MONTAGE # 371

The Right to Live...The Freedom to Choose

SEGMENT A

FADE UP ON A ROLL

B sound under /

C SOUND FULL

MRS. NAGY:
To get a telephone call at midnight...certainly isn't a happy feeling...then hear a strange voice say, "We want to buy your house. We want to come out and buy your house. We're coming out and appraise it." And in many ways, the approach was not tactful...very brusque and almost insulting.

JAYNE ZBOROWSKY:
These people are hard working people who have their savings invested in a house...have taken care of their house and their property...and have raised their children, and have, have done it more or less the hard way.

MRS. NAGY:
The men worked in the steel mills or other factories, very hard, and they are God-fearing people.
JAYNE ZBOROWSKY:

Maybe it's a minor point in this world today, but it's just a human value of attempting to have people of all different cultures and races to be able to live in their community without pressure from any particular group. This is their community, they've built it. People who are moving in now, blacks who are moving in now, want to make it their community. They want to improve it. They want to build a life here themselves. I think that's worth preserving.

EAST FADE B SOUND CONTINUES FULL

JOE BATTLE"

We've had some instances here in Cleveland where blacks are facing some harassment, physical abuse, this kind of thing. But even so, the attitude is that these are rights that must be secured and they can only be secured if we press our demands.

TOM JENKINS:

I'm convinced that the housing problem is the most burning issue that our country has ever dealt with, and if it's dealt with properly, many of the other problems we have in terms of education and employment will fall in place. As long as there is what we call the vulcanized situation in the inner city,
where the have-nots and the people of lesser means are concentrated, you are gonna have a concentration of problems.

1:59  B SOUND FULL: MUSIC

2:01  ADAIR:  C SOUND FULL

How did we ever arrive at the point where the quality of a person's life...his home, his job, respect from other men can so often depend on his coloring, the shape of his eyes or the texture of his hair? People proceed on the assumption that when they know a man's race, they know a great deal about him.

Race prejudice has shaped our history decisively in the past; it now threatens to do so again. White racism is essentially responsible for the explosive mixture which has been accumulating in our cities since the end of World War Two.

We must face the fact that there is a new energy, a new will, a newly upwardly mobile group who are demanding their rights...to a better life, a slice of the American dream.

To continue to deny them what is rightfully theirs is to deny our laws, and all the precepts this country is founded on. The alternative is frightening...but possible.

2:58  FAST FADE OUT B SOUND CONTINUES FULL
Matte Ken Richards

We're going to end up with entirely black cities and they're just going to fall apart and decay with industry moving out, with people moving out, then what is actually going to happen to those cities... they're going to be just time bombs, and could explode at any time.

But then, by the exploding, you know, when a bomb explodes the fragments scatter so far, and if you are within range, you could also get hit by those fragments, so this doesn't mean that suburbia is safe from the fragments of the time bomb.

In 1967, a nation was stunned and almost torn asunder by the explosions of Detroit and Newark. The Kerner Commission was formed to find out why. Amongst the eight basic causes of the chain reaction of racial
violence were...Pervasive discrimination and segregation which have excluded great numbers of blacks from the economic prosperity of most of the rest of the populace...

Black migration into, and white exodus from, inner cities which greatly increase the burden on the depleted resources of the cities because of the poverty and other handicaps of the new arrivals...black ghettos where the inmates are kept in a cage of poverty, through the bars of which they can see the affluence of the rest of the society.

It is hard, if not impossible, to convince the average white, working at an average job, living in an average suburb, that the black man cannot pull himself up the way they did and other immigrant groups did before them. There are so many misconceptions about the black man by the white and the reasons are so entangled in America's history and its treatment of the black man as to virtually defy detailed analysis of where our present-day myths came from. Tied to the days of slavery, nurtured by half-truths and exaggeration, fed by the white's fear and lack of self respect for himself, the horrible myths of the black man continue and there is no way to learn otherwise, no contact between the men,
no desire to learn the truth by either side.
The latest census figures tell us that in the 1960's, when we supposed that we were making great strides in the field of open housing, we made virtually no progress.

IRVING HORWITZ:
We have a...the 1970 census, has indicated, has developed indications of segregation in the largest cities in the United States. And with Cleveland that has a population of practically 750-thousand, around 288-thousand are black. Better than two thirds of the black population lives in the census tracts where 90 percent or more are black. That's about as total segregation as you're gonna get.
And mind you, the 70's census comes after the 60's, where you know, things are moving too far and too fast. I wonder what they're gonna say in 1980 when we get that kinda census material. I hope that it reflects at least a modest improvement.

