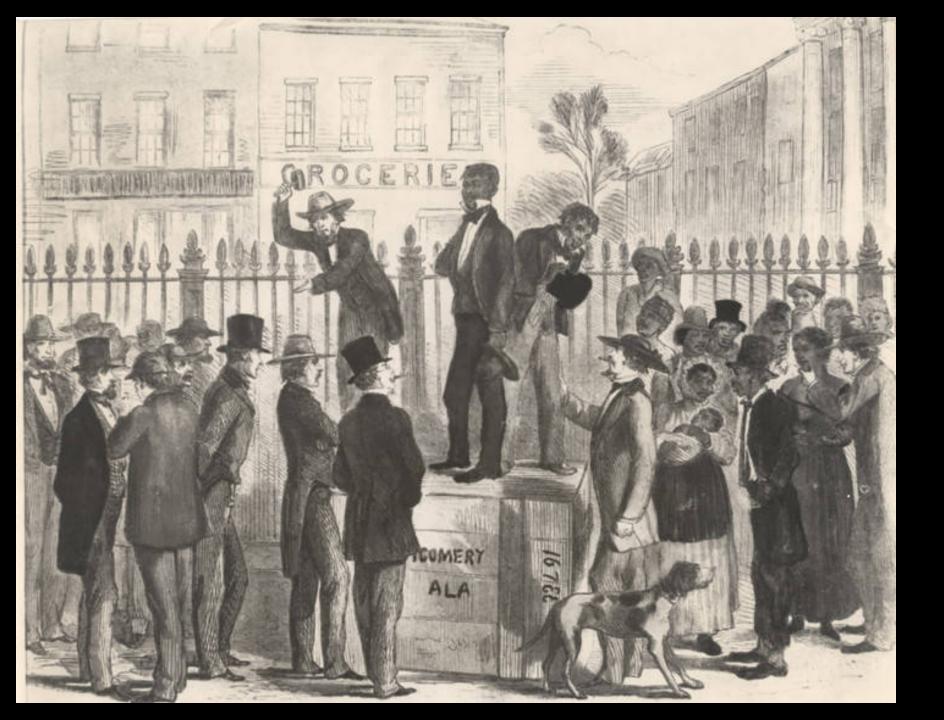
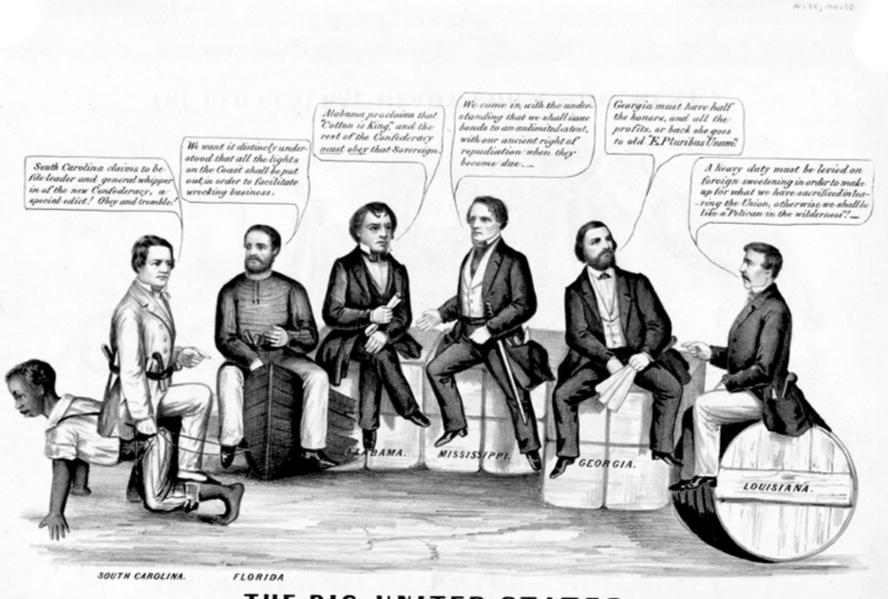
Art of the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama

The state of the s

Bridget R. Cooks, PhD Department of Art History Department of African American Studies Ph.D. Program in Culture and Theory Ph.D. Program in Visual Studies MFA Emphasis in Critical and Curatorial Studies University of California, Irvine



