

5-12-1969

# [Statement to Clarify the Demands to the Institute for Community Studies, May 12, 1969]

Students Against the Institute, Sarah Lawrence College

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## Recommended Citation

Students Against the Institute, Sarah Lawrence College, "[Statement to Clarify the Demands to the Institute for Community Studies, May 12, 1969]" (1969). *Complete protest and activism collection online*, Sarah Lawrence College Archives. 120.  
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To: the Sarah Lawrence Community  
From: students against the Institute

The Institute for Community Studies administers for the college the academic year portion of the Upward Bound Project at Sarah Lawrence, funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity. The Institute's part in this program involves regular conferences and meetings with teachers, guidance counsellors, psychologists, and administrators in the school system, as well as parents and anti-poverty personnel.

What is the purpose of Upward Bound?

Upward Bound is set up as a four year program to help high-school students from "deprived" areas to achieve at higher academic levels and to prepare them for college level work.

Who are the Upward Bound students?

They are high school students from Mount Vernon, New Rochelle, and Yonkers. There is an economic stipulation that their families make less than \$4500 a year. Approximately 75% of the students are Black.

Who runs Upward Bound?

Mr. [REDACTED] SLC faculty member in music, and Mr. [REDACTED], SLC faculty member in math, administer the program in the summer. In the winter Mrs. [REDACTED] administers it under the direction of the SLC Institute for Community Studies. None of these people are Black. None of them live in the students' neighborhoods.

Who are the staff members?

They are high school and college faculty and college students. Last summer, there were two faculty members from New Rochelle, none from Mount Vernon or Yonkers and no tutors from any of the areas in which the students lived. Only two of the 9 faculty members were Black. The rest were White. Only 5 of the 18 tutors were Black. The rest were White.

This program addresses itself to redirecting a few students' lives to leave them with a "far different mark from that of" the milieu which produced them." This can only mean that the program seeks to make these students a part of the mainstream of American life while sustaining the oppression of many.