ADAIR:
It's a gloomy outlook. It is certainly not what our founding fathers say for this nation...
The continued bottling up of large segments of our polulace (in definance of the law, our Constitution and simple human rights) is not
protecting the suburbanite, as he thinks, but actually has caused and compounded the nation's problems. Whitney Young once said... "And after trying one approach after another, it gets clearer and clearer that whether we are talking about education, health, welfare, employment or any other element of community stability, the central fact, or the key, is housing. And this means more than the quality of housing, although that is very important. It is also where the housing is."

George Romney said... 'This problem is the most important one that America has ever faced... is now facing and will ever face, bar none.'

MATTE JENKINS

Up until June of 1971, we did not have a true policy in terms of equal housing opportunity and of course, in June of 1971 the President gave us a policy statement on equal housing opportunity. And implicit in that statement was the mandate to the Department of Housing and Urban Development to, 1. Eliminate every vestige of past discrimination in housing... and 2., to assure that there would be no future discrimination in housing, and 3., make the people of this nation aware of their responsibility in terms of a delivery system for all citizens in terms of options as to
where they might want to live. And that isn't an easy task. In fact, it must involve many segments of the society that previously had sort of been in a sitting back position.

ADAIR:

A lot of people who were previously sitting back and watching the country move toward inevitable chaos are now becoming involved. Organizations have sprung up across the country made up of concerned citizens who have decided to stay in their community, who have decided that they would lose too much if forced to move, who have decided to stand up to the block-busters, to see their community stabilized, to give their children a learning experience, to learn for themselves that blacks moving in does not mean more crime or rundown houses, that they are like any other person moving in to a new home. They now see there are not many places left to run to. This is happening in a lot of places, to a lot of people...hopefully it is not too late.

MRS. GIBSON:

You can't keep running. You have to make a stand, and I think this is what we have to do. We just have to be involved, because if you move, you look around and you have
the same thing where you were before. So like I say...you can't keep running.

9:21    C SOUND OUT

SLOW FADE TO BLACK OUT BY 9:24

END OF SEGMENT 9:24
SEGMENT B

:00  "C" SOUND FULL -- Ron Johnson

"Hey! It didn't make any difference where a house was. If we saw it and we liked it, we figured we'd buy it. We didn't...the thought never entered our minds that we would be, more or less, deprived of buying a house wherever we wanted to because myself, I don't think in terms like that. I don't think in terms of where I can buy and where I can't buy. We didn't buy a neighborhood, we bought a house. For anyone else to think any other way would be, you know, wrong. I've heard from other people that quite a few houses in the area have gone up for sale within the past couple of months...two or three months.

:29  "C" SOUND CONT. FULL -- Mrs. Beane

And this is...I don't know...it's the type of thing that I read about, you know, where it's...Blacks come into an area; Whites move out. Why I've never been in that position before. But it's a new experience and it's kind of funny to me because it seems as though I'm a pretty powerful person if I can move into an area and tell everyone that's living there to get out.

1:12  "C" SOUND CONT. FULL -- Mrs. Beane

We were not interested in blockbusting or missionary work or integrating a community or any of those lofty reasons.
We were basically just two people looking for someplace to stay. Some homes we looked at... when we left the home neighbors had already collected on the lawn just at our being there... not really harassing us in any way, just a collection of neighbors that made it generally uncomfortable. The home we chose to buy we bought directly from the seller and the problems there were numerous.

They received phone calls; they received threats on their children's lives. They received the first bomb threat which brought the FBI into the case. It was directed against them first and as a result the home was under surveillance while they were there and after we moved into the area.

When my husband made a decision that he wanted to live where he worked, I decided that I'm going to work where I'm living. I had no interest in commuting back to Lorain through Winter so I applied for a job in several suburbs... and finally decided on the Parma School System. They made the best offer and I felt I would be fairly happy teaching there. I am THE Black teacher in Parma.

I see problems the students have with racism; with bigotry... I'm not bitter or hostile about it. I understand that they are
there to learn and to be educated and any
dbigotry or prejudice that they live under is
the result of their environment...of teachings
at home...of never having experienced knowing
Black students...knowing Black kids their own
age. And really they can't be blamed for the
problems that they are having in dealing with
Black people.

3:22 "C" SOUND CONT. FULL (ADAIR) -- "B" SOUND UNDER

SUBURBAN FOOTAGE

These are Cleveland area suburban communities.
Most are predominantly White. Some are all
White...and the problems are many for a Black
family wanting to move here.
Since the enactment of Fair Housing legislation
in 1968 it is illegal for any owner, renter,
broker, financier or advertiser of property to
discriminate on the basis of race, religion
or nationality. But still it happens.
Housing discrimination today has reached
state-of-the-art proportions in subtlety. In
many cases, those being discriminated against
are not even aware it's happening.
As a result, some communities in the Cleveland
area have formed associations and committees
that will hopefully dispel many of the myths
associated with integration. Their function
is to develop, monitor and maintain stable
integration within their community.
Many people perceived that as Black families moved into their communities that the community would no longer, or their particular street would no longer be attractive to White families...and we have had White families move out onto every street in which there are Black families. We have had many sales from homes next door to Black families who have gone to White families and we've even had several dozen homes owned by Blacks re-sold to White families.

We were able to show through our survey that in most instances the properties that had been sold twice in...what was it?...a two year period?...three year period...a large, large percentage had increased in value and we have found that our neighborhoods as a result of families working together really have a very stable situation.

There are presently in all of Shaker Heights or in all of the integrated communities in Shaker Heights, there are presently about 1½ part-time people working to show Whites homes in the integrated communities.

We don't feel that 1½ part-time people can possibly compete with 200 to 300 business
people. We think that the creator of all Black and all White communities...or some of us think is basically the real estate industry. We found that the White real estate industry basically left this community and the Black real estate industry was becoming increasingly more active in this area. Initially what the Community Association's function was when a Community Association was formed was to fulfill the void of the White realtor.

When we came here eight years ago I don't think there was another community quite like this...at least, not in Cleveland that we knew of. And we particularly wanted our children to grow up in an integrated environment. We didn't want them to grow up with some of the racist attitudes most of us know in this country.

I'm here primarily for my children I think because I don't want my children in segregated schools period. I have a kid in the first grade now and he will make reference to other kids by color. I like it though because it's not...it's not self-conscious. To him its just a fact. He doesn't...he even described me once to a neighbor while he was looking for me as a...."Well, he's about so tall, he's got a blue coat on and he wears white skin".
I could barely count on one hand the White families who have moved to this community and then moved out because they thought there were more Blacks than they wanted living near them.

We began as a group of people interested in housing and decided to do an audit...and when we did the audit and the material kept coming in then we knew that we had to do something with it...we knew that we needed a name and this is how it began.

Our audit pairs were carefully matched; one being White and the other Black. That was the only difference so that when they went out to look at a house, we would know that the only difference would be that of color.

Here in our audit in Cleveland, both our Black and White auditors came back to us and said we were treated nicely...we were offered business cards; we were offered rides to the homes...in other words, to the average home seeker this was all very nice, courteous treatment...and it's what you like to receive. But how can you know there aren't four or five $40,000 houses that you'd like to see in that particular suburb?? How do you know unless you're shown?
I think things have changed since 1968. I think things have gotten better...however the discrimination these days is much more subtle.

The real estate salesman cannot win in this situation no matter what he does because if he shows a house to a Black family in an all White area he is accused of blockbusting; if he shows them a house in an integrated area he is accused of steering; and if he shows them a house in an all Black area he is accused of being a segregationist.

As to whether or not there is steering, it depends upon who you talk to. It's an almost impossible thing because to find out whether there is or is not racial steering you have to get inside the mind of the real estate salesman...the prospectum...and so forth.
SEGMENT 'C'

ROCHESTER, N.Y. "THE 19TH WARD"

FADE IN 'A' ROLL :00 B SOUND UNDER PRESENCE (NEIGHBORHOOD) UNDER

:01 'C' SOUND FULL-ADAIR/PRES. CONT'D. UNDER

(SEE NEXT PAGE)
NARRATION:

For the residents of the 19th ward in Rochester, New York, being part of an integrated neighborhood means not only a strong commitment to living and sharing with all humanity, but means a commitment to the preservation of an urban environment. The 19th ward, a totally white neighborhood up until 1965, is a paradoxical island within the city of Rochester...with boundaries of great stress. To its east is a troubled black ghetto; on its western boundary lies suburbia; to the north an old-established ethnic neighborhood; and, on its southern border, a racially apathetic university. This unique situation prompted MONTAGE to study the forces of stress and the effectiveness of this community and its seven-year-old association in dealing with them. What was found was a young community association struggling with
a dogmatic definition of integration, but nevertheless approaching their
problems vigorously and honestly.

The 19th Ward Community Association consists of about 1,500 individual
members, eleven churches, and forty participating merchants. Their main
objective upon forming was that they not appear as a white protection
group but rather as a group displaying overt signs of wanting to create
a multi-racial community that was to be "people" oriented.

1:20 B SOUND CUT, C SOUND CONTINUED FULL

ARGUST:

Matte: L-1/3... 1:20 I think we have to be clear about that.
"Tom Argust"

This was going to become a multi-racial area, and the question was
when was it going to happen and how was it going to happen, and I think
that the people who put together the association helped it to happen in
positive rather than a negative way.
NARRATION:

The 19th Ward Community Association has made great strides in developing a livable community for everyone...whether members of the association or not. They take great pride in the physical appearance of their streets and the homes that line them. They are as they put it..."Self-Styled Chauvinists"...committed to one of the "last urban frontiers."

