

CONGRESS OF RACIAL EQUALITY
2965 Imperial Avenue
San Diego, California

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NEWS RELEASE

For further information call 233-3982 or 465-4879

CORE GIVES POSITION ON "BLACK POWER": In order to clarify the CORE position on the subject of "black power" for the wider community, the local chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality this week contacted its national headquarters in New York City and received a statement from National Director Floyd McKissick on the subject. Speaking for CORE, Mr. McKissick made the following statement:

"At this time when the nation's conversation is raging around the idea of 'black power' we want to be sure that our friends understand what 'black power' means. 'Black power' seeks to unite the black voice in both racial pride and in the tradition of our multi-racial nation. Just as the Irish sought a political base, as labor joined in unions, so the Afro-American must seek to change his life conditions. 'Black power' is not black supremacy. 'Black power' does not exclude 'white' from any segment of the Negro revolution--it welcomes them, not on past paternalistic terms, but with full recognition of the role the Negro must play in the struggle for total equality. 'Black power' advocates political and economic competition within the framework of our democracy. 'Black power' seeks to change the conditions which cause alienation, despair and ultimately riots. 'Black power' is a new expression of an old concept. It speaks directly to black people who have not as yet really been reached by all the efforts and appeals of the civil rights movement. We in CORE believe that 'black power' is entirely consistent with our philosophy and our goals."