WE, THE PEOPLE OF MISSISSIPPI
WHO WANT TO WORK FOR REAL
CHANGE HAVE JOINED TOGETHER
TO FORM OUR OWN POLITICAL
PARTY ..............
The Mississippi Freedom
Democratic Party.

We did this

* because almost all
Mississippi Negroes
have been kept from
having a say in the
political processes
which affect their
lives.

* because the present
political structure
keeps thousands of
people so poor, it is
another form of slav­
er.y.

* because people can no
longer believe in lead­
ers ... who ignore them,
who say one thing and
do another.

* because this country
is run politically.
THE WAY TO CHANGES.

We can do this by political activity.

**POLITICAL ACTIVITY** is ways of organizing so that people will get:

* the things they want
* the things they want to keep.
* the things they want changed.

PEOPLE get together in small and large groups to fight for these things.

* This is the way that parties begin.

**THE MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY** BELIEVES THAT EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE A SAY IN THE THINGS THEY WANT.
WHY DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO

SPEAK OUT?

Because no-one else knows as well as you

* what you want.

* what you think should be changed in your community.

Because part of your money goes for Taxes.

* you have a right to say how it is spent.
YOUR community is a precinct.

THIS is where you live.

THIS is where you vote.

* This is where the MFDP begins, because the MFDP is made up of people who live in precincts.

* Several precincts make up a Supervisor's district. There are 5 in a county.

... 3 people from each Supervisor's district make up a county executive committee.

* Many counties make up the 5 Congressional Districts.

... 3 people from each district make up the State Executive Committee.

WHO ARE THESE COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE TO?

To the people who elect them, to EVERYBODY in the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.
HOW THE MFDP BEGAN

April '64 * A Convention of people officially formed the MFDP in Jackson, Miss.

Summer '64 * People from all over the State organize and elect delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

Aug. '64 * FDP offered two seats at the Convention, Compromise was refused.

Nov. '64 * Freedom Vote - Mrs. Hamer, Mrs. Devine Mrs. Gray run for Congress.

Dec. 3, '64 * Seating of the 5 Mississippi Congressmen challenged.

Jan. 4, '65 * Congressional Challenge - testimony is taken from Mississippi people and from Miss officials.

May '65 * Testimony is sent to Congress.
HOW WE GO ABOUT MAKING CHANGES

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party believes that political activity is more than just registering to vote, and voting.

IT IS THINGS LIKE:

* Running people for public office.
  
The FDP ran people for Congress last year. It is running people in the Municipal elections this year.

* DEMONSTRATING AGAINST UNJUST LAWS AND GOING TO JAIL IF NECESSARY.
  
The FDP has held Freedom Days across the State, picketed schools and a factory.

* Fighting the laws through the Courts.
  
The FDP has gone into court to challenge laws made by the State and those made by cities, such as illegal ordinances banning marches.

* ORGANIZING MASS VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES.
  
The FDP is doing this in Sunflower County and other places.

* ORGANIZING ECONOMIC ACTION.
  
The FDP gave rise to a Labor Union, the Miss. Freedom Labor Union.

* CHALLENGING ILLEGAL ELECTIONS.
  
The FDP is challenging the election of the 5 Congressmen from this State - because Negroes were kept from voting. The FDP is asking Congress to unseat them.

* HELPING PEOPLE TO FIND OUT WHY DECISIONS ARE MADE, AND HOW TO MAKE THEM.
  
The FDP does this through Freedom Schools and workshops, where people sit down together to learn together.

The people who speak for themselves.