



# Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

Mary E. King

360 Nelson Street, S.W. January 9, 1966  
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

688-0331

Dear Mary --

Serry to take so long answering you, but I've been out of town, and when I got back, found myself swamped with work.

We have no staff working on a Tennessee white project, although it was proposed several months ago. Jack Minus was traveling for a while with SCEF people up in TENN, but as far as I knew, nothing has come of it. You might check with the Bradens though, who have detailed information. Given the state of our material resources, we aren't really inclined to do much in the way of actively supporting such a project -- especially since there is so much to do in the black community.

About SNCC: Well, I guess the major thing is that we are tightening up (or becoming more coherent) both structurally and programatically. We are in the process of developing a program department. The department is divided into six areas of work, with each area having a committee drawn from the staff (hopefully, this will involve the entire staff), and a committee chairman. There's a growing emphasis on internal education with the idea of becoming more and more a hard-core yet expanding political (in the broadest sense) cadre of organizers. A major problem is that rhetoric leaps so far ahead of program (and communities). I think that we've pretty much concluded (and I know that I have) that we cannot save the country, and even that it's contradictory to talk about salvaging the country or aiming that way, and at the same time say that our responsibility is to the black community. We can no longer assume America ignorant of what it is, or what it is based upon, but that it is very conscious of, and dependent on its white power -- which of course is our world wide oppression. Therefore, America must be treated as an enemy -- an enemy to humanity in fact, and cut loose from. SNCC experience, from Amite County Mississippi 1961, to the Viet Nam war 1967 teaches a hard lesson.

~~Basically~~ Much of the above is more than SNCC, but certainly underneath a lot of what SNCC says. I think that now we're ready to organize. People are holding on anyway, but the country is so powerful (and out to get us).

Julius Lester is heading our photo department now, and says he can probably use ~~the~~ some of the pictures on your contact sheet. He'll look through them.

Regards,

*C. Cobb*  
c. cobb

"One Man, One Vote"