

November 13, 1964

Miss Barbara Schwarzbau,
507 Mobile St.
Hattiesburg, Miss.

Dear Barbara:

There was one other loose end which I didn't tie up with you. When you asked me to talk to Lilly about staying I did, and I never told you what she said. Part of the reason was because I didn't get a chance, but it was also because I wanted to think over what she said. She said that she'd like to stay in the movement, but that she didn't want to have ~~anyone~~ to work with COFO. COFO, in her words, is intolerant, narrow-minded, pretty much what we're fighting. Her examples were true, although I had never seen them that way, and from her point of view, I really couldn't argue. The conversation ended in a pointless wrangle when I took her up on the proposition that we weren't cooperative with the NAACP. Talking with you about her and with her about "COFO", I had a strange feeling that I was looking at two sides of a coin, and both were perfectly defensible propositions. I could easily understand when you said that she has a superior attitude and I could understand her when she said that COFO is intolerant. I really think, though, whatever the official propaganda line is, that she had a pretty constructive experience with us, and made a pretty constructive contribution. And she made several little comments indicating that she thought of the program ~~as~~ in the Dewey St. place in long-range terms, even if she personally is leaving. She made something which she expected to endure, she didn't just put in a month of her time with a bunch of intolerant bigots. If she could trust us to carry on her after-school sessions, she must not hate us that much.

Things are all tore up here in Mt. Idy. You're better off in Waveland. Have a good time. I'm not bothering to send this to Waveland, because you can read it when you get back.

Yours truly,

(Mois Chaffee