Slave Auction in Montgomery, Alabama (c.1850) Alabama Department of Archives and History



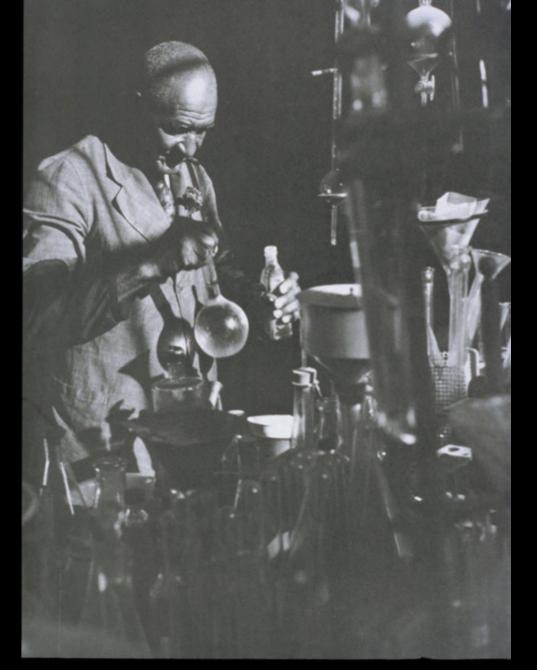
Political Cartoon Depicting Successionists (1861)

THE DIS-UNITED STATES. OR THE SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY

Published by Currier & Ives, 152 Nassau St N.Y.



Chris and Denise McNair (1955)



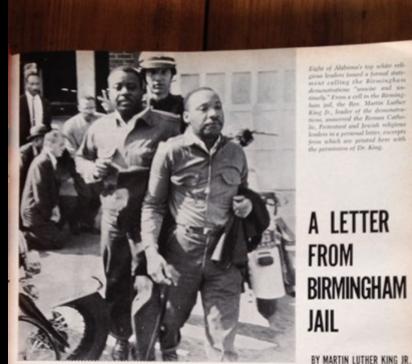
P.H. Polk, George Washington Carver (1929)



P.H. Polk, Alpha Phi Gamma Debutantes (1938)



Chris McNair, Bowling Team (c.1962)



gious headers issued a formal statement colling the Birmingham demonstrations "anneiae and anninely." From a cell in the Birminghave poil, the Rev. Martin Lather King Jr., leader of the demonstrations, annexed the Roman Catholie, Protestant and Jewish religiour leaders in a personal letter, excerpts from which are printed here with the permission of Dr. King.

A LETTER BIRMINGHAM

of to jul, is stil stather, the Row Martin Lather King Jr., and the Row. Raigh Abstractly walk to palice wages after their arrest.

Dr. King's message to white Alabama clergymen has been called 'a modern classic'

M^Y dear Fellow Clergymen, While confined here in the Birmingham City Jul, I came across your recent statement calling our present activities "unwise and untinely."... since I feel that you are men of genuine goodwill and your criticisms are sincerely set forth. I would like to answer your statement in what I hope will be patient and reasonable terms. I think I should give the reason for my being in Birmingham, since you have been influenced by the argument of "outsiders coming in." . I am here, along with several members of my staff, because we were invited here, I am here because I have basic organizational ties

Beyond this, I am in Birmingham because injustice is here. Just as for righth century prophets left their little villages and carried their 'bis suith the Lord' far beyond the boundaries of their home towns. and just as the Apostle Paul left his little village of Tarson and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to practically every hardet and city of the Graves-Roman world, I, too, an compelled to carry the gospel of freedon beyond my particular home town. Like Paul, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid.

You deplote the demonstrations that are presently taking place in Reningham. But I am sorry that your statement did not express a similar concern for the conditions that brought the demonstrations into being. . . . I would not hesitate to say that it is unfortunate that to-called demonstrations are taking place in Birmingham at this time, but I would say in more emphatic terms that it is even more unfortutale that the white power structure of this city left the Negro commusity with no other alternative.

In any nonviolent campaign there are four basic steps: 1) Collection of the facts to determine whether injustices are alive. 2) Negotiation. 5) Self-purification and 4) Direct Action. We have gone through all of these steps in Birmingham. There can be no gainsaying of the fact that racial injustice engulfs this community. Birmingham is probably the most thoroughly segregated city in the United States. Its ughy record of police brutality is known in every section of this country. Its unjust treatment of Negroes in the courts is a notorious reality. There have been more unsolved bombings of Negro homes and churches in Birmingham than any city in this nation. These are the hard, brutal and unbelievable facts. On the basis of these conditions Negro leaders sought to negotiate with the city fathers. But the political leaders consistently refused to engage in good faith negotiation.

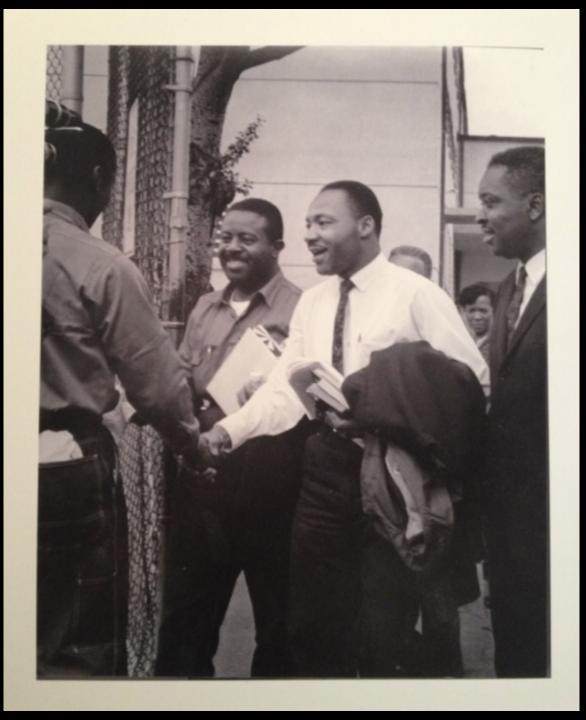
Then came the opportunity last September to talk with some of the leaders of the economic community. In these negotiating sessions certain promises were made by the merchants-such as the promise to remove the humiliating racial signs from the stores. On the basis of these promises Rev. Shuttleworth and the leaders of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights agreed to call a moratorium on any type of demonstrations. As the weeks and months unfolded we realized that we were the victims of a broken promise. The signs remained. Like so many experiences of the past we were confronted with blasted hopes, and the dark shadow of a deep disappointment settled upon us. So we had no alternative except that of preparing for direct action, whereby we would present our very bodies as a means of laying our case before the conscience of the local and national community. We were not unsaindful of the difficulties involved. So we

Continued on Mast Page 23





Chris McNair, Coretta Scott King, Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth and Juanita Odessa Jones Abernathy at Birmingham City Jail (1963)



Chris McNair, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., and Ralph Abernathy released from jail, Birmingham, Alabama (1963)







wife, Ye, writes to wheel (right) following a fast year absence, Children attend closers of ions Chicago high school

EDUCATION: Charleyne Huster, Hansl-Mesedath some graduated last summer with only a minimum of the lanfare and heepla that accompanied their arrivals at their respective alma maters, Georgia U. and Mississippi U. In Alabama, Gro. George Wallace was foiled in his attempt to prevent the enrollment of Negro Texas led the list with more than 30 dis students Visian Malene and James Hood at the desergregating. Increases are expected in University of Alabama, Wallace blocked the year, including Prince Edward County (Va.) path of progress as long as possible, then which had insided mixing this Fall.

moved aside in face of display of Sederal role On the primary and secondary level, d regation continued in small doses in the " Negro students were admitted to forms alw Mar white schools in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Ten North Carolina, South Carolina and Vit



in hiring in construction work. All some tailed

EMPLOYMENT: The federal government continued to practice what it has been preaching since 1960-more pla for Negroes. The Treasury Department, for instance, had more than a 50 per cent increase in the number of Negro employees in the mildle professional level grades during January 1961 and June 1963. The figur ruse from 1.417 to 2.173. Of new jobs created, more than 22 per ent were filled by Negroes. A Labor Department survey of workers m Government construction projects showed that 16 per cent were No. groes. The latter is due mainly to the President's order authorizing the withdrawal of federal funds from construction sites where racial discrimination is practiced. In other areas, a job agreement opening a Cleveland, Ohio, control

tion union to Negro journeymen and trainees was signed by Negri, labor and construction industry representatives. The NAACF sail # was the most significant breakthrough in the U.S. The part is with Local 55 of the plannbing industry.



is, Assas Honey of Challedda, Min., State-

VOTING. Begistering to vote remained a major obstacle for ment Negroes in the South, but by the end of the year, things were looking up. With the backing of the Justice Dept, and the no-holds-barred tactics on the part of SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee), more Negroes In Georgia, the Southeastern Georgia Crusade for Voters, an afflate of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference reparted that is 1963 voter education programs were held in

areas counties surveying some 30,000 Negroes and that 5,000 were registered. In Baker County Ga, some 200 Negro voters were registered. This is an increase of 300 per cent over 1901 when not one Negro was inted, although they made up 50 per

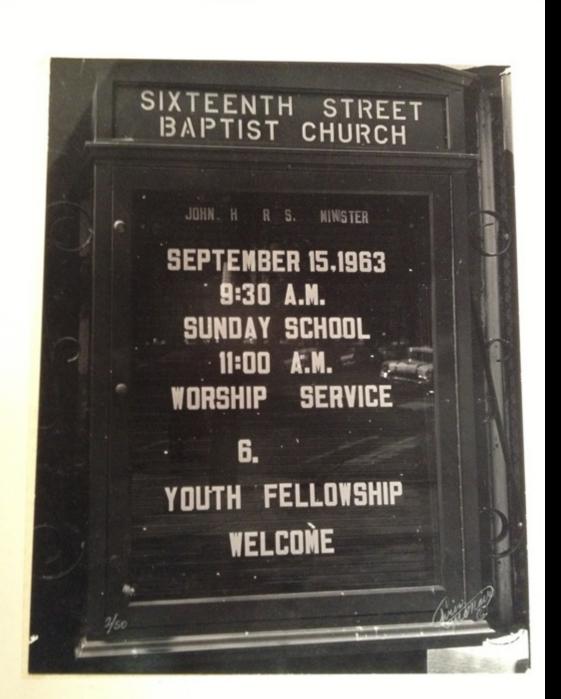
A like pattern is soon in Minimippi. Of \$2 counties, 76 have equitered less thus 15 per cent of the adult Negroes. Only 6.1 per cent are listed even though Negroes comprise \$6.1 per cent of the population. In protect, some 73,000 discribined Netproces in 200 towns cast "Feredom Ballots" for Dr. Aaron Henry ney of Oakidal, Man, Man and an for pressure of each an in a much race for Governor to designation "One Man, One Vote"



or pulsate D



Students James Hood and Vivian Malone relax in Birmingham prior to becoming first Negroes at Alabama U. It was the last all-white state University to integrate.



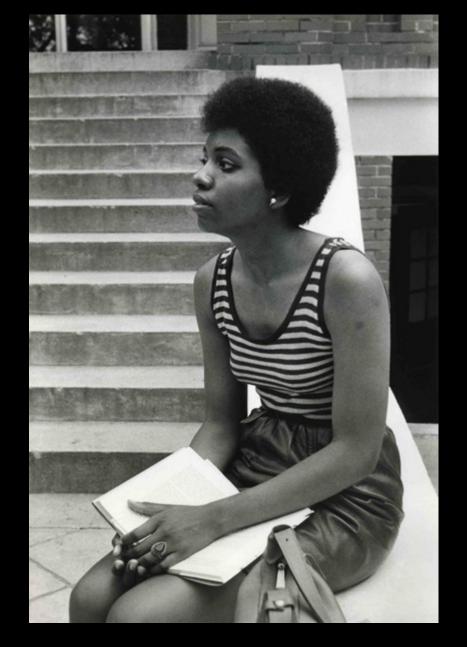




Chester Higgins and P.H. Polk



Chester Higgins, Civil Rights Rally, Montgomery, Alabama (1968)



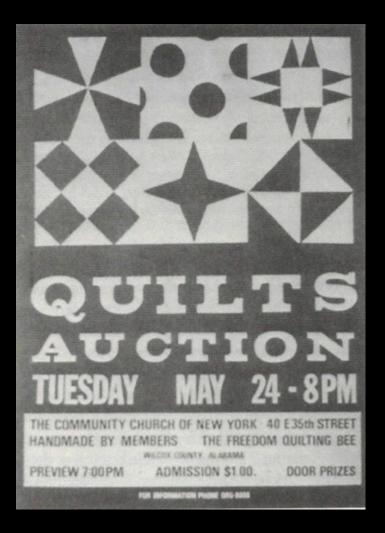
Chester Higgins, Patricia Dunham, a SCLC worker. Tuskegee Institute, Alabama (1968)



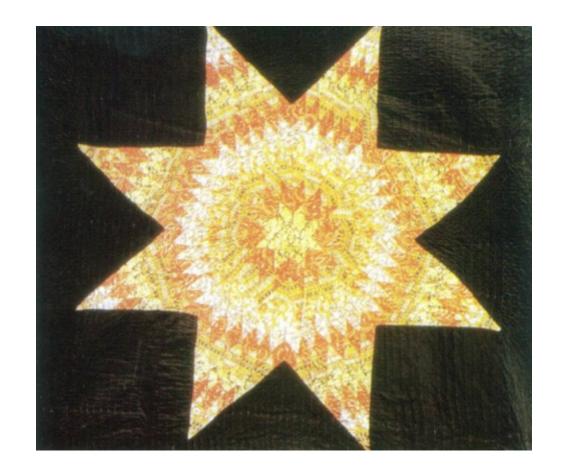
Chester Higgins, Student Protest



Father X. Walter (c.1965)



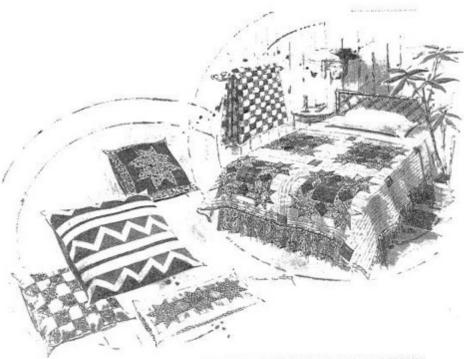
New York Quilt Auction Poster (1966)



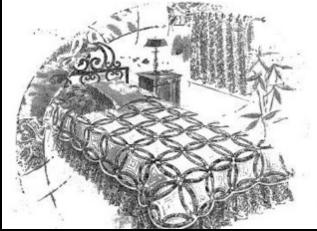
The Star of Bethlehem Made with Fabrics from Bloomingdale's Contract (c.1968)



New York Times, Bloomingdale's Ad, June 1, 1969



YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR QUILTING BEE WHERE ALL THE WORK HAS BEEN DONE FOR YOU



Cover as our publiclook paradide. See cycling, coninfers, pitters, parathonoli del in sumptuous accesses where, pentarys, actions and other control private, prevent polymeter or kapoli follong. All level hold with Sine statistary and qualiting, done to patient (kinds, with the authentic beauty of the guard bands, with the authentic beauty of the guard bands with Sine statistary and qualiting, done to patient (kinds, with the authentic beauty of the guard bands with Sine has in America, all the designs which are beclastively ause, are faithful reproductions of historia TBH century patients. All are treasures, to use and pribe new and head daws, in Nation heirfores.

HERE, YOU SEE THE DELIGHTFUL PATTERNS

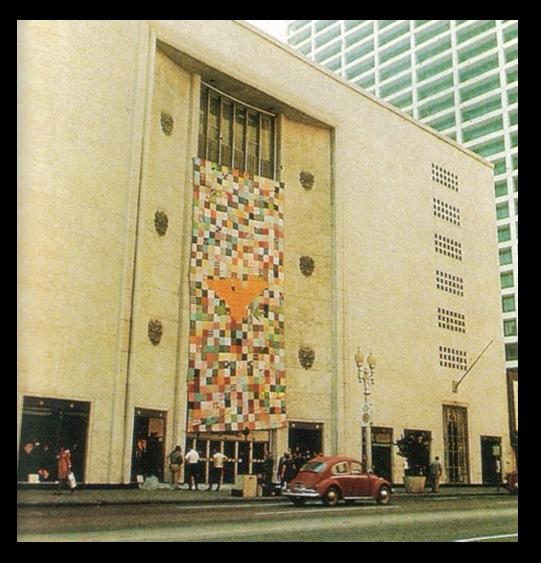
"Grandmother's Choice" is a true drammer Twin size quit 20.00 Full size quit 85.00

"Soars and Songes" has a particitic eir Twin size quitt 96.90 Full size quitt, 535.00 Special size quitts rwy be ordered in all potteres.

OUILTED PATCHWORK PILLORS, here in four of sight petterns, in square and oblong shoen and in small to giant floer sizes, 11,00 to 20,00

The classic beauty of "Wettling Ring " Team essenter 140.00 Full coverint 190.00

New York Times, Bloomingdale's Ad, June 16, 1969



Freedom Quilting Bee, "The Largest Quilt in the World" Commissioned by the Du Pont Corporation. Sakowitz Department Store, Houston, Texas (1966)



Groundbreaking at Freedom Quilting Bee Site (March 1969)



Freedom Quilting Bee Members with Sister Catherine Martin who helped with office duties (1972)



Yvonne Wells, Civil Rights in the South III (1989)



Yvonne Wells, *Rosa Parks I* (2005)





White/Colored (2000)







Lava Thomas, *Jimmie L. Lowe* (2018)



Lava Thomas, *Ida Mae Caldwell* (2018)



Lava Thomas*, Euretta F. Adair* (2018)



TOMORROW'S LEADERS

upublicized young earthmovers spring from the grassroots in a mass freedom surge BY LOUIS E. LOMAX

The mathematic banders are still in the wings-most of them are under breaking for their moment on the national stage. Clarence of R1 is in the Maryland State Legislature, but he is yet to conin-maning political wire into the kird of mational race leadership usary segments and his ability forecasts. James Beyel and his write Diana Nash Bevel have received some attention for their work with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Studient Neuvisient Coredinating Committee but they are yet to come fully into their own a individual race lenders. Deterthy Cotton and Andrew Yoong are strategists for Martin Lather King, With James Bevel, they organized the Birmingham school children for the moustent of trath there. While Martin was holding high level talks, meeting the press, and asserting his tremendous symbolium, James, Andy and Dorothy work late into the early moming amassing the human power Martin King needed if his symbolium was to maintain true substance.

Norman Hill, his wife Velma, and Gladys Harrington are attached to the Congress Of Racial Equality (CORE) in New York, James

Continued on Next Page 41



an and the barries of the second states and the second states and

able in a matter of five days. Mere the "Mead-all" and ball enses in the days ahead and give amazing leadershap. So that we know who some of tonormov's leaders are let us turn a consideration of the character of the leadership they will provide: The key word in Negro leadership from this point forward will be sommitmized. The day of top-heavy leadership from the outsidetion New York and Atlanta, to be specific—is about over. Local group, and them stated it to nor, will start their own race rists. This is the heal people like "Meathall." Mary Hamilton, Bob Moses and like built will be so important. They are on the local scene, they know is publicant, they know what local conflicts exist and how to overcome to

In they will need help. First they will need a national presence to pic the local movement prestige. CORE's James Farmer and SGLC's thin Lufter King are the two big national presences as far as direct strin is concerned as of none. Boy Wilkins took to the bricks and into all a Jackson a few days ago and thos gave the national NAACP as wead welcome image. If Wilkin's health allows him to continue this wedge leadership—but at the call and under the direction of the in proble-the came of desegregation will be advanced five years. It NAACP has the money, the power and the organization; if it was all out into the area of direct action the results will be phenomid. Meanwhile King and Farmer are spread about as thin as they in alms those these. I was with Farmer in a New York picket in abouting distribution of the one juil at a time?

Bese local groups will also need demonstration tacticians. Andy long James Bevel and Dorothy Cotton are walking syllabi of nonview, direct action. They can move into a town and, in a matter of



Faulty busins fighters, Danie Bevel, of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, her hashand Bev. Janes Bevel, of the Southerse Carintian Lendership Coul. (with desighter, Sheredynn), are little publicited but highly effective team.





Ennenity urganism for SCLC is do-

Branchas for Southern Christian Loudership Conference in Datable Centor. A stall assume for two years, for minor sequencilativy for group's recruiting, teaching, SCLC in basiled by the Rev. Martin Lather King Jr. menic, young Fere. Andrew J. Young.

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