September 18, 1969

Dear Committee for the Seminar, "Understanding Self and Race":

First, let me say we did appreciate your help yesterday at the Freedom House meeting and are most grateful to Freedom House for their willingness to cooperate. Below are the plans as I recorded them. If I have missed let me know.

9:30-10:00 Registration and coffee
    Training of Discussion Leaders and Recorders - Mrs. Wilma Brady
Chairman - Mrs. Irene Hoyt or Mrs. Priscilla Howes
10:00 Welcome and a brief outline of the mission of Freedom House -
    Mrs. Muriel Snowden
10:15 Film: "A Time for Burning"
11:15 Discussion Groups - eight, each group led by a black woman with a county Home Economist acting as the recorder.
12:30 Lunch - catered (box lunch)
1:30 General Session
Chairman - Mrs. Priscilla Howes
Dialogue: How it is Going!
    Mrs. Wilma Brady
    Mrs. Muriel Snowden

Discussion of other ways to carry out our theme in the state, county, community and in our own living - Led by Mrs. Howes
2:00 Return to the Discussion Groups
2:30 Each group will close the discussion with time for a summary report in the group from the recorder plus time for each to fill out an evaluation sheet. Thanks will be expressed in the group.
3:00 Adjournment from the group.

TASKS:
Morning Coffee - Freedom House
Training discussion leaders and recorders - Wilma Brady
Registration including name cards - Winifred Eastwood
Method of dividing the group into eight small groups - Anna Alden, Winifred Eastwood
Obtaining discussion leaders - Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Snowden

Hopefully, Mrs. Snowden and Mrs. Brady can be roving discussion leaders and eight others will be found to lead the discussions.

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TASKS (continued)

Lunch arrangements - Annie Brown, Francis Stone
Noon coffee - Freedom House or the Caterer
Recorders - Phyllis Brightman, Irene Harmonson, Helen Roberts plus five other Home Economists (Winifred Eastwood will recruit the five)
Evaluation sheets - Annie Brown; Anna Alden offered to help with this.

Enclosed for your information is a letter which went to each county, county chairman and state officers, explaining our plans.

Sincerely,

Winifred Eastwood
Head
Extension Division of Home Economics

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*A description of the film which we were able to get:

"A dramatically powerful portrait of the American conscience struggling with the tensions created by the country's revolution in racial relationships is presented in this 1966 documentary film. This unusual motion picture was produced on location in Omaha, Nebraska.

The film is an actual drama of real people caught in the conflict between doubt and conviction. The individual: in the film are members of Omaha's Augustana Lutheran Church, an all-white middle class congregation; their young spiritual leader, Pastor L. William Youngdahl; and members of the city's Negro ghetto. It is Pastor Youngdahl's efforts to build a bridge of understanding between the two races that is at the center of the film's story.

The events of the story were photographed as they happened. Omaha was selected after extensive research as a thriving midwestern city which was in many respects, "America in microcosm." Omaha's Negro community is approximately 10% of its total population, and almost 95% of this community lives in the ghetto. Until subsequent events of violence in Omaha, a situation both prophesied and explored with illuminating insight in the film, the city reflected the many American areas in which people had heard about racial tensions but never experienced direct contact with them.

The film was distributed by National Educational Television after being turned down by all three commercial television networks. Jack Gould of The New York Times stated that "This was the most accomplished and sensitive hour of this season." 55 minutes long, Black and white."