THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The Selma Times-Journal

Freedom Summer Two Points of View

Sunday, June 9, 1963

ASK YOURSELF THIS **IMPORTANT QUESTION:** What have I personally done to **Maintain Segregation?**

e answer disturbs you, probe deeper and decide what ng to do to preserve racial harmony in Selma and Dalla

Is it worth four dollars to prevent a "Birmingham" here? That's what it costs to be a member of your Citizens Council, whose efforts are not thwarted by courts which give sit-in demonstrators legal immun-ity, prevent school boards from expelling students who participate in mob activities and would place federal referees at the board of voter registrars.

Low enforcement can be called only after these things occur, but your Citizens Council prevents them from hoppening.

Why else did only 350 Negroes attend a so-called mass voter regis-tration meeting that outside agitators worked 60 days to organize in Selma?

Gov, Wallace told a state meeting of the council three weeks ago: "You are doing a wonderful job, but you should speak with the united voice of 100,000 persons. Go back home and get more members."

Gov. Wallace stands in the University doorway next Tuesday facing possible ten years imprisonment for violating a federal injunction.

Is it worth four dollars to you to prevent sit ins, mob marches and wholesale Negro voter registration efforts in Selma?

If so, prove your dedication by joining and supporting the work of the Dallas County Citizens Council today. Six dollars will make both you and your wife members of an organization which has already giv-en Selma nine years of Racial Harmony since "Black Monday."

Send Your Check To THE DALLAS COUNTY Citizens ounci SELMA ALABAMA YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS GOOD FOR 12 MONTHS

The document on the left is from the Citizens' Council in Selma. Ala. Citizens' Councils were a sort of Chamber of Commerce, formed by business leaders all across the South to oppose integration through marketing campaigns and direct actions. At the local level, members worked together to shape public opinion and punish black residents who supported civil rights by firing them from jobs, foreclosing on their mortgages, etc. Read the document below and answer the following questions.

1. Write the document's title, or make one up that describes it.

Ask yourself this important Question

What kind of document is it? (book, letter, advertisement, article, leaflet, etc.)

Newspaper Ad

3. When and where was it made? June 9, 1963 - Selma

4. Who created the document? **Dallas County Citizens Council**

5. Who did they make it for(audience)? _____ White men from Selma -"six dollars will make both you and your wife

members"

6. What is its main point? What is it trying to say?

Join the Citizens Council - to keep segregation

7. What is the author's basic beliefs? that racial harmony comes from segregation - or all whites believe that

racial segregation is needed.

(Hint) What does the author think is good and bad, desirable or undesirable? What does the author think is ideal or best?

8. What does the author think is the biggest threat or obstacle? Civil rights protesters moving to Selma - in order to desegregate the city

9. Given what you know about the Civil Rights movement, how successful was the Dallas County citizens Council? It was not. All of the South was eventually desegregated.

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Freedom Summer Two Points of View

These documents are two pages from a spring 1964 brochure in Mississippi during the Freedom Summer. Volunteers would be entering communities soon. It was prepared by COFO (Council of Federated Organizations), a coalition of the major civil rights organizations in Mississippi and the sponsor of Freedom Summer.

- 1. Write the document's title, or make one up that describes it. Answers will vary -Voter Registration, What you can do -
- 2. What kind of document is it? (book, letter, advertisement, article, leaflet, etc.) brochure
- 3. When and where was it made? **--1964**
- 4. Who created the document?

COFO - Council of Federated Organizations

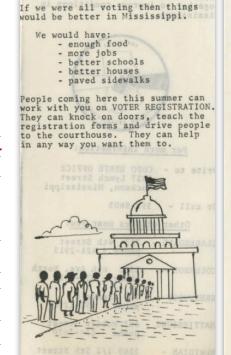
- 5. Who did they make it for(audience)? African Americans in the South African Americans in the South who are not registered to vote
- Ultimate point is to register voters. 6. What is its main point? What is it trying to say(in your own words)? Also, to convince African Americans to get in evolved with the COFO
- 7. What is the author's basic beliefs?

That voting will change the lives of southern African Americans for the better

(Hint) What does the author think is good and bad, desirable or undesirable? What does the author think is ideal or best?

- The State. "IT IS THE FAULT OF 8. What does the author think is the biggest threat or obstacle? Explain THE STATE that you cannot: find work, read and write, send your children to better schools"
- 9. Given what you know about the reluctance of African Americans in the South and their unwillingness to vote, do you think this pamphlet was convincing enough? Why or why not? Answers will vary
- 10. What legislation finally gave the Federal Government power to register voters where locals in the south prevented African Americans from voting?





Voter Registration

ARE YOU A REGISTERED VOTER?

What You Can Do:

This is your FREEDOM SUMMER. It will not work without your help.

- COFO is asking you to: provide housing for the people who are coming to work here. look for buildings which can be used for Freedom Schools
- and Community Centers. get names of students who want to go to Freedom Schools.
- let us know when you have meetings or arrange meetings so we can come answer questions about the FREEDOM SUMMER.

Many people are coming here to work during our FREEDOM SUMMER. They want to learn about Missis-sippi. They feel that the problems here are the problems of people all over the country. Most of them will be college students, both Negro and white.

COFO is your organization. The things it is trying to do should be done by the state. The people who have been elected to run the state say that they do not have to do things for Negroes.

IT IS THE FAULT OF THE STATE that you cannot: - find work - read and write

send your children to better schools.

If you work with COFO you will be working to get yourself the better conditions you deserve.