

44.

In total the likes outnumber the dislikes. Living conditions, job training, athletic activities, and education led the positive mentions. Next came meeting kids from other places, friends that were made, and the trips that were taken (including the one from home to the center).

While the top four positive items have essentially the same percentage (a range of 24% to 20%) there is one negative that stands far apart from the others: too many fights, too much stealing and trouble. The second largest complaint presents the reverse picture: 22 percent felt the authorities are too strict and that there is too much discipline. Next is the complaint about living conditions and food. Fourth on the list of negatives, 16 percent said they were not getting the training they wanted. One other negative stands out: one in five whites volunteered that they felt there were too many Negroes in the center.

Observation: Part of the problem the Job Corps faces is apparent in the opposing complaints of too much trouble and of too much discipline. Striking the proper balance to provide a more peaceful environment without lax discipline is extremely difficult. This difficulty is compounded by the racial hostility that exists.

Reasons for Leaving

Let us turn now to the list of reasons for leaving which were shown to each respondent: