Lesson 2: Setting the Context for ‘63 Boycott

1. Photo, “We Love our Mayor”
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

Station 1: Racial Tensions in Neighborhoods

2. Photo - “Living Together is Inevitable” protest sign
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

3. Photo - White homeowner selling her home
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

4. Photo - White homeowner moving out of her home
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

5. Photo - Go back to Your Neighborhood
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

6. Article - Confessions of a Block-buster - The Saturday Evening Post

Station 2: Segregation in Chicago During the 1960s

11. Photo - White neighborhood 1
    Photo Credit: Art Shay

12. Photo - White neighborhood 2
    Photo Credit: Art Shay

13. Photo - Black neighborhood 1
    Photo Credit: Art Shay

14. Photo - Black neighborhood 2
    Photo Credit: Art Shay

15. Photo - Highway to the Suburbs
    Photo Credit: Art Shay

16. Photo - “Jim Crow Must Go” protest sign
    Photo Credit: Allan Koss

STATION 3: SEGREGATION AND THE COURTS

17. Plessy v. Ferguson, 1896

STATION 4: PROTESTING SCHOOL OVERCROWDING

19. Chicago Defender Article - “Urge Boycott of Willis Wagons”

20. Chicago Tribune Article - “Seek Boycott of School”

21. Photo - Protest against Willis Wagons, Mobile School Units or Classrooms
   Photo Credit: Chicago Tribune

22. Photo - “No More Willis Wagons” protest sign
   Photo Credit: Allan Koss

23. Photo - “Ghetto Schools are Inferior” protest sign
   Photo Credit: Allan Koss

24. Photo - “Jim Crow Harms All Our Children” protest sign
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

25. Chicago Defender Article “Englewood Boycott Parents Begin Sit-In”

26. Photo - “Equal Education for ALL Chicagoans” protest sign
   Photo Credit: Art Shay

STATION 5: 1963 BOYCOTT

27. Flyer - “Fight School Segregation - Freedom Day School Boycott”

28. Flyer - “Join the School Boycott on Freedom Day”

29. Flyer - “On Freedom Day Strike Back At...”

30. Flyer - “No Such Thing as Separate But Equal”

LESSON 5: Connecting the Past to the Present: Examples of Educational Activism Today

**Confessions of a Block-Buster**

Not long ago in an all-white block on Chicago's West Side, a FOR SALE sign appeared in front of a modest frame bungalow. Immediately a wave of fear swept across the block. A Negro family already was living several blocks away. Not far beyond that was the western edge of Chicago's "Black Belt." Every year its border had been moving closer, enclosing blocks like this one along the way. Suppose the bungalow came into possession of a Negro? What would happen to the rest of the block?

All the residents were plainly worried. Among them were a widow who had been living alone and had no assets but her home, and the parents of four young children who feared what "change" might mean to the youngsters' safety. "Relax," said the bungalow owner. "I'm selling this through a white real-estate man. I won't even talk to a Negro."

Imagine their shock, then, when the FOR SALE sign came down and the new owners moved in—Negroes. And consider the impact of what happened next. Three more buildings, which were already owned by property speculators, "turned" immediately. Other Negro families arrived to look at homes in the block. Real-estate men, both white and Negro, swarmed in.

Almost overnight the family with four children sold out at a sizable loss. So did six other homeowners in quick succession. "We'll stay," a few owners said. "We're broad-minded." But the situation was out of their control. Finally the last of the whites left—whether or not they could afford to move. Like hundreds of others who have been similarly blitzed, they never really knew what had hit them.

I knew. I triggered the whole sequence of events by buying the bungalow and quickly selling it to a Negro. I am a block-buster. Another and perhaps slightly less odious name for my craft is real-estate speculator.

**Cornering a Share of the Harvest**

I specialize in locating blocks which I consider ripe for racial change. Then I "bust" them by buying properties from the white owners and selling them to Negroes—with the intent of breaking down the rest of the block for colored occupancy. Sometimes the groundwork—the initial block-busting—has already been done by some other speculator by the time I arrive on the scene. In that case all I have to do is to work on the remaining whites and reap my share of the harvest.

I make my money—quite a lot of it, incidentally—in three ways: (1) By beating down the prices I pay the white owners by stimulating their fear of what is to come; (2) by selling to the eager Negroes at inflated prices; and (3) by financing these purchases at what amounts to a very high rate of interest. I'll have more to say about these techniques later.

