

CITY COUNCIL OF TORRANCE PASSES CURFEW ORDINANCE IN ATTEMPT TO END CORE DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST BUILDER DON WILSON. CORE HAS ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

President Kennedy has said that there is a moral crisis affecting every community of the United States. He did not say except those communities where there are no Negroes. CORE believes that the greatest moral crisis is in "lily white" communities such as Torrance, where, to keep Negroes out, citizens must harden their hearts and deny their consciences. ~~For years~~ CORE has been demonstrating twelve months in the Southwood tract against builder Don Wilson's flagrant racial discrimination. We regret that some residents of the tract, many of whom crossed our picket lines to purchase their homes have not been concerned about the moral issue of racial injustice.

Now that arrests of CORE demonstrators by Mr. Don Wilson has focused attention on our protest, some residents are expressing loud concern - not for human rights but only for property rights. The City Council of Torrance has chosen to respond to these residents and to believe their false charges against CORE demonstrators. But the council has completely ignored other residents who have urged them to take responsible steps to eliminate racial hatred in their community.

Last night, in passing this curfew ordinance, the City Council of Torrance chose to follow the example of Birmingham, - Jackson, Mississippi and other Southern cities which enact laws for the sole purpose of denying justice to Negro citizens. We of CORE KNOW that law and justice are not always synonymous. We are concerned solely with justice. Therefore CORE will continue to engage in non-violent direct action at Don Wilson's Southwood tract until he abandons his present policies.

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