

401 Ashford Street  
Hattiesburg, Miss.

August 20, 1964

Mrs. Caroline Ballin  
2505 1/2 5th Street  
Meridian, Mississippi

Dear Mrs. Ballin,

I am a seminary student from New York City (and Ripon, Wisconsin) and in my position of assistant pastor to the Reverend John E. Cameron for the summer months I have been working closely with the National Council of Churches project here in Hattiesburg. We are deeply appreciative of your statement, and of the courage it took to make it.

Such testimonies are really a wonderful boost to the spirits of us "freedom workers." I'm certain that there are many white Mississippians who feel as you do, and who do understand the issues and people involved despite the deliberate attempts at distortion of the facts. If only you were free to associate with us, and especially with others of our race who think as you do, and with the Negro citizens of your community. Or are you freer in Meridian than the white "liberals" of Hattiesburg?

You are right in saying that communication (honest communication), the sharing of feelings and information is essential to a healthy society (for it seems clear that this is what you were saying when you spoke of limited and inadequate communication). Why not write a note to William G. Lamb, 424 Marshall, Jackson, whose letter preceded yours in today's Clarion-Ledger? If Hattiesburg is any example, the whites in our communities need to communicate with one another freely also.

If there is anything I can do for you I will be more than happy to do so. Please feel free to write to me. I would very much like to correspond with you. I may be able to send you some helpful information, and I surely could learn a great deal from you. You may write to me at the address above or at the Hattiesburg Ministers' Project, 522 Mobile Street.

Sincerely,

~~245 E 110 76~~  
~~1964 19~~

~~D. J. Albert~~  
~~Meridian, Miss.~~

~~FRG 11/19/64~~