Block-busting is a relatively new business—only ten to fifteen years old actually—but already it is a crowded field. Block-busters also operate in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia,
"My function is to drive the whites from a block whether or not they want to go—then move in Negroes."

New York City, Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Louis and other cities and in some of their suburbs, Chicago alone has more than 100 of us. Because few Negroes can command the necessary financing to enter this occupation, most of us are white, as I am. Over the past ten years we have helped “change” an average of two to three blocks a week in Chicago. Even now, with the overall housing market rather quiet, we bust a new block in Chicago every four to eight days.

With the nation’s Negro population exploding and continuing to concentrate in urban areas, the demand simply never lets up. More than half the citizenry of Washington, D. C., is Negro. Philadelphia is one fourth Negro. In Chicago the Negro population, now one fourth of our citizenry, has nearly doubled in the past ten years and probably will double again in the next thirty, rising to 1,700,000 persons, or half the city’s present population. Even its suburbs, now mostly white, are expected to contain nearly 700,000 Negroes by 1990.

Average Citizens, Average Prejudices

If you are an average white citizen, with average prejudices, you may regard all this as the ruin of metropolitan neighborhoods. I think of it merely as more business for what already is a growth industry. My attitude stems from the fact that few white neighborhoods welcome Negroes who can afford to buy there; yet the need for homes for Negroes keeps growing. I assist in the solution of this problem. My function, which might be called a service industry, is to drive the whites from a block whether or not they want to go, then move in Negroes.

You might think it would be difficult to bust a block, especially your block. It isn’t really. In most blocks someone almost always is being transferred, wanting a larger or smaller home, or moving away for his health. If I offer enough money, I can buy any building I want—if not directly, then through a front. It doesn’t matter who can afford to buy there; yet the need for homes for Negroes keeps growing. I assist in the solution of this problem. My function, which might be called a service industry, is to drive the whites from a block whether or not they want to go, then move in Negroes.

But I prefer blocks near others where Negroes already live—especially old, middle-class blocks with a mixture of frame homes and walk-up apartments. Whites already there have been conditioned to insecurity by the inexorable march of the color line in their direction. This makes these blocks setups for the quick turnover, large volume and the large profits I like. The case of a South Side block I busted is typical.

Twenty-five years ago when most of the block’s residents moved in and Chicago’s population was only 8 percent Negro, none of the whites imagined that few white neighborhoods welcome Negroes who can afford to buy there; yet the need for homes for Negroes keeps growing. I assist in the solution of this problem. My function, which might be called a service industry, is to drive the whites from a block whether or not they want to go, then move in Negroes.

The moment I make a deal, all the area quit fixing up facilities as they normally might. Parks which have been all white suddenly become all Negro. A homeowner applies to his bank for a home-improvement loan and is turned down. “Too close to the color line,” he is told. Small businesses begin to close. New whites, if they move into the area at all, are apt to be of lower economic class than before, and they are tenants, not owners. Because lending institutions always blacklist an area for regular mortgages when change appears imminent, whites can’t buy there if they want to.

So it was in my typical South Side block. But the residents still thought they were safe because everyone had agreed not to sell to Negroes. Hence they weren’t too disturbed when a bluff, friendly accountant who was retiring and moving to Florida announced to neighbors that he was listing his three-flat building for sale. As weeks passed, however, and no buyer was found, their suspense grew, and the owner became desperate. We’re stuck,” he told his wife. “We told everyone we wouldn’t sell them out. But we have to.”

Up to this point only a few Negro real estate men rather tentatively had rung doorbells in the block. Now we speculators and brokers, both white and Negro, really went to work. One paid a Negro resident several times a day to begin driving up and down the street a few times a day. He also paid a Negro mother who drew aid-to-dependent-children payments to walk the block regularly with her youngsters. Another arranged to have phone calls made in the block for such people as “Johnnie Mae.” Sometimes calls would consist only of a whisper, a drunken laugh or a warning—such as, “They’re coming!” I didn’t participate in these vicious tactics. Few large speculators do. If I operated so crudely, frankly I wouldn’t have consented to write this report, even under the fictitious name in the byline. I just use psychology.

