

Since it is quite apparent that racist America is concerned with housing only as it relates to her furthering exploitation, the housing workshop realizing racist America's intentions have discussed in what direction we should move, and what are our anticipated goals. As in many cases, several individuals still think the good old white folks are going to remove the deplorable conditions, landlords who collect exorbitant rents, etc. But the general consensus favored that we move to control every aspect of housing in the black community. Of course, moving to control housing entails to what extent we should move, as it relates to when, how, and how to maintain control once obtained. Before we discuss control, we must consider the opposition, as it will relate to our organizing in black communities, rural or urban. Opposition has been re-defined or categorized as the private, federal, state and local agencies that propose to eliminate bad housing, blight, discriminatory housing practices, and a host of others, well known to most of us. We came to an agreement that these or most of the programs are geared to content the black communities, a move to control the black vote, to push the black people into further pockets of economic and political oppression. The discussion is how do we (SNCC organizers, tenants, community), move to control, use or crush these programs, at the same time building bases that will eventually control the housing and thus removing the clamps these programs have on the black community. Also keeping the thought in mind that housing is used to build independent political motion, i.e., housing must not be an isolated issue. Several programs came out of a series of debates, discussion, and constructive criticism, as stated below:

- A. Building Tenant Associations
- B. Building a base, whereas the community may successfully conduct rent strikes, purchasing apartment building, etc.
- C. Education program to inform tenants and community of
 - 1. Housing codes and Laws
 - 2. Landlord and tenant responsibilities, tenant rights
 - 3. Eviction Laws
 - 4. The various programs that basically are moving to divide the black community both politically and economically. Such are the cases in Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland. And how we should move to combat these forces.
- D. The creation of an extensive laboratory of resource material as it relates to our goal of controlling housing, and building independent political motion.
- E. Geographical areas were discussed, as to where we should begin.

NOTE: Rural areas were not discussed extensively because the invited guest failed to appear. However, we have assurance that a Rural Housing Workshop would be held in Jackson, Miss. sometime in March upon notification from Andy Green.

The following areas have been considered as TARGETS:

- 1. Cleveland, Ohio
- 2. Camden, New Jersey
- 3. Chicago, Illinois
- 4. Boston, Mass.
- 5. New York City
- 6. Urban cities in Mississippi and Alabama

Take note that before we move, extensive research is required. See attached sheet, explaining several areas we should know before going into the black community to organize housing or independent political action.

TONY ROBINSON
Housing Coordinator

JOYCE BROWN
Secretary