

THE MEDICAL COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
507½ North Farish St.
Jackson, Mississippi
May 25, 1965

Ms. Joanne Gavin
P.O. Box 850
Holly Springs, Miss.

Dear Ms. Gavin:

In response to your letter of May 16, I would like to answer some of your questions to the best of my knowledge; our national offices will undoubtedly answer in greater detail.

First of all, let me commend you on your project; it sounds very exciting and certainly one which is in need of attention.

As far as I know there is no written state law forbidding the training of Negroes to become nurses. It is my understanding that the University of Mississippi School of Nursing has for the first time accepted two Negroes for this fall's class. There is such a thing as a Future Nurses Club on a national basis.

The National League for Nursing through its Committee on Careers, 10 Columbus Circle, New York, N.Y. 10019 has available many pamphlets containing the information you are asking for. I would recommend that you specifically request the following:

1. 'A National Charter for your Future Nurses Club'
2. 'Films for Future Nurses'
3. 'Schools of Professional Nursing, 1965'
4. 'Let's be Practical about a Nursing Career'
(list of state approved schools of practical nursing)
5. 'Books on Nursing'
6. 'So you want to be a nurse'
7. 'Scholarships and Loans for Professional and
Practical Nursing'

We have these pamphlets here in our Jackson office, but unfortunately have only one copy of each.

I guess really don't have any new ideas about what to do to improve the standards of Mississippi public schools; the suggestions you make sound like good ones.

Let me know how your group progresses. I am sure that we will be able to provide a nurse to meet with you when you desire. What might be of more interest to the girls, however, is to hear a Negro nurse who is working in the Holly Springs area. Do you know of any?

In regard to your dental needs, I have written our New York office for names of our contacts in San Francisco; will let you know as soon as I hear.

I will be interested in keeping in touch with you.

For Freedom,

Ruth Steiner
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