I began my work in this case by sending a postcard to everyone in the block and others in adjacent blocks. The card said, “I will pay cash for your building.” That was all except for my phone number. The word “cash” was the key. It assured homeowners they could get out quickly and reminded them that their neighbors could too. Then a canvasser and I headed for the block to repeat the offer in person.

Best Price for First Building

My first stop was at the home of the retired accountant who owned the three-flat building. “How much are you asking for your building?” I asked him.

“Twenty-two thousand,” he said.

“Well,” I said, “you might get that if you wait. But you know what is happening in the neighborhood. If you want a quick cash deal, I’ll give you $18,000.” But, knowing that we speculators often pay proportionately more for the first building on a block to go, he would come down only $1000 in price. At that point I got a break. My canvasser, who had been talking with other owners, rang the doorbell and called me onto the porch to tell me something.

“His neighbor in the one-story brick just sold for $14,000,” he told me.

“Sorry,” I told the accountant. “Negroes will be moving in next door. Eighteen thousand is tops.” His quick call to the neighbor confirmed my canvasser’s report, and he accepted my offer on the spot.

The moment I make a deal, I always place a "Sold by" sign in front of the building. A few
Three housewives who organized to fight block-busting tactics in their Peoria Avenue-95th Street neighborhood have now sold to Negroes: Mrs. Helen Sullivan (left), Mrs. Bernie Brown and Mrs. Diane Bishop. As Mrs. Sullivan puts it, "... pretty soon one sells, then another, then you do too."
"If anybody who is well established in this business in Chicago doesn't earn $100,000 a year, he is loafing."

Actually, block-busting probably is tougher on the whites than on the Negroes. Nobody who has lived in a neighborhood for years, seen his children grow up there, remodeled his home exactly to his liking and become accustomed to nearby school, church and shopping facilities likes to be uprooted. This is particularly true if it happens so suddenly that he has no new neighborhood in mind, if he has to accept less living space and a higher-interest mortgage than he previously had and if he must sell his property at a loss. Several elderly persons have died four times the profit I could for the same amount of effort in all-white real estate. If anybody who is well established in this business in Chicago doesn't earn $100,000 a year, he is loafing.

"You've Sold Out Your Own Race"

After one middle-aged couple had built a suburban home and sold their former home to a speculator—and the speculator had "turned it down in 1917: 'It is desired in the interest of all Negroes to block bust in contiguous blocks...'"

One block has been busted, some white owners simply stare, almost dumbfounded, as we draw up sale papers for them. Others break down and cry. Some say, "it's OK to show the place to Negroes before we move, but we don't want to be in the house to watch it when you do."

But no matter how emotional or awkward some situations may be, there is one compensation for it—money. Some brokers or investors make a good return only on some deals. I make it on every deal in the three ways I mentioned earlier.

You may believe your home is worth $15,000, for example. If I bust your block, I will expect to buy it for $12,000 cash. The odds are that eventually you will sell for that price, if not to me, then to another speculator. If you and your white neighbors did not run, you probably would gain, on every deal in the three ways I mentioned earlier.

The contract burden, I also am told, forces Negro mothers to work, despite the presence of youngsters at home, compels fathers to take two jobs and can lead to numerous other problems because of the financial strain and anxiety.

Even so, the number of Negro buyers who default on their payments is small. When it does happen in my own business, it is no loss to me, since I retain title to property until contracts are completed. I keep all the payments made until that time, evict the owners and either rent the building or resell it on about the same terms.

The Urban League of Chicago says we speculators make nearly $1,000,000 a month in our city in "abnormal" profit from Negroes who buy former white property on contract. This could be. I know that I couldn't afford the same amount of effort in all-white real estate. If anybody who is well established in this business in Chicago doesn't earn $100,000 a year, he is loafing.

"A dirty business," you say? One that whites should fight?

White people in dozens of neighborhoods have tried fighting. They have pressured neighborhood banks and savings-and-loan associations to quit block-busting areas, resulting in token concessions. They have held block meetings to warn homeowners not to deal with those of us who advertise "Quick Cash Sales" in newspapers or the classified phone directory, have passed out leaflets listing speculators' names and have ripped up "Sold by" signs which were of larger size or were posted longer than city ordinance allows. They even won a fraud-and-misrepresentation case against two block-busting brokers in Chicago, thanks to several blunders which no established operator would have made. Despite all such resistance, once a block has been busted, only rarely has its complete breakdown been halted. Too many forces are working for us speculators.

"Ordaining the Cave-in Method"

The Chicago Real Estate Board, an organization of the city's most prominent realtors, all but ordained the "cave-in" method in a policy laid down in 1917: "It is desired in the interest of all that each block shall be filled solidly (with Negroes) and that further expansion shall be confined to contiguous blocks..."

The board, which is all white, no longer makes a copy of this statement available in its office, but the policy never has been rescinded or repudiated. None of the 50,000 members violates it. No member, if he deals with Negroes at all, is likely to arrange for a sale to them in a white neighborhood that is next to a "Negro block." Once a neighborhood begins changing, none will show homes there to whites.

Lending institutions' "no-Negro" or "no-integrated area" loan policies further perpetuate the trend, restricting Negroes to blocks we bust and forcing them to rely mainly on our contract sales for financing.

The City Council and Mayor Richard J. Daley, who, like his two immediate predecessors, comes from the all-white Bridgeport area of the city, also help. They regularly table every request for
open-occupancy ordinances, which by opening up any neighborhood to Negroes who could afford to buy there would take the pressure off the few collapsing ones which are open.

The police put down violence promptly in any blocks which are busted in a "permissible" area. Yet, if a Negro is leapfrogged into a home beyond this zone, the protests somehow always get out of hand. In one case a policeman guarding a Negro's new home was seen showing several youths how to make a Molotov-cocktail incendiary bomb.

Some churches accept all this, often serving as rallying points for whites trying to "hold the line." One parish even has acted as an agent in the purchase of twenty-two buildings which normal turnover otherwise might have placed in the hands of speculators. When change begins, most churches then simply close up shop and sell most or all of their property.

**Relentless March of the Color Line**

Neighborhood improvement associations actually are usually "all-white" improvement associations. One, the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council, has kept its area all white. But it began in the 1930's and has a unique authoritarian control extending through stores, banks, churches and industry in its stockyards neighborhood. Every other neighborhood, including one in which retail businessmen raised a war chest of $100,000, has "gone" when the color line reached it. And associations which opposed me before any breakthroughs end up happy to cooperate—if I will only "go slow" and not change blocks until association officials say they are "ready." I usually do this to keep their goodwill.

Newspapers, too, help prepare the way. Their only stories in this field usually concern the "panic" aspects. If they print stories about Negroes, it's only in connection with crime or welfare problems or population increases, not with Negro church activity or business and educational success or other aspects of normal life in good Negro neighborhoods.

The Board of Education contributes by writing off a school once it begins to change racially, consigning it to overcrowding, double shifts and supervision by the least experienced and lowest-paid teachers—and by giving it the lowest proportion of counselors.

Then there are my financial sources, which are among the most reputable in the city. My credit is good in almost any bank or savings-and-loan association in town. It also is good with insurance companies, including several Negro firms. Merely by placing an ad in a daily newspaper, I can raise cash by selling my contract paper at a discount to some of the most reputable doctors, dentists, lawyers and other business and professional men in town.

With forces such as these on my side, why should I feel guilty? Am I really the basic cause of whites' fleeing? Do I depress their property values and inflate prices for Negroes? When a Negro has been turned away from a bank, do I "trap" him into accepting a contract sale?

And what alternative can you provide for my function? Would you try to influence your bank or savings-and-loan association to begin lending to Negroes? Would you help remove the pressure on "busted" areas by welcoming a Negro family into your block? Do you even care that my business operates as it does? Whatever my faults and whatever the social stigma I endure, I don't believe I am hypocritical about all this. Can you honestly say the same?

**THE END**

Angrily resisting the block-busting agents, these women have stayed in their neighborhood to promote reasonable integration.
JIM CROW MUST GO
Plessy v. Ferguson, 1896:

The Supreme Court created the “separate but equal” doctrine to uphold the practice of racial segregation. The Supreme Court ruled that a law that “implies merely a legal distinction” between whites and Blacks was not unconstitutional. As a result, legislation and practice of racial segregation were legally permitted.
Brown v. Board of Education, 1954:

The court overturned the “separate but equal” doctrine in the field of education stating that “in the field of public education the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place,” as segregated schools are “inherently unequal.”

“it needs to be said that despite the legal victories in the courts, and despite the moral victories in the lunch counters and on the buses... the actual benefits have touched relatively few Black folks, particularly in northern metropolises.”

