

I don't believe that the U.S. Office pays any attention to this, at all. Certainly there is no evidence of this for De Kalb County.

Mrs. GREEN. How would you have them do it, specifically? What would you have the Office of Education do?

Mr. GREEN. In this particular case, I would have them say to De Kalb County, "This is something you have not done. For heaven's sake do something."

They have not done anything. They could have programs explaining this. They could promote a positive attitude among school employees, and ask for it.

I think there are many things they could do to promote better human relations, generally speaking, within the county.

The school system has grudgingly complied, rather than being forced to comply.

How much of this sort of thing there is, and how effective it is, I don't know. I belong to an organization that dedicates itself to trying. We don't claim that we know the answers on human relations, either. We just try.

Mr. ERLÉNORN. You made reference to a letter from, I believe, the regional director of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, to the Washington office. Is that right? During this last year, have you been in fairly frequent contact with the regional director?

Mr. GREEN. Off and on, people in our council have been in contact with the regional office.

We have always found that they understood. I think we have always found they understood the nature of our problems quite well. For the most part, they have been unable to help us.

Mr. ERLÉNORN. Let me put the question to you this way: Do you think you would have a better job done if the job of civil rights enforcement were decentralized, and the regional director had the authority?

Mr. GREEN. Yes, I think so. I think most of us at this moment believe that would be the case.

Mr. ERLÉNORN. I will just make two quick observations.

I think your experience in De Kalb County is probably just about the complete antithesis or contrary experience of other counties that we have heard about; but interestingly enough, your conclusion is about the same as the conclusion of the people on the other side of the fence, that local enforcement would be better.

I think this is rather interesting.

Mr. GREEN. And one of the reasons we wanted to be heard was that we were fairly sure that this was the circumstance, that is, that we were on one side, and almost everybody else was on the other.

We do agree with the conclusion, anyhow. We may be wrong. Until it is tried, I am not sure. But I really think that there are just so many layers to the bureaucracy, here. This has been our major problem.

I don't think anybody has intended to undercut anybody else. I suspect this is true on the other side of the coin, too.

No, I don't see any reason why there could not be some local authority on this matter. At least it ought to be given a trial.

Mrs. GREEN. You don't have any other specific recommendations for the Office of Education?