

over of a "white" community, etc., but what in reality seems to be a natural phenomenon in a growing city where one group (the Negroes) is officially or semi-officially barred from participating normally in the home buying market because of discrimination.

The sad thing about the whole matter is your apparent lack of trust, respect or concern for the Negro citizenry (to whom it is incontestably clear you are indebted for holding the office of Mayor today).

For this I do not and cannot blame you, per se, because this attitude must be a result of the evil system of segregation - sometimes mistakenly hallowed as "our way of life" - which has caused this big blunder and this great oversight.

Lack of association cannot produce mutual appreciation; total separation except in a master-servant relationship cannot lead to humane consideration, helpfulness and cooperation; habits and conditions of so-called "separate but equal" do not lend

62
69
PNS

25 Burbank Dr., S.W. 7
Apartment 3
Atlanta 14, Ga.
January 3, 1968

The Honorable Ivan Allen, Jr.
Mayor, the City of Atlanta
City Hall
68 Mitchell Street, S.W.
Atlanta 3, Ga.

~~me~~
Who is Annelle Ponder?
~~D~~

Dear Mr. Mayor:

This letter comes to express my shocked disbelief upon my recent return to Atlanta from Savannah when reading about the Peyton Road barricade. I refused to believe that this could be happening in Atlanta - and at the Mayor's suggestion no less!! What happened?

To me as a Negro it seems that your newly acquired social consciousness was not up to the test of what has been described in various ways: the population explosion, "block-busting" techniques, threat of racial out break, Negro infiltration and subsequent take-

themselves well to situations calling for negotiation, reconciliation and integration.

So, you see, we have a legacy as Southerners which the longer we honor will impede our progress toward realizing the potentials which this city possesses.

I trust that we may count on you, as our elected leader, to consciously try to avoid such errors as this in the future.

Other city administrators in other places throughout the nation have set up bi-racial committees to help them with intergroup relations concerns.

Some are very effective - others are only "name" organizations. I believe we could have a good one here.

I would suggest this as one of the best things which can come out of the present situations. The creation of the All-Citizens negotiating committee in the "Negro Community" (another out-dated term) is an already accomplished other.

I trust that we can all get to know each other better and work together better during this new year in making Atlanta a community

of first class citizens - as it can and should
be.

If there is no appropriate person or office
in the city administration which could under-
take the initial job of research, study, and
recommendations along the line of forming
a bi-racial committee, I would be
glad to volunteer my services to do
what I can to help to see this
materialized. I am a professionally
trained social worker with some
experience in intergroup relations
work.

Please feel free to call upon me
at any time.

Sincerely,
Annell Ponder