Excerpt from “Why We March: Race And Schools in Another Perspective,” an essay on the corruption of Chicago’s education system
Council Unit Gets New Fair Housing Act

The hot issue of fair housing in Chicago, which has been undergoing legal surgery in a sub-committee of city council, has been released with strong provisions against real estate agents who practice racial discrimination.

But it is too early to speculate on its fate. Members of the city council judiciary committee have not yet finished their work on the bill,a committee which the sub-committee submitted to the city council judiciary committee, the board of education, the Illinois Housing Authority and the Illinois Real Estate Board.

The committee is made up of seven members, all of whom are appointed by the mayor. The board of education and the Illinois Housing Authority are the only state agencies represented.

Kerner Signs Law To Curb Illegal Births

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The Department of Public Aid now has the authority to withhold payments to ADC recipients who fail to report their births within 24 hours of the first neonatal examination or to prevent the child from being born.

The new law provides that the birth of a second illegitimate child to an ADC recipient is grounds for suspension and the state will be able to take the child away if the state feels it necessary to do so.

Director of Public Aid Harold Swank said the new law had been in effect since July 1, 1965. But the new law does not force the state to take the children away from their parents if it is thought the child would be better off at home.

A TAX CAT

MONTROSE, Ill. — The tax rate for the past 10 years has been about $1.64 per $100 of assessed valuation. The rate has been lowered, however, for the past 10 years and will be.

The Emanuel Proclamation Centennial celebration at the Centennial and the opening of the Negro education from 1883 to 1887.

Visitors to the Exposition Tuesday night were treated to a special show broadcast by radio station WGN, which has been broadcasting from the Centennial since.

Dick Dickey E. Roddy "Madam" Jones, who says she has brought "home" several Negroes to town, was master of ceremonies. She had a member of the audience present to count the audience and the black crows on hand including Muddy Waters, Buddy Guy, Muddy McDonald of "Five Long Years" and "Mama." The crowd loved every minute of it.

It is general consensus of opinion that this is the type of show that makes the Centennial to be a success, earlier in the week there were rumors that the Exposition would have to close due to lack of attendance.

On Wednesday, the Rev. Martin Luther King said an "all-out" visit to the Centennial. He said that he was "dramatically impressed" and that the Exposition had an educational value for both Negroes and whites.

The Negro has made a tremendous advance to this nation," he said, "and the race has a heritage to be proud of.

In commenting on the latest Illinois Supreme Court ruling, it was said it was the 44th since 1946 that the state has not been able to make peace and that it has been stopped. It could lead to a "dark night of vi-
SEEK BOYCOTT OF SCHOOL
Negro Parents
Want Removal of Mobile Units
Will Also Picket U.S. Hints Use
of Troops in Alabama

STEEL STRIKE OVER ONE MAN ENDS IN GARY
Thousands Start Back to Work

CRUMP MOVED TO JOLIET CELL
Family of Five Live 2 Months on Beach

15 in Illinois Injure Eyes
Watching Eclipse of Sun

20 Are Hurt
As Tornado
Claws Town

Russ Cast 101st Veto in U.N.

KILL COUNCIL MOTION TO SLAP SYRIA
Side with Arabs in Israeli Case

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Jim Crow harms all our children. N.A.A.C.P.
Blast City For Lack Of
Near Southside Library

A near Southside mother blasted Chicago city planners and Chicago Public Library officials for "poor city planning that is proving a definite handicap to the educational possibilities of children living within the near south side area."

Mrs. Frances Cummings, chairman of the Library committee of the Youth Service Coordinating Committee, lashed a tirade at the public officials at a special meeting of the group of community leaders at 3218 S. Dearborn st.

The group is planning and public information meeting concerning the area's library needs at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 E. 26th st., Thursday March 31st at 8 p.m.

PLAN PROTEST MARCH
Residents of the Harold L. Ives, Lincourt Court and Prairie Court Chicago Housing Authority housing developments will march in protest of the meeting. The march is set to begin at 7 p.m. with the group marching down a route from 226th st. down State St. to 26th st. and then move eastward to Trinity Church.

"For almost two years, we have been in constant contact with planners and library officials," Mrs. Cummings said.

"The planners have not committed themselves except to say that the development of a library is under study. It would seem that the inclusion of a library would have been in the initial plans.