MARK BEACH

And I think one of the overall objectives to the association is to make it clear to people that they can take some responsibility for their own lives, that they can feel that they can elevate their social consciousness to the point where just have to, uh, give in to the economic or social forces that people find threatening, but they can say we're...
going to deliberately on purpose set out to make the kind of place here that we're going to live and that kind of place is gonna be different and it's gonna be, as we sometimes call it the urban frontier, uh, and it's gonna be some place where we don't have to be chased out and it's gonna be exciting, interesting, rewarding place for us and our children to, uh, to live, and not simply to exist, and that's a very hard thing to try to keep building in and building out all the time.

NARRATION:
The ever-present criticism from the bordering neighborhoods of the 19th ward is intense. Perhaps the two major sources of threats come from the suburbs and from the Black ghetto...

MARK BEACH:

one are the folks that have moved out
who are willing to pay an exceedingly high price just as in terms of dollars if nothing else to be isolated from anybody different from they are, whether they're Black, or Jewish, or Catholic or whatever, I mean they're just creating little ghettos for themselves...PHONE RINGING...particularly for their wives and children, uh, in the suburbs, and they of course are so scornful of what we're trying to create, it's never gonna work, uh, you can't learn in schools like that, you can't walk in streets like that, you can't go to church in places like that, you can't have your car safe, you can't have decent homes, those are mostly defense mechanisms, people have to protect their egos, particularly when they, when they're willing to pay, uh, twice approximately what we pay to live, to be maintaining care, little mini-meadows and automated
things to mow them and things like that.

REV. LARRY WITMER

Criticism from another direction that, that I find, uh, little more uncomfortable and difficult to respond to and that is, when some of the, uh, Black people in the city who basically feel that some of our policies in terms of maintaining a relatively lower density in the community is

really against the poor/ that in fact with a limited, uh, housing market and very few opportunities for, uh, low income families to find decent housing, when we, uh, enforce our policies and make sure that homes are not divided into apartments and so on in effect we are further limiting housing possibilities to the poor of the city, and, uh, while I can well understand from the point of our own neigh-
borhood, why that's desirable, and essential if we're gonna be able to maintain the quality of life as we've know it, uh, none the less, it, it does raise the question about the larger responsibility and how the city is going to be able to provide adequate housing for the poor.

NARRATION:
If the 19th ward is to really survive as a multi-racial community...the answer lies within their schools, where whites begin to deal with their whiteness and Blacks with their blackness...and the arguments are endless...

DR. MARK BEACH
Usually it comes from suburban liberals whose argument runs something like, "Well, it's fine for you as an adult to live in that inter-racial neighborhood, but you're sacrificing your children's lives. Uh, you're sending
them to inferior schools and you're subjecting them to, uh, a culture that they ought to be protected from. And to me, that is the lowest kind of criticism because, uh, well, I don't want to send my kid to a parochial school and to me any kind of homogenous school. I just don't think that to accomplish another fifty points on a spelling test or to raise your mean from a 60th to 70th percentile on a standardized arithmetic examination is worth the price of not knowing what kind of different people there are in the world and encountering some of their life styles.

LARRY WITMER

Now maybe we ought to explore that a little bit, uh, Mark, how old are your children?

DR. MARK BEACH

My children are seven and eight.
Seven and eight. Uh, I know some of the other people around the table who have children who are older and, uh, I think up until this year my feelings were very similar to yours in that regard, and, uh, but this marks the point where my daughter is now ready to enter high school. And, uh, we really had to do some reaccessing about that, weighing social costs and academic costs and trying to make some judgment about what's really fair and right for her as an individual. And, uh, and we had to finally conclude that we really did have to take alternative education very seriously, because the character of the situation in the community educationally is the fact that while population wise the 19th ward may be twenty percent Black at this point, uh, in the high school which our children are being assigned next year, the, uh, racial population there will be something
like seventy-five percent, uh, Black as a probably conservative estimate. Which means that, uh, for those of us who are accustomed to being in the majority, uh, both in the community and in the schools, it's a new thing, and we really have to, that's a kind of a culture shock that that we have to learn to deal with as white people.

7:31  "C" SOUND CONT'D.

TOM ARGUST

What I'm concerned about is that the youth project begin to work with the family, the parents on what does it mean for, not only for them but their children to be involved in an integrated community, or, uh, or a multi-racial community. Uh, what does it mean for their children to go to school in this kind of setting, uh, what does it mean especially for whites, uh, in in what does it mean for whites to have
a relationship with Blacks, especially if, if there's very little communication, very little understanding of where, uh, each group is coming from.

Hoffner

I really think that until a community as a whole, and the parents in particular have gotten together and monitored the school and gone into the schools and said our first reasons for being here is to develop good human relations. Now that's not human relations with capital letters, that's human relations, that the community hasn't tried to do anything about its schools......until that is accomplished, to be facilitating that kind of understanding, because it would be easy for a parent at home to teach his child how to read, but there's no way that a parent at home can teach his child how to get along with people who don't like the way he looks, have
M-371...Segment C

a preconception about his background, are feeling rotten that day, and just feel like kickin' somebody littlier than they are, and it really comes down I think to something that's really that simple.

FAST FADE OUT OF B SOUND (MUSIC)

8:52 MUSIC OUT/"C" SOUND CONT'D. FULL

HOFFNER (SYNC. CONT'D.)

Uh, I don't think that the community association is dealing with the racism that exists in the society, uh, as well as it will have to if the idea of a multi-racial different-celebrating community is gonna be viable. Uh, I think people are afraid to be honest about racism. I, I think they're afraid to speak up and say, uh, this particular kind of thing makes me uncomfortable or I have worried about this in terms of Black and white and I want to discuss that. Uh, I'm sure there are some people in the community association who still see it as a white homeowners association, and I know there are a lot of people in the
Black community who see it as a white homeowners association, that's not where I'm at, as far as I'm concerned, as I'm concerned, the community association, is as stated and in that way it's got a long way to go, but it's a beginning and, uh, if we don't make these kinds of beginnings, I'm not particularly hopeful about the, you know, I can't run out to the suburbs because there are no suburbs to run to, you've gotta make it here, you know.

9:52 "C" SOUND OUT

FADE TO BLACK 9:53 FADE B SOUND OUT

END SEGMENT "C"
The battle to provide housing for people of all races and colors rages unabated across the country. Akron, Ohio, a large city in its own right, is often overshadowed by its large neighbor to the North...Cleveland. Now virtually one large urban sprawl, these cities have many common problems. One of those is the inability of people to live together in harmony. But like other areas there are many who have banded together to fight back.

I think Akron has gotten progressively worse. Having been born and raised in Akron, I've watched Akron move from a city where blacks and minorities live together...there was practically a black on every street, one black family on every street. Then the World War Two came along and with the rush of the
importation of people, black and white, and mostly southerners to Akron, for work purposes, then this created the...seemed to create the ghetto.

Now it's progressed that we have pockets of blacks just living in certain areas. This is getting really worse.

This was one of the reasons for beginning of the West Side Neighbors, was to encourage people to stay in the area because this is a very good area and to learn and know your neighbors. At the beginning, it was a very, very hard fight. Most people wouldn't listen to us, but now the idea's beginning to catch and West Side Neighbors and Fair Housing Contact Service are rapidly becoming a force in the community and are being listened to and are a respected organization.

SALTMAN: we had to do something to help alleviate the situation of segregation and housing discrimination in the housing area and we formed a group in May, 1965. During the first three and a half years of our operation, which was totally voluntary, we managed to open 40 different, all white neighborhoods throughout the metropolitan area, and we did this with no office, with no staff, with a relative handful of volunteers, and with a lot of hard work and energy. And... I should add, a budget of no more than about 300 dollars a year.
ADAIR:

But in 1968, the OEO, which is the anti-poverty agency gave the agency funding to open an office and hire a staff of 10. The participants were delerious with joy. But the euphoria did not last long. They found the bureaucracy necessary to run the office hindered the zeal of the mission they were on...the strings were beginning to constrict the free-wheeling volunteer operation they used to have.

JULIE SALTZMAN:

It was a painful operation, we placed no more families in non-traditional areas during the whole two years of this fabulously funded operation than we had during the third year of our voluntary operation. In other words, in the whole two year period, we did not open up more than 22 neighborhoods and in the third year of our operation we had opened up 22 neighborhoods.

ADAIR:

One stumbling block after another was thrown in their path and the eventual result should serve as a lesson to similar groups. The
once happy group, pulling together for a common cause became mired down.

3:34 C SOUND CON't FULL

JULIE SALTMAN:

We split philosophically, we split emotionally, our board meetings became a nightmare, really a...very uncomfortable, very tense, with all of the hostility coming out and partially it was because of the funding operation you see.

3:50 C SOUND CON'T FULL

ADAIR:

What they did then probably startled the bureaucrats in Washington. They voted unanimously to return the money and return to their makeshift operation.

4:01 C SOUND CON'T FULL

JULIE SALTMAN:

We have restored our strength, we have regained out unanimity, our harmony, our concensus, and we're having what I think is a very meaningful impact on the community in terms of constantly calling attention and creating awareness of the problem of housing discrimination and housing segregation.

4:27 C SOUND CON'T FULL

PAT COYLE:

It's very difficult to keep West Akron stable and an integrated community. There seems like there are considerable pressures...some subtle and some not so subtle...that operate
to make, to move towards becoming more of a ghetto, to having it residentially segregated.

**4:54** B SOUND (MUSIC) UNDER, C CON'T FULL

ADAIR:
But no sooner do communities like the ones in Akron face one problem than another takes its place. A leg of Interstate 77 is being built through Akron, threatening to tear the community apart.

PAT COYLE:
The issue of this relocation you know, families are in the path of a second leg of an expressway and the city is trying to relocate them into comparable housing. Uh, now the issue that our organization is really fighting is not the relocation of these families, well it is, it's the fact that if the present procedures are followed, we know that these families will end up in the near West Side of Akron... they'll end up buying homes in the west side, furthering the concentration of minorities, uh individuals here, making it that much more difficult in fact, for us to maintain this as a stable and integrated community.
ADAIR:

So the communities that are trying to meet the challenge of our times find pressures relentless. Armed with results of their audit, showing rampant discrimination against blacks in the suburbs and with relocation of 453 families uprooted by the highway as an issue, the open housing group threatened a court injunction to halt freeway construction. HUD threatened to cut off three-million-dollars of urban renewal funds because of the city's inaction on relocation of these families. In order not to lose those funds, the city of Akron has contracted with the open housing people to provide equal housing in the Akron area. But the issue is still very much at odds; although those involved have hope that the problems will be resolved, those who are realistic about it recognize the prejudices involved, the self interests protecting themselves...an almost self perpetuating state of affairs.

6:41 FAST FADE OUT B SOUND, C SOUND CON'T FULL

PAT COYLE:

As we come to a crisis situation you know, I'm reminded of the President's Commission on Violence that pictures us at some point hence with, you know, an armed camp; the city holding
the minorities and the low income people, and the suburbs having the middle class and
the affluent, you know, with ramparts in the, and guns guarding one from the other. It's a
sickening and very frightening reality that, you know, I'm afraid we seem to be inching
towards.

7:13 B SOUND UNDER (NAT. SOF) C SOUND CON'TFUL

ADAIR: -­­ (KEEP B VERY LOW)
The virus of hatred and fear spreads...a young concerned priest is fighting for what he thinks is right. He speaks of yet another area of Akron ready to fall before the onslaught of unspoken prejudice, of unrealized fears.

7:29 B SOUND OUT, C CON'T FULL

GARDNER: The people around here don't have the money to move to the suburbs, that kind of nonsense out there, they just don't have the money to go into debt, they've too many kids to find a place big enough, they're too far away from their jobs, uh, and so they're caught in the middle, and being caught in the middle like this, uh, the make an assumption which is the only one they can make really, and nobody could accuse them of making it, that the guy that's giving them the trouble is the guy down the hill uh, who's, who's moving
up. But the problems are, are all the same. Because just as the guy that lives on top of the hill here uh, is looking towards trying to get out and get a better place for himself, and all, in the wake of what's coming, so the guy down at the bottom of the hill is looking up here, the way this guy's looking out to the suburbs, and, and basically, uh you know, both are, they're not at all enemies, there's no need for them to be enemies, but somehow they've got to aid in the discovery that this is the ally, a friend, this is how things can, can change for the better of both.

GARDNER:
I mean the name of the game is everybody taking their destiny into their own hands.

FADE TO BLACK

8:39 C SOUND OUT

END, SEGMENT D
SEGMENT E
Palo Alto, California

FADE UP ON A ROLL
Girl leaning on Post
Cable car moving
Golden Gate Bridge

:00 B SOUND FULL (NATURAL SOUND)

:15 C SOUND FULL, B SOUND UNDER
ADAIR:
The Golden Gate...and the City by the Bay...
home of the 49er's and the A's; Stanford
University and Berkley...and so the image says,
liberal to the core. Two and a half million
people live in the San Francisco-Oakland Bay
Area, and in a place accustomed to topless AND
bottomless bar girls, one would expect that even
the color line has long been forgotten.
But liberal-image San Francisco is also
conservative Northern California, and housing
discrimination is as widespread here as anywhere...
...but here, it also includes Mexican and
Oriental Americans.

:51 C SOUND OUT, B SOUND CONTINUED UNDER

:53 C SOUND FULL, B CONTINUED UNDER
ADAIR:
More than 25 volunteer fair housing groups are now at work to combat discrimination around the Bay, including the Mid Peninsula Citizens for Fair Housing...which developed the Audit technique for verifying discrimination complaints. MCFH was formed in 1964 to counter efforts at repealing the Rumford Act...which authorized the California Fair Employment Practices Commission to investigate discrimination complaints and to hold informal hearings if conciliation was unsuccessful. The repeal effort was defeated...and the Rumford Act remains law in California. But the Palo Alto group called MCFH has refined it's audit system to the point of proof...and today, people who have suffered discrimination are often awarded damages in civil suits because of them...and on the basis of various city audits, City Councils and Commissions have revised their fair housing laws.

MACPHERSON:
MCFH took an active role in of course, the arguments against repeal of the Rumford Act. And then subsequently, it decided that there were other areas in which it also could work.
MACPHERSON: (C continued)

And so around '67, '68, '69, it began to provide a checking service to uh, check out complaints of discrimination, uh, and if the complaints were justified, to attempt to conciliate as private citizens, with the owner or the manager to get the complaintant into the apartment. And this was done on a very small scale uh, for a few months, and then it became a main program of MCFH to recruit checkers...people throughout the area who would be available on very short notice to go to apartments where minority people thought for example, that they had been discriminated against. The checkers would go to the apartment as would the minority group people. And they would analyze the results and determine whether or not in fact, the minority....

FADE B SOUND (MUSIC) INTO BKG...C CONT' FULL

...group person had been told different facts or higher rent, a later day of occupancy than they were told.

C SOUND CONTINUED FULL, B CONTINUED UNDER SHIRLEY PEPPERS:

I got a call from Jo Ellen about helping on the Palo Alto audit, and she and I went out one Saturday morning, and checked six or eight apartment buildings seperately, but within 10 or 15 minutes of each other so the situation at
the apartment building wouldn't be likely to have changed.

JO ELLEN MURPHY:
We send in a team of a black person and a white person, or in another case, we could send in a Chicano and a white, who act as a team. They are the same age, the same sex, the same background, qualifications and approximately the same physical appearance, and they ask independently the rent, the date of availability, of any vacant apartments, the lease terms, deposit, what utilities are included, and then we compare the results given to each of the auditors and that's how we determine if an apartment owner is practicing discrimination.

SHIRLEY PEPPERS:
There's sort of two kinds of discrimination that you find around here. There are people who won't rent to minorities at all, or to blacks at all, uh, and then there are people who will rent to you, but you hav't to, you know, be better than everybody else who's applying or you have to prove yourself a lot more.

JO ELLEN:
Each auditor goes into an apartment, comes out, fills out our standardized forms with as complete information as possible, and at the end of the day, they come back to a certain
point and turn in all the forms and at that point, they're compared. But during the course of the audit, the auditors don't talk to each other/

SHIRLEY:

After we finished Jo Ellen and I got together and compared notes and found out that in at least two out of the six or eight cases, there sort of were some definite indications that she and I had received different stories. There were places where she had been shown apartments and I hadn't...uh, places where I had been quoted higher rents, uh 10 to 25 dollars a month more than Jo Ellen had been quoted...they were some of the same lines that I had heard earlier when I was actually apartment hunting and thought nothing about it...so that I would imagine that a lot of people go through this situation for years, of not realizing that they're not getting straight information from prospective landlords or landladies.

JO ELLEN:

A manager called and told one of our Board Members that a black man had come in and looked, to look for an apartment and the manager thought,"Oh, an MCFH auditor. I'll tell him the right rental, tell him the day it's available and I can tell him when he can move in, and you know, I'm gonna come out of this audit clear."
And the guy wasn't an auditor at all, he was a bona fide applicant, and he moved in the next day, and the manager was totally surprised. But in a sense, that's one of our goals.

SHIRLEY:

Statistically, we know that in this area the rate of discrimination is from like 48 to 68 percent, from the audits we have done.

MACPHERSON:

First, we tabulate the statistics and then present the statistical summation of the results to the local planning commission or the local human relations commission if there is one, and eventually to the local city council, and we use the audit results in these communities, before the public bodies, to raise the level of discussion of discrimination from the you-discriminate-no-we-don't level to, "Here are the results of the survey, you're welcome to look at the techniques we used to conduct this survey, you're welcome to look at our results, you're welcome to talk to the people who did the work, you're welcome to, in other words, participate in the audit with us if you want to verify the results. But let's not talk about whether you discriminate. We think, our statistics show that there is discrimination
in this town. Let's talk rather about ways that we're going to stop this discrimination."

C SOUND CONTINUED FULL, B SOUND OUT

PAUL PAGE:
The Council has found, and I have found through my own personal experience, that unfortunately, people who have had their rights violated are unable to do much with these, with this violation of rights through federal or state agencies.

It's a very sad commentary of our, on certain aspects of our government's system that, although there are laws that absolutely define a person's rights, the government is not following up and enforcing those laws.

C SOUND CONTINUED FULL

BETTY:
I was attending the University of San Francisco in the evenings after work, and the University's not in proximity to my place of employment, and I'm kinda half-way in between, and I thought how neat it would be to have an apartment over there near the campus.
So I rang this bell and uh, I talked to a lady there, and she said, "Well. First, How many of them are you?" I said, "I beg your pardon?" "How Many of them are you?" I asked, "Well, I'm alone if that's what you mean." "Well now, let me tell you, the people that own
this building, they say one person and they mean just one person, do you understand that?"
And I said, "Yes, and I am just one person."
So she had the keys and she started to put them in the door, she says, "Let me ask you, you do have references? You do have references, don't you?" And I said, "Certainly", you know. "Well, I mean, you have, you have a job don't you? You do work, don't you? " I said "Certainly", and I told her where I worked. And then she went back, "Well now, they're very strict about references, you must have references, I mean bank references, you know." I said,"Is Carte Blanc any good?" I said, "Is Wells Fargo any good? Is the Bank of America any good, for the last five years? Is Standard Oil, is that any good, United California Bank, is that alright?"...you know... "Oh yes, yes, yes. Now don't get offended, now, you must understand, I'm not asking you this just because you're you..." BINGO! She was asking me that just because I'm me, and I'll explain that to you later. She finally showed me the place and she told me the place was haunted... and...(LAUGHS)...that, you know all black folks are scared of ghosts...(LAUGHS)... traditionally, you see.

San Francisco scenes 8:55

3 SOUND (MUSIC) UNDER, CSOUND CONTINUED FULL ...

...But you see, I don't think in terms of
hurting people any kind of way...it's the teaching process. That's what it is, and I think that they are paying an awfully high tuition in order to learn these things that are really sophomoric, so it's not that I care to hurt anyone in any way, but if I let them go through life not knowing and continuing in discrimination, then I'm not a very good person myself cause I haven't helped my fellow man learn an elementary lesson.
Shaker Heights is one of the nation's wealthiest suburbs, and interracial living there would seem bound to be somewhat more secure than elsewhere, but in the middle 50's the Ludlow School District found itself confronted with a threatened total transition to a black community. Community response was massive, and included a private foundation to raise money for home financing for newcomers; a community housing service, minute attention to school standards and the development of considerable expertise in fund-raising through major musical events. Now one of the most stable interracial areas of the country, Ludlow's, and an adjacent area, Lomond, Community Associations stay active in town affairs where they have exerted influence in many areas. Areas like these across the country show that integration can work.
But what really counts are the people that are living their beliefs and are allowing their children, perhaps our real hope for the future, to participate in a living experience.

LUDLOW GROUP:
I don't think the Kerner Commission was inaccurate in their predictions. I think it still vary well could come true. What the Commission said was that unless things change very, very drastically and very soon in this country, it will become one nation, divided and unequal. We feel that we're at our level here in Ludlow...we're part of that picture. We're part of an attempt at making that change that the Kerner Commission called for. And we believe in the prophesy...that this country can't go on preaching a humane and democratic ethic while it practices a very narrow and inhumane kind of segregation, and here in the North, in a city like Cleveland the problem is housing, it is geographical segregation.

1:42 FADE B SOUND OUT (BE OUT BY 1:44)
ROCHESTER:
The facts of the matter are that most of us prior to living in this community had never had that experience. If you told me five years ago, if I told you five years ago, what a community could be like called the 19th Ward or Ludlow in Cleveland or what, or any other integrated community, it wouldn't be so much a
matter of me not believing you, but my not having the experience and the capacity to understand what you're talking about.

RICHARDS:
It's gonna take involvement of more people to be concerned about the problem, and I think it's gonna take people knowing one another, cause no one's going to bite anyone, or, or the black doesn't rub off, or, or blacks are not all good, nor all bad. But we're going to have to start knowing each other as people.

ADAIR:
There are indications that when black children and white children get to know one another in nursery school and grow up together they do have to be almost forcibly taught racism in order to be deeply affected by it. The post-revolutionary future of relations between black Americans and white Americans may first become visible in integrated schools.

SAUNDRA BEANE:
I think a student needs a point of view other than white middle class America. There are other kinds of people and they need to know them. They need to experience them and they're not getting that experience.
RON JOHNSON:

A home to me is, is to have my wife and kids... happy and to have the conveniences that I've always read about when I was a kid.

...a sort of what I jokingly call an Alice and Jerry and Dick and Jane neighborhood...you know, the type of thing that we read about when we were in school, in kindergarten, first grade type of thing. Those were the types of things I used to see in the books and I used to wonder where they were when I was a kid. And I think I found it. A long time ago, I decided that I wasn't gonna deny myself or anyone in my family anything we want, anything our money can buy, because...This is America...This is the United States. That's right...and if I don't take advantage of my rights I may as well not have them.

ADAIR:

In his summation to the jury in the trial of Henry Sweet in Detroit in 1926, Clarence Darrow said...

"Every human being's life in this world is inevitably mixed with every other life and, no matter what laws we pass, no matter what precautions we take, unless the people we meet are kindly and decent and human and liberty-loving, then there is no liberty. Freedom comes from human beings, rather than from laws and institutions.

KIDS:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the
United States of America, and to the
Republic for which it stands, one nation,
under God, indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

5:23 C SOUND OUT, B SOUND CON"T UNDER

5:29

MATTE TITLES...

FADE TO BLACK

6:03 B SOUND OUT (NATURAL FADE OUT)