

MY DEAR FELLOW STU. NTS:

We the Student Comm. for Racial Equality wish to state our position in regards to the racial injustices in our community.

For several months, the Student Committee for Racial Equality has sought peaceful means to bring an end to the present practices of discrimination at the lunch counters of stores in our community. We have approached the managers of the chain variety and drug stores, and privately operated pharmacies. Time and time again we have been told that the store's policy depends in a large measure on the attitude of the community. Although we have been rebuffed on several occasions, we are still seeking to create means by which a solution to the problem can be reached without incident.

We commend the action of those students elsewhere who have openly demonstrated. Although their protests have served to activate our latent desires for a Democracy that recognizes all its citizens alike, we do not protest simply because they are protesting. Our action stems from our sincere belief in the inherent worth and dignity of the individual; and because of that fact, we believe that each man, regardless of race, color, or creed, is due full recognition of this dignity by other men. Therefore, for one man or group of men to exploit or discriminate against other men is to deny this fact.

We realize that it is deplorable for man to have to ask for the dignity and respect which is due them. However, "We confess our own responsibility for the existence and toleration of such attitudes and practices as make this request necessary." We protest therefore to help the community to make changes that will bring us closer to the practices which we hold as being in keeping with Democracy.

We are not angry or resentful, we are not trying to put anyone out of business, or to humiliate anyone; "We are striving to gain equal treatment for all" at lunch counters, libraries, theaters, and all other places of public interest. We are striving to gain the dignity and respect of which we are entitled as human beings.

Examine your conscience and see what you can do.

- (1.) YOU CAN DISCUSS THIS WITH YOUR PARENTS.
- (2.) YOU CAN TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THIS.
- (3.) YOU CAN THINK BEFORE YOU BUY.

STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY