

One person's analysis of a project's problems.

Dear Jesse,

Despite the other report, there are problems on our project aside from non-cooperation from Jackson. These can be summed up under self-complacency. The key people on the project, in terms of power, feel that we have the best project in the state, and sit back on their laurels. If this is true, the Movement is hopelessly doomed.

Since the Freedom Election, not one thing has been done on v.r. NOT ONE THING. One worker, X, canvasses every day and has taken a few people to the Courthouse, but his actions are looked on with disdain by these key people, Y and Z. Z is key because of his unusual influence on Y, the project director. In fact, he feels that he and Y are the only real staff people on the project. He refers to X's canvassing as "ruining our image in the community." Y is lazy. Typical day: rise at noon, eat, get the mail, drive around, eat, play cards, watch TV and spend the rest of the evening and night drinking at the local cafe.

Both M and N are good, hard-working people; but M is hung up trying to get the Freedom School rebuilt and N is hung up on what the next step of the Rev. should be, and he can't get anything done with Y and Z around. Z is also very detrimental to the morale of the project because he tears apart any attempts of others. (Followed by three examples.) At one point B and C were both ready to leave the state because of him. An example: Z tried to integrate a restaurant in -----, during the meeting in Atlanta. Y and A got Hell about it there, so when they returned they gave Hell to M for over 10 min., since he is security officer (but he has no say over Z or Y; the rest of us, yes, and he does a good job,) They made no mention of the incident to Z.

Our school has burned and we've tried having classes outside and in the Freedom School, but both are too cold. Next week we're going to try having small classes in people's homes; but almost all people are afraid and this is hard.

There is no local organization or local leaders here. The kids are disgusted and the people discouraged; we aren't even having a mass meeting this Sunday.

I would appreciate it if you kept my name out of this, for I dearly love the rest of the people on the project, and with the exception of Z we work together very well. When the school is finished (hopefully in a week) things should start rolling again. This project very much resents any intervention from Jackson, as you probably know well, so the best solution would be to convince them that they are far from the best in the state or even in our district.