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~~Courage~~
~~Optimism~~
R
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There is something I have been concerned about for some time. ~~and~~ Maybe I can find the answer through the "voice".

First, let me say that I am interested in race relations — not only interested in talking about it — but interested in doing something about it. I have been doing work in this field since I came to San Diego five years ago. I can't help asking myself how many other negroes are doing their part. Many might say, "I work at this every day in my own way." This is fine but it is not enough. Besides working at it in our own way, we must expect some sort of organized effort. A dynamic voice of the negro is lacking in San Diego. Why is this? While you're thinking about that maybe you can tell me why such a small number of negroes could manage to get out to the C.O.R.E. meetings that have been held recently. Is it because people don't know about it? Maybe so! But I think there are other reasons. The answers I have gotten go like this, "I'm too busy"; "I have my job to think about"; or "they didn't ask me". Well if you are too busy to join others in fighting for equality then you don't

deserve any more equality than you have now. ~~already~~ And if your job is such that you are afraid of losing it, then perhaps you better change jobs or at least find someone to do your fighting for you. And if you're sitting around ~~way~~ waiting for someone to ask you to come forth to help your own cause, then I'm afraid you wouldn't be of much help anyhow. What bothers me most is the fact that many "whites" seem to be more concerned about our achieving equality than ~~we are the~~ we negroes are (At least in San Diego) Maybe they aren't more concerned, maybe they are just more willing to work.

I hope my feelings on this topic are wrong. I sincerely do. But when I see more "whites" than negroes attending C.O.R.E. meetings, and groups like the El Cajon Open Housing Committee (composed of all whites except for myself and a few other) fighting for the rights of the negro, I can't help but wonder.

The time has never been more right than now! Join an active group and let's help all to understand, accept, and respect the negro. If you are doing nothing, you are as bad as the segregationist

himself. There are many ways you can help. Don't put it off ~~until~~ tomorrow! - Unless you are satisfied with today.