

October 3, 1966

LAST FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, WE LEARNED THAT A NEW BOARD HAD BEEN FORMED (CALLED MISSISSIPPI ACTION FOR PROGRESS) TO REPLACE CDGM AND TAKE OVER HEADSTART OPERATIONS IN THE STATE. THIS ACTION WAS TAKEN WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OR CONSULTATION OF CDGM OFFICIALS AND POOR COMMUNITIES IN WHICH CDGM SERVES. WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? AT THE MOMENT WE SEE CERTAIN IMMEDIATE AND LONG-RANGE IMPLICATIONS AS IT WILL AFFECT POOR PEOPLE IN MISSISSIPPI.

1. MAP's (The newly formed board) top consultant will be the Governor of the State, and we all know this means to let things stay as they are, and that poor people have no business trying to get out of a state of poverty.
2. The poor will no longer have any voice in the operation of a program which would affect their lives.
3. No jobs will be open to poor people, other than that, perhaps, of the janitor and maid.
4. The children of the communities will not see their parents and other people in the community working together to change the quality of their lives and the development of the community.
5. The act is a political attempt to pacify Senator Stennis and other power people who see poor people conducting a program as a threat to their power.
6. If something like this takes place and we sit by and let it, then we may as well get ready for the third era of slavery. The structure is set. We have the plantation owner, the field overseer, the house nigger, and the field niggers. And we ain't gonna get no freedom -- i.e. a right and means to determine our own lives, and be productive, creative and economically secure human beings.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN
TO YOU !!!