

541 N. Manchester, #1
Inglewood, California
September 10, 1966

Mayor Allen
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor Allen:

As responsible citizens we felt it necessary to write you on behalf of Stokely Carmichael and Willie Ware - the two young men, activists, recently arrested. We are concerned because we are tired of our government or any government continuously attacking the effect rather than the cause of these racial disorders. We are tired and concerned too because the power structure continuously supports these causes that makes militants like Carmichael and Ware.

These young men, right or wrong, have been handed a legacy by the irresponsible Negro leadership we know exists in Atlanta - your teachers, lawyers, doctors - that exists in every Negro ghetto from one end of this nation to the other.

What makes us qualified to make such strong allegations? For one thing, we wrote Dr. Clements, president of the largest Negro institution, about a problem that should concern all American people - futile. And we are in the courts when these problems belong. And this leadership you are working thru, e. g. Atlanta Summit Leadership Conference, is responsible for seeing that such young men go the democratic way and offer their full support.

And this leadership that you work through has neither the competency nor the taste for such an endeavor. We make these statements, too, because of our actual knowledge of every other major Negro ghetto in the nation and by the mere fact that these men found people who were ready to follow.

This Negro leadership is not only making Carmichaels and Stares but they're making the ghettos, they're destroying families, they're killing future leaders, all because of selfishness, irresponsibility, self-efficacy, you name it. We know because we are fighting this same irresponsibility here in Los Angeles to conserve our family, to rebuild the ghetto, and to save such future leadership. The case numbers are CRA 6266 Appellate Department of Superior Court, L.A.

And these here, as they, are not even concerned about the children, future Negro Americans, and these matters will support this:

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| 323623 | 317592 |
| 323624 | 317593 |
| 323625 | 317594 (Juvenile Court, L.A.) |

We dare to write such a letter to you because we admired the courage you exhibited during the height of the riot in your city. Now we want to find out if you have the courage to strike at the roots of your riots, your Carmichaels, your Stares.

And to proceed any other way except at the roots only produces more riots, more Carmichaels and Stares. And you then become accessory to this destruction.

Knowledge is necessary to assist in any situation for without such you, too, have done absolutely nothing.

And if you don't have such knowledge, which we seriously doubt, here it is for the taking.

We hope that you will accept this gift as intended and proceed appropriately. You do have effete and irresponsible Negro leadership.

Respectfully
Leon E. Lofton, Jr.
(Leon E. Lofton, Jr.)

Esther M. St. Lofton
(Esther M. H. Lofton)