

Mrs. GREEN. Let me interrupt here to clarify my own position.

One, you made reference to my belief in autonomy at the local level. My statements on this have been with regard to leadership. I have at no time said that I thought the enforcement of the Civil Rights Act should be left to the local level.

We have raised questions whether the enforcement should be taken out of the Office of Education and put either in the Justice Department or in a new office in HEW, but my concern is that there should be local leadership, and that this should remain at the State and the local level.

Mr. ARONSON. I am sorry. I did not mean to misstate your position.

I say as far as I am concerned, I would like to see local leadership. I think it is a sin and a crime that we have to sue school district after school district, and use countless energies to effect only that which the court said must be effected 12 years ago.

Miss GREEN. Mrs. Mitchell, is there any point that you would like to add?

Mrs. MITCHELL. No, unless there are questions.

What I was going to say is very much similar to what has been said.

Miss GREEN. We certainly appreciate this opportunity to be here.

Mrs. GREEN. Do either of you wish to speak?

Miss GREEN. I would like to use the remaining time for questions.

Mr. ERLBORN. I don't want to be quarrelsome on your figures, but one thing you said caught my attention, because I had heard something just to the contrary in the last day or two.

In some of your figures, as to the lack of desegregation, you stated that there were no football games played between Negro and white schools. Is that correct? Was that one of your statements?

Mr. ARONSON. Mr. Congressman, I referred to the Deep South, and most particularly to my intimate experience with Alabama and Mississippi. I have been informed by people from South Carolina that the same thing is true there.

Mr. ERLBORN. I just had related to me that here in Atlanta they have had—

Mr. ARONSON. I believe that is true, but I think that is an exception.

Mr. ERLBORN. That may be, in your definition of the Deep South.

Mr. ARONSON. Certainly not Atlanta and the general area, no, sir.

Mr. ERLBORN. Do you feel that the Office of Education is the proper instrument for the enforcement of the 1964 Civil Rights Act?

Mr. ARONSON. With respect to schools and education?

Mr. ERLBORN. With respect to schools, right.

Mr. ARONSON. I think their work should be more closely dovetailed with the Department of Justice, and I think that the failure of the 1966 Civil Rights Act, which would have given the Department of Justice authority to bring suit on its own initiative, as opposed to having the necessary complaint under title IV of the 1964 act, would have increased the Federal abilities a great deal.

I think the Office of Education is as proper an agency as any other agency, if they are willing to follow their own rules, and secondly, if they are willing to set down rules which will accomplish the task that needs to be accomplished.