

WHAT IF GOVERNMENT DOES NOTHING?

In Greenwood, Birmingham, Selma and throughout the Southland, the government responded to end injustices only after thousands were jailed. In Washington, first Doctor King, with a small contingent of poor people from around the country will request that the government act to end poverty. Then thousands of poor will join them. Finally, if there is no response, the same philosophy of civil disobedience (moral obedience) used in the South will be applied here. We will stay until the government responds, building up the pressure for action by calling for thousands upon thousands of people, rich and poor, to come to Washington or stand up and be counted in demonstrations in their home communities.

POOR PEOPLES' CAMPAIGN
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WHO WILL BE IN THE POOR PEOPLES' CAMPAIGN?

At the start several thousand poor people will go to Washington. They will be young and old, jobless fathers, welfare mothers, farmers and laborers. They are Negroes, American Indians, Puerto Ricans, Mexican-Americans, poor white people.

WHERE DO THESE POOR PEOPLE LIVE?

All across the nation. SCLC is recruiting poor people in ten big cities and five southern states. Poor people in all other communities and cities are also invited to join the Campaign.

DO YOU HAVE TO BE POOR TO BE IN THIS CAMPAIGN?

No! Persons in the demonstrations at the start of the Campaign in Washington must be poor, but other people from all walks of life must be prepared to take their place in the lines of this campaign when called. Everyone, rich and poor, is needed immediately to work on the committees.

WHY ARE WE GOING TO WASHINGTON?

Washington is the center of governmental power, and the national government has the money and resources to end poverty and fight racism. But that government has failed to do this. Like the big businesses and the rich, the poor will bring their burdens to their government to demand reforms. Since the poor cannot afford lobbyist, they must represent themselves.

WHAT WILL THE POOR PEOPLES' CAMPAIGN DO
IN WASHINGTON?

We will build powerful nonviolent demonstrations on the issues of jobs, income, welfare, health, housing, education, human rights. These massive demonstrations will be aimed at government centers of power and they will be expanded if necessary. We must make the government face up to the fact of poverty and racism.

WHAT WILL THEY DEMAND?

They will present to the government a list of definite demands involving jobs, income and a decent life for all poor people so that they will control their own destiny. This will cost billions of dollars, but the richest nation of all time can afford to spend this money if America is to avoid social disaster.

WHAT IS A SATYAGRAHA MOVEMENT?

Satyagraha (nonviolent mass movements) means "truth force." Basically all that SCLC mass movements do is provide information to the public. They turn "facts" into "people," statistics into flesh and blood and expose to the public and the world injustices that require remedial action by the government. For over fifty years everyone knew that black people could not vote in Mississippi; this was unjust and undemocratic but no one acted to change it. Nonviolent movements changed this fact into people and exposed it to the world. This power of right was publically pitted against the power of might and the government was freed from its political binds and acted to give black people the right to vote. This same nonviolent movement is now being applied to end poverty in the land of plenty.

YOU AND THE POOR

WHO ARE THE POOR?

The present Americans are 35 million persons who do not have enough money for a decent life. The government says they fall below the "poverty line," earning less than \$3,130 a year for a family of four or \$1,540 for an individual.

WHY ARE PEOPLE POOR?

Poor people are kept in poverty because they are kept from power. Labor and Big Business bring their burdens to Congress for relief through their lobbyists. The federal government now pays over \$1 million to six Mississippi plantations not to grow cotton (Senator Eastland receives \$150,000 a year not to grow cotton on part of his plantation). We must create "poor peoples power."

WHAT HAPPENS TO POOR PEOPLE?

Poor people do not get decent jobs, decent incomes, decent housing, decent schools, decent health care, decent government, decent police. Poor people do not even get respect as human beings.

CAN AMERICA END POVERTY?

Yes! Many nations that are poorer than rich America provide decent incomes and services for all poor people. America spends 10 times as much money on military power as it does on welfare. The government subsidizes big companies and farms and gives tax favors to rich people but punishes the poor.