

SUITE 1900  
1776 BROADWAY  
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# The "Committee of 100"

IN SUPPORT OF THE NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC.

Dear Friend:

"Gross discrimination against the blacks in almost all aspects of life ... resulted in the white islands surrounding the City of Richmond," declared Federal District Judge Robert R. Merhige on January 10 as he ordered consolidation of the Richmond city schools with those of two suburban counties. The result -- if the decision is sustained -- will be thorough integration, with no school more than 40% black. In this case, Legal Defense Fund attorneys were attempting to correct an extreme racial imbalance in schools which the white flight to the suburbs helped bring about.

Not only schools and the South are involved. In every part of America, discriminatory restrictions on the use of land are draining the affluent from the cities -- locking the old, the poor, and the black in deteriorating urban centers. It is a formula for a new apartheid, dividing economic classes as well as races.

To meet this trend, LDF attorneys are challenging restrictions on the use of land: exclusionary zoning, preference for highways over housing, and inequitable provision of town and city services. As the enclosed folder indicates, LDF is winning some of its housing battles.

Our attorneys must unravel a complicated fabric of public and private practices to expose the strands of racial discrimination to the courts. The task is time-consuming, intricate, and exceedingly costly. Yet, as suits are won, more Americans, black and white, begin to experience life in mixed communities where day-to-day existence side-by-side dispels the fears which have so long divided us.

To speed this essential work toward reconciliation, an extra \$400,000 will be needed. That translates to 16,000 gifts averaging \$25 each. Because we cannot expect widespread popular support for a court battle so far out on the social frontier, I ask you to be unusually generous. Whatever you send, large or small, will be put to work in the dogged legal struggle to bring about a free and open multiracial America.

Sincerely,



Paul Moore, Jr.  
Chairman

BISHOP PAUL MOORE JR.  
*Chairman*  
JAMES R. ROBINSON  
*Secretary*

*The*  
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of 100"

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