

PARTIAL COPY, ORIGINAL MAILED SEPTEMBER 19, 1962

Dean Helen Phelps Bailey
Dean of Studies
Barnard College
606 West 120th Street
New York 27, New York

Dear Dean Bailey;

I would like to request a year's leave of absence from Barnard College. I am presently enrolled in the class of 1965, with Mrs. Tatiana Greene as my adviser. My fees for the fall term of this year have been paid.

During the coming year I plan to work on voter-registration in Albany, Georgia, as a staff member of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee. This group is an Atlanta based organization which grew out of the sit-ins in 1960. It is staffed by college graduates and by students who have temporarily withdrawn from college. The Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee has worked in the deep South for two years. They have been in Albany, Georgia, since October, 1961.

During the last few years I have become progressively more involved in the civil rights movement. Last Spring I was elected the Chairman of Barnard's Race Relations Committee. I have worked in settlement houses in New York, have tutored in Harlem, and have worked on housing surveys in Harlem. For the past year I have worked closely with the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee in their fund raising efforts here in New York.

Much as the past year at Barnard has meant to me, I feel that my involvement in the civil rights movement would make it impossible for me to do justice to the fine education available to me at Barnard this year. Although I plan to finish college and eventually to go into the field of Community Organization, I feel I must spend this year in the South.

I am personally involved because it is my friends who are down there, but I think that the burning of four churches within one month, and the use of gunfire to maintain the status quo, require an answer. It is also very important that the presence of white students in the South be felt, so that the situation can not be defined in terms of black vs. white, but must be defined in terms of segregation vs. integration.

Barnard College
Columbia University
New York 27

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDIES

November 26, 1962

Miss Faith S. Holsaert
4 Dean Street, Cobble Hill
Brooklyn 1, New York

Dear Miss Holsaert,

I have been meaning for some time to acknowledge your letter with something more than the form granting your request for a leave of absence; to say that I trust you are finding your work on voter registration as rewarding as it is important and that we look forward to your return to Barnard in the near future.

Please express my thanks to your mother for her letter which followed shortly after yours. My best wishes to you both for the holiday season.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Helen F. Bailey
Dean of Studies

HPB:pk