



T H I S   I S

S N C C

spring 61

## BIRTH OF SNCC

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was established on April 17, 1960, at the close of the Raleigh Conference. The Raleigh Conference, held at Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, was a meeting of Southern student "Sit-In" leaders and Northern student supporters. One month later, May 13-14, 1960, the Committee held its first meeting on the Atlanta -- University campus, Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Marion S. Barry, Jr., of Fisk University was elected to serve as chairman and Mr. Henry Thomas of Howard University, was elected secretary.

## STRUCTURE OF SNCC

The Coordinating Committee is composed of representatives from the sixteen Southern states and the District of Columbia. The making of policy is the responsibility of the General Conference, and the execution of fundamental policy is the responsibility of the Coordinating Committee. The twenty-six Committee members are elected by the Conference and additions or replacements are appointed by the Coordinating Committee. The annual Conference is held in the early Fall and the Committee meets bimonthly. Policy decisions are handled by an Advisory Committee between meetings of the Conference and the Committee. The Committee maintains a staff at its home office in Atlanta, Georgia.

## PURPOSES OF SNCC

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee has the basic purpose of coordinating activities within the "Sit-In" Movement, analyzing the status of the Movement and preparing plans for the future. SNCC's role is to combine the natural and spontaneous leadership within the individual protest group and serve primarily in an informational capacity. In relation to those national and regional protest groups where some form of negotiating is



necessary, SNCC may serve as a spokesman, but in a cautious manner in which it is made clear that it does not control the local groups. With regard to action, SNCC with a two third vote of the Committee members, can initiate action in the name of and by SNCC, in cooperation with local protest groups.

#### PHILOSOPHY OF SNCC

We affirm the philosophical or religious ideal of nonviolence as the foundation of our purpose, the pre-supposition of our faith, and the manner of our action. Nonviolence as it grows from Judaic-Christian traditions seeks a social order of justice permeated by love. Integration of human endeavor represents the crucial first step towards such a society. SNCC believes that through nonviolence, courage displaces; love transforms hate. Acceptance dissipates prejudice; hope ends despair. Peace dominates war; faith reconciles doubt. Justice for all overthrows injustice. The redemptive community supercedes systems of gross social immorality. SNCC is convinced that by appealing to conscience and standing on the moral nature of human existence, nonviolence nurtures the atmosphere in which reconciliation and justice become actual possibilities.

#### SNCC AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee is opposed to racial discrimination in any form and pledges itself to work inexorably to destroy every trace of its making from our nation through means of massive direct-action and nonviolence. We believe that the effects of racial discrimination are contrary to the American dream, that all men are born equal and are therefore entitled to free and unquestioned access to all public facilities. SNCC is dedicated to ridding America of second class citizenship. We believe that we must work toward this end because our

destinies as individuals, as Americans, and as citizens of the world will inevitably be determined by whether we conquer racial prejudice or race prejudice conquers us.

#### SNCC AND THE STUDENT VOICE

The Student Voice is the official publication of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The newsletter was first printed in June 1960 and the frequency of the publication is monthly. The Student Voice is distributed within the student movement and to supporting groups at their request. The publication contains articles and news reports from areas all across the Southland. SNCC, through THE VOICE, seeks to alert the nation of emergencies and serious developments in the student movement and the Negroes struggle for full recognition of his first-class citizenship rights in America.

#### SOURCE OF SNCC'S FUNDS

The budget of the Coordinating Committee is supported by individual and organizational contributions, mass rallies and direct fund raising appeals. A portion of the budget is maintained by the personal appearances of the staff and key members of the Committee.

MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Charles E. McDew, Chairman  
Orangeburg, S. C.

James Monsonis, Finance Chairman  
New York City

Gwendolyn Green  
Washington, D. C.

Birdie McHugh  
Louisville, Ky.

Mary Ann Smith  
Atlanta, Ga.

Diane Nash  
Nashville, Tennessee

Priscilla Stephens  
Tallahassee, Fla.

Harold R. Howard  
Jackson, Tenn.

Marck B. Hannah  
Marshall, Texas

Clarence Mitchell, III  
Baltimore, Md.

Charles Sherrod  
Richmond, Va.

Charles Jones  
Charlotte, N. C.

John Moddy  
Washington, D. C.

Henry Thomas  
Washington, D. C.

Lonnio C. King, Jr.  
Atlanta, Ga.

Joseph Durant  
Talladega, Ala.

David Forbes  
Raleigh, N. C.

Marion S. Barry, Jr.  
Lawrence, Kansas



## MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Ezell Blair, Jr.  
Greensboro, N. C.

James Blake  
Atlanta, Ga.

Alfred Cook  
Tougallo, Miss.

Calvin Luper  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

## OBSERVER GROUPS

National Student Association  
National Student Christian Federation  
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)  
American Civil Liberty Union  
Congress Of Racial Equality (CORE)  
The Fellowship Of Reconciliation  
National Association For The Advancement  
Of Colored People (NAACP)  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference  
Southern Conference Educational Fund  
National Student Y.W.C.A.  
Southern Regional Council  
Students For A Democratic Society

## ADVISORS

Miss Ella J. Baker  
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Harry Golden  
Charlotte, N. C.

Dr. Martin L. King, Jr.  
Atlanta, Ga.

Rev. James Lawson  
Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays  
Atlanta, Ga.

## STAFF

Edward B. King, Jr.  
Administrative Secretary