUTED BY PROJECTS?

The more I think of this question that I raised, the more I feel that there cannot and should not be a rigid policy governing project papers; I feel that rather I am not aware of any existing policy. I feel that we must place our confidence in project directors. I feel that we can say no more than that they must take a part in shaping their own lives and pointing out obstacles to that full participation in life.

Silas Norman, Jr.