"In an area of massive land clearance and redevelopment, it seems more important that is proving a definite handicap to the educational possibilities of the children living within the near south side area."

"We have been told that our neighborhood has no special problems that would influence the building of a library. In an area of high rate of school dropout, poor reading and educational levels, we view such a statement as a clear indication of a complete lack of insight into community needs.

"To further emphasize the need, local school authorities do not give library assignments or home work that requires library research."

"Joseph Fleming, president of the Chicago Public Library, has called our group a bunch of letter writers. We have written letters to officials including Mayor Daley. We have had group conferences with these same officials because it is our feeling that they just don't understand the need."

"I wonder if Mr. Fleming feels that our request for at least one library in an area including approximately 60 city blocks is asking too much?"

"If he checks his map of library facilities, he will find that there is no library between Washington st. and north 26th. Oakwood Boulevard (2000 south), Halsted (200 west) and the lakefront."

Mrs. Cummings said the group has extended invitations to Mayor Daley, John G. Duba, M.D., Urban Research and Urban Development department commissioner; Miss Gertrude Guevah, Chicago Public Library head librarian; Al. Will. Jan. H. Harvey, Reg. William D. Robinson and members of the Chicago Public Library board to attend the Thursday evening meeting.

Set Birth Control Plan Saving At $250 Million

A saving to Illinois taxpayers of more than $250 million dollars over the next 10 years could be accomplished by the new birth control policy of the IPAC, according to the chairman of the Citizens for the Extension of Birth Control Services.

In a letter sent to all Illinois State legislators this week, Norman Lazarus, Chicago businessman and co-chairman of the citizens group, pointed out that a ten-year saving of nearly $29 million dollars by 1974 has already been estimated by the expenditure of $158,000 during 1967 by the Planned Parenthood Association in Chicago.

The agency gave birth control services to 4,200 relief mothers during that time.

Lazarus and Dr. Lusty Myer, Chicago physician and co-chairman of the group which is composed of civic, medical and religious leaders in the Chicago area, presented comparable costs of birth control services versus welfare programs for care of dependent children.

"The cost of birth control services is insignificant," Lazarus said, "when compared to the fantastic costs of dependency. In addition, the suffering imposed on innocent children born into deprivation and poverty is horrible to contemplate."

"The number of children on the ADC rolls has increased 59 per cent in 10 years he said, "spending from $4,000 in 1953 to $250,000 in 1963."

Lazarus emphasized the fact that these children are suffering not because of necessity of birth control services over the next 10 years could result in a saving of a quarter of a billion dollars in the same period of time," he said.

Dr. Myers and Lazarus hailed the decision of the Illinois Public Aid Commission to implement their birth control policy on April 1. "Against strong opposition, but with the required courage and foresight, the IPAC has chosen to expend a small sum now to save millions of dollars in the very near future."

Dr. Myers pointed out that the primary concern of "CEBGS" is to assure the poor the same access to medically supervised birth control services as more fortunate women have.
Fight school segregation!

LET CHICAGO KNOW YOU WANT EQUAL EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILDREN! HIT BACK AT CZAR BEN WILLIS AND HIS DOORMAT SCHOOL BOARD!

This is your chance to tell the world how you feel about the die-hard, obstructionist Public School officials who refuse to give ALL of Chicago's children an equal chance to get a good education.

Help put an end to inferior, overcrowded schooling! Help to end the ruinous segregation of our children! Help to rid Chicago of Ben Willis and the School Board members who have surrendered to him! Support this great protest — and get your friends to support it — RIGHT NOW!

OCT. 22

FREEDOM DAY

SCHOOL BOYCOTT

Sponsored by Coordinating Council of Community Organizations
JOIN the

SCHOOL BOYCOTT

ON

FREEDOM DAY

OCT. 22 TUESDAY OCT. 22

STAY OUT OF SCHOOL

KEEP YOUR CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL

STRIKE BACK

at inferior, overcrowded schools

at segregated schools

at Ben Willis

at prejudiced members of the board

JOIN THE MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION DOWNTOWN TUESDAY AFTERNOON

STRIKE AGAINST RACISM WITH THIS ONE DAY
STRIKE AGAINST SEGREGATED EDUCATION

Sponsored By

Consulting Council of Community Organization
ON FREEDOM DAY
TUESDAY OCTOBER 22

STRIKE BACK
AT INFERIOR EDUCATION...

