

## **Original SCOPE Orientation Notes – basis for public letters**

Transcribed from 1965 handwritten papers in February 2026 by Maria Gitin, formerly Joyce Brians. Summer Community Organization and Political Education Project (SCOPE) Orientation, Morris Brown College, Atlanta GA

### **June 14, 1965**

Joseph Ruah – Leadership Council on Civil Rights, Attorney

'64 Civil Rights Act:

- I. The Voting Section – *hasn't done anything*
  
- II. Forbids anyone to discriminate at hotels and all lodgings, except for a 5 room or less boarding house. Any restaurant, lunch counter that gets supplies from outside. All gas stations. Theaters, public meeting places. Any place in(side) one of these places is covered – like a swimming pool with a lunch counter is covered.

Participation (?) not covered – swimming pools, barber shop, bowling alleys, not covered. We can enforce this by either legal or direct action.

Legal Weapons:

- A. If you aren't served in a restaurant, you have the right to sue. Either the person discriminated against or the US government will (can) sue.
  - B. Sit-downs (can be) effective in places that aren't covered. Supreme Court (is) divided about whether this is a legal method or not.
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- III. Allows Attorney General to desegregate by suing any public facility which discriminates.
  
  - IV. Schools – can be sued by Attny Gen.
  
  - V. (Creates an) Extensive Civil Rights Commission
  
  - VI. No fed funds can be used to discriminate or segregate

Can't direct a school to segregate and still get funds. If school isn't integrated by geography they can get around it by offering freedom of choice.

They may not integrate or tell anyone. There must be reasonable geography. By free choice, kids must know they have free choice.

- VII. FEPC goes into effect July 2. Fair Employment Practices only covers employment of 100 or more. Bars discrimination in hiring, firing, union, apprentice programs. FDR Jr. in chairman of the FEPC.

The problem is that right now there aren't any regional offices to take care of the cases here (in the South). Now (they have to) take complaints to regional offices that will be set up, probably in Atlanta.

- VIII. Voting Statistics – (this section) implements the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment.

*This is the first bill that really makes any difference. The other side is licked. Now we must gain legal equity in the last mile.*

(Implementation)

Community Relations service – write to Washington D.C. for help. Create test cases – don't go on word of mouth evidence. Get exact documentary evidence.

In job discrimination go to employment agencies, try every legal means. Make sure they (the job applicant) has qualifications for the job you are trying to get (for) them.

Most public works will be receiving federal funds. Hospitals, clinics get fed \$. Most state (health) programs are (funded with) federal dollars so you can get them on discrimination.

Food distribution (programs) etc is often discriminatory – social welfare.

Crops – Negroes get poor. Whites get good. County agricultural allocation is responsible. Complain to the Agricultural Commission about the county agents. Only good (in areas) where fed govt allots crops.

If we find communities that need aid from Department of HEW (Health Education and Welfare) aid experts will come down (from DC) for training people to -----grants for training people. Get school districts to write the Office of Education in DC. Any employers who discriminate in hiring, firing or promotion, come under this bil.

1:30-3:30 Entire SCLC Staff panel

*Turn your \$\$ in to SCOPE (?)*

*[Followed by a personal note about some guy who was interested in me]*

Where I stayed during Orientation: Brawley Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Room 336

What I brought with me based on instructions: