

# Young Women's Christian Association

72 EDGEWOOD AVENUE, NORTHEAST ATLANTA, GEORGIA



August 8, 1963

The Honorable Ivan Allen  
Mayor of Atlanta  
City Hall  
Atlanta 3, Georgia

Dear Mr. Allen:

How proud I was to be a citizen of Atlanta when I read your presentation to President Kennedy's Committee on Civil Rights!

There are many of us who feel that whenever the rights and privileges of any one group of people are denied, the rights of others are in jeopardy.

We believe that when a business is "open to the public", it should mean all the public, not just "white public", Protestant public", et cetera.

It is certainly commendable when local communities desegregate voluntarily, as Atlanta has done in some instances. However, this Federal action seems necessary to enable all to move forward in this regard.

The Young Women's Christian Association, of which I am President in Atlanta, has long been working to help build an appreciation of the dignity and human rights of all people, regardless of race, creed, or color.

We admire your courage and will continue to support your efforts in behalf of our city.

Sincerely,

*Laura Askren*

Mrs. Edward L. Askren  
President

LMA/lb

*A Community Chest agency of your United Appeal*