Some symptoms of inferior schools are:
1. Lack of facilities; lack of proper supplies
2. Inadequately trained teachers
3. Shortage of full-time specialized counseling services
4. Overcrowding—figures from the U.S.A. Civil Rights Commission state the following:
   1961-62 number of pupils per classrooms
   White 30.9  Integrated 34.9  Negro 46.8

AT SEGREGATED EDUCATION...

One aspect of segregated education is the textbooks used throughout Chicago. These books do not adequately and sometimes, not at all, present the contributions of minority groups in America. Minority groups such as Negroes, poor Southern Whites, Orientals, Jewish people are not portrayed as builders and organizers of America.

THIS IS NOT A WHITE MAN’S WORLD. SEGREGATION NOT ONLY MISLEADS YOU, BUT LEAVES YOU UNPREPARED TO LIVE IN THE AMERICAN SOCIETY.

AT BEN WILLIS AND HIS FOLLOWERS...

Superintendent Willis has put into practice most of the policies segregating Chicago schools. Willis has:
fixed boundaries to promote segregation
used the mobile classrooms
refused to open school records to the public

All this has been done to maintain and perpetuate segregation

...AND WILLIS IS NOT WITHOUT SUPPORT

The Board of Education has not only supported, but has also approved Ben Willis’ measures for years.

WE DEMAND THE BEST EDUCATION AND THAT MEANS AN END TO BEN WILLIS’ SEGREGATED EDUCATION.

OBSERVE FREEDOM DAY 10 OCT 22
Here is no such thing as separate but equal!

North or South

Chicago citizens, Black and White, are victims of segregated schools!

If you are willing to let your children go to inferior, unequal, and segregated schools—don't read any further. If not, what you must do!

Use your telephone

Everyone must learn about the boycott—call all your friends. Tell them how they can join the fight simply by keeping their children home. Ask them to call their friends—start a chain-call. You can alert hundreds of parents this way.

Knock on doors

Contact your minister, your neighbors, union, clubs—any group you belong to or know about. Ask them to contact others.

More leaflets are available: Appomatix Club

Or further information call: 3632 So. Parkway
285-5839

To be a volunteer freedom fighter, call the Freedom Day Office. Help contact others, distribute leaflets, man the phones.

Your cooperation will make this demonstration the greatest move yet for freedom in Chicago.
THIRTEEN-POINT STATEMENT OF DEMANDS UPON THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION
BY THE COORDINATING COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

1. Removal of Willis and an immediate nationwide search for a new superintendent of schools.

2. Have the Board of Education institute a basic policy of integration of staff and students.

3. Removal of Sterling McMurrin and Lester Nelson from the Committee to Study Racial Composition of Chicago Schools. (They are disqualified to serve, having declared themselves to be partisan to Dr. Willis and therefore can not serve objectively.)

4. Addition to the Racial Study Committee of such persons as Dr. Kenneth Clark and Dr. Dan Dodson, two of the nation's foremost authorities on problems of school desegregation.

5. Dr. Havighurst to assume immediate and sole charge of the school survey.

6. Immediate publication of a total inventory of school population, number of classrooms, classroom usage, including a racial count of students, teachers and principals, conducted school by school.

7. Immediate publication of pupil achievement levels on standardized achievement tests, grade by grade and school by school.

8. Ask Mayor Daley to request federal funds on an emergency basis for a crash remedial program in all schools where achievement records show help is needed.

9. Immediate change in Board's hiring practices to permit hiring of social workers, counsellors and nurses without the present requirement for teaching certificates.

10. Abolition of all high school branches in elementary schools.

11. Board of Education to make trade and vocational education available to all students under instructors who are qualified in the trade or vocation areas they are to teach.

12. All available space in permanent facilities to be utilized fully; then, and only then, should mobile units be used, but never to be used to perpetuate segregation.

13. Finally, reconstitution of the Board of Education by the appointment of new members to the Board who are publicly on record in favor of overcoming de facto segregation in the Chicago schools.

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Demands of the October 22nd Freedom Day School Boycott and Demonstration
*Adopted by Coordinating Council of Community Organizations meeting on Saturday, October 19, 1963 at Washington Park YMCA
*Issued Monday, October 21, 1963, by Lawrence Landry, Chairman, Chicago Freedom Day School Boycott Committee of the

COORDINATING COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS