Statement to Council 6/25/68.

[MC-0087.008.011.001]

CURE does not speak for the black, brown, red or yellow minorities. CURE does represent a point of view of many in the white-Anglo community.

We see CIC as being extremely effective in helping us to become personally aware of the serious racial and ethnic problems in San Diego. This has been done primarily by bringing us face to face with members of the various minority communities in dialogue. There the people and the facts have spoken for themselves. Some of us have been moved to action by our awakened concern. We believe our actions have in general been more appropriate than they might otherwise have been because they were based on personal knowledge and understanding gained through this direct, personal confrontation.

It is our experience that the dialogues often, and perhaps most importantly, have created true respect and warm regard ~~for~~ among the ~~other~~ participants. We now number among our friends Negroes and Mexican-Americans we would not otherwise have known. For many of us these new friends are our only acquaintances with such persons other than the most casual and impersonal.

It is our belief that much of the success of CIC is due to their not being perceived as an arm of the government or a part of any power structure. Instead they are seen as the product of a spontaneous moral concern in the community. They are seen as a part of the community, not apart from the community. The membership of the ~~Executive~~ Board of Trustees of CIC reflects this wide and responsible community involvement. It is difficult to imagine any group being more appropriately representative of the people, more distinguished or more effective than the present board.

The independence of the present organization permits a more informal responsiveness to people which is particularly beneficial in a human relations agency. Yet the established character and

integrity of the board members insures a thoughtful, responsible informality. The council too is freed by this independence, though they still retain a measure of control in that CIC ~~must~~ comes to them for annual funding.

The racial and ethnic problems are much greater than the limited means of CIC. The dedicated staff of CIC is continuing to work extended hours without commensurate compensation. Furthermore, these problems are not limited to this city only. Consequently, we strongly recommend the full "ideal" funding requested by CIC, and we further recommend that discussions be intiated with appropriate groups and agencies to consider expanding the operation of CIC beyond the city. However, because CIC is already functioning effectively, because it already has the confidence and support of many in the majority community, as well as many in the minority communities, because of its already considerable momentum, we strongly urge that any changes made clearly enhance and expand CIC, not divert ~~its~~ or limit it. It is a very small investment considering the magnitude of the problem. It is especially worthwhile because of the large amount of volunteer effort it has generated.