

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

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Dewitt Coney . 714 Wall Street

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I live with my cousin, Mrs. Stella Bangham, her husband, Mr. Gene Bangham, and my aunt, Mrs. Annie Connolly. On the evening of October 31, 1964, I had an argument with Mr. Bangham which ended with him telling me to leave the house and never come back. I wanted to go back to 714 Wall Street in order to collect my belongings, and because I thought there might be trouble, I telephoned for the Police. I waited for the Police outside 714 Wall Street. About 8:45 p.m., the police arrived in a blue City police car. There were two policemen in the car. On of them got out and asked me what was the matter. I told him I wanted to return to the house for my belongings and asked him to accompany me because I didn't want any trouble with Mr. Bangham. He didn't offer to come in with me. He said, "What's wrong with you? What's happening?" I told him about the argument and that I wanted him to help me get me things from the house. Then he lifted his night stick as if to strike me on the head. I put up my arm to protect my head from the blow and the stick came down on the first two fingers of my left hand. I received two deep cuts. The policeman then got back in the car and told me, "You'd better showe off." The police car left. At no time had the police spoken to my cousin, Mr. Bangham, or to my aunt, Mrs. Connolly. Later that same evening, I saw Dr. Brock at the City Hospital and he put five stitches in the first and second fingers of my left hand.