



December 2, 1960

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Mr. James P. Mitchell
 U. S. Secretary of Labor
 Capitol Building
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

After viewing "The Harvest of Shame" on CBS, the other night, I feel compelled to write to you, and implore you to use your influence in every way possible to help these poor human beings. Let me commend you for your stand on this problem, and I also would like to thank CBS and Edward R. Morrow, and all the others who in any way contributed by bringing this situation to light.

It is appalling to realize such a condition exists here in America, The Land of the Free, the Christian Nation, claiming we are our brothers' keeper.

These people are worse off than the slaves whom Lincoln freed. The look in the eyes as if all were lost, there is no hope. The children living in squalor, worse than pigs, while we in our smug way ignore them, forget them, they don't amount to much anyway. Most of them are colored, and several of our religious demoninational leaders sit in plush offices and bypass the situation by saying they are a cursed people, sins be upon the children because of the iniquities of the fathers. I say lets tax the huge holdings these churches have and use the money to help these people. The Lord created them, so the Bible says, and they turned out black, so forget about them. Agricultural Secretary Benson, (that inspired apostle, from the Lords' own church, with headquarters here in Salt Lake?) must surely have known about the problems confronting these people, but evidently preferred to remain silent.

These people need to be educated as to birth control, proper nutrition, cleanliness and how to handle financial problems. Their children need to attend school, and not be discriminated against.

The Federal Government needs to put up housing for these people, using them as tradesman. The shacks they call home are a disgrace to any nation, much less to America. Medical programs should be organized and jobs created, so these people can stay at home and raise their families, instead of drifting from one area to another, ever in search of barely enough food to sustain life.

Again, let me thank you for your fortitude and insight into this very pressing problem, and if there is anything to be done, or can be done, by any citizen in America, let us do so, for as Lincoln said, "To sin by silence when they know they should protest, makes cowards of men."

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) June Williams
 7260 S. 575 West
 Bountiful, Utah

Mitchell Papers

Box 132

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Migratory Labor (December 16) (2)