

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, New York 10003

February 16, 1972

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NC MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed is the defense brochure issued by the Committee for Free Speech at Florida State University. We are not planning a nationwide effort to get sponsors of this committee. However, if local areas are in contact with prominent professors and other important individuals who would endorse the defense committee or contribute funds to it, this information should be sent to Meg Rose, secretary of the defense committee.

Comradely,

Malik Miah

Malik Miah
YSA National Office

pressed at FSU. Lieberman's dismissal is an attack on the basic democratic rights of free speech and assembly at FSU. We urge all who support civil liberties and academic freedom to join us in the fight to defend these democratic rights.

SUPPORT THE COMMITTEE FOR FREE SPEECH AT FSU

The Committee for Free Speech at Florida State University aims to publicize the facts of this case throughout the state of Florida. Various prominent individuals, including prestigious community and campus leaders in Tallahassee and the editor of FSU's student newspaper, have already become sponsors or officers of the Committee.

The central purpose of the defense committee is to launch a legal and public campaign to:

1) Reinstate Jack Lieberman as a student at FSU;

2) Enable him to teach his course at the University.

None of the members of the Committee necessarily endorse the political views of Jack Lieberman or of the Young Socialist Alliance, but support his right to express those views without harrassment or penalty.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1) Send in a donation to the defense fund.

2) Order copies of this brochure to inform others about this case.

3) Organize a meeting for a representative from the Committee at your campus.

Make checks payable to:

COMMITTEE FOR FREE SPEECH AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

P.O. Box 1206, Tallahassee, Fla. 32306

__Enclosed is \$___ as my contribution to help defend civil liberties

__Keep me intormed of developments in this case

__I endorse the Committee for Free Speech at FSU

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION (For identification purposes only) _____

**COMMITTEE FOR FREE SPEECH AT
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Chairwoman

Mrs. Clifton V. B. Lewis

Treasurer

Dr. David D. L. Ammerman

Secretary

Meg Rose

Legal Counsel

Florida Civil Liberties Union

Initial Sponsors (Partial List)

Rev. C.K. Steele, First National Vice-President,
Southern Christian Leadership Conference*

Nero Pinder, President, International Woodworkers
Union, AFL-CIO Local 5-181

Dr. Z. G. Bilbija, Associate Professor, FSU

Chesley Morton, President, FSU Young Americans
for Freedom

Rev. Charles McGehee, Unitarian Universalist
Church, Jacksonville

Dr. D.W. Rasmussen, Assistant Professor, FSU

Oatha Favors, Director, Center for United Black
Community, Tampa

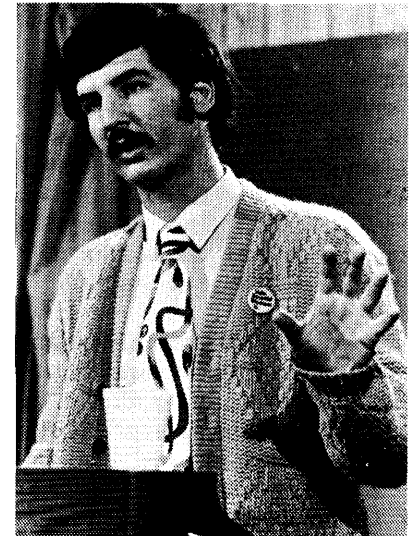
Hamp Carruth, Editor-elect, The Florida Flambeau

Rev. D.H. Brooks, Vice-President, Inter-Civic Com-
munity Council, Tallahassee

Malcolm X United Liberation Front, Tallahassee

*(Organizations listed for identification purposes
only)

THE FIGHT FOR FREE SPEECH AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY



The Case of Jack Lieberman

Committee for Free Speech at FSU
Box 1206 FSU
Tallahassee, Fla. 32306

THE FIGHT FOR FREE SPEECH AT FSU

Do students have the right to discuss ideas freely with individuals of all political persuasions on the university campus without administrative review and restrictions? The Committee for Free Speech at Florida State University and the overwhelming majority of students and faculty at FSU say yes. The President of FSU is trying to say no.

Jack Lieberman is a member of the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA). He was dismissed from Florida State University on November 7, 1971, by President Stanley Marshall for allegedly violating an official order and causing disruption of normal university functioning. The act on which this charge was based was Lieberman's presentation of a course entitled "How To Make A Revolution in the U. S." on September 23, 1971.

Lieberman's course, which dealt with the anti-war movement, women's liberation, Black nationalism, and a socialist analysis of the current political situation, was part of the Center for Participant Education (CPE), a non-credit, "free university" program. This same CPE course had been presented by Lieberman at FSU during the winter 1970 and spring 1971 academic quarters.

Last spring the FSU administration came under verbal attack from several State Senators for allowing this and other CPE courses to be taught. Senate President Jerry Thomas said he supported proposals to expel Lieberman. State Senator Robert Haverfield, Chairman of the Senate's Universities and Community Colleges Committee, called Lieberman "some damn nut who ought to be in some damn camp."

Senator W. D. Barrow, also on the Universities and Community Colleges Committee, said "The S. O. B. [Lieberman] is a card-carrying Communist and I want him off campus . . ." In his attempt to whip up a witch-hunt hysteria, Senator Barrow made unfounded and untrue public charges that Lieberman was "a convicted felon" and "a drug user."

FSU President Marshall was subpoenaed by Haverfield's committee in April and grilled for 90 minutes on why he allowed Lieberman's class to continue. In May, the committee intro-

duced a bill to abolish the Board of Regents of the state university system. According to a UPI dispatch, "Members of the Senate Committee on Universities and Community Colleges made it clear that their action was triggered by the failure of the lay board to take a position on repeated demands to end a Student Government lecture course on 'How to Make a Revolution in the U. S. A.'"

Widespread public opposition to these attacks on academic freedom forced the would-be witch-hunters to temporarily abandon their plans.

However, one week before the opening of the fall quarter at Florida State University, President Marshall informed the Board of Regents

WHO IS JACK LIEBERMAN?

Jack Lieberman, 21, moved to Florida in 1965 from Philadelphia. He graduated from Miami's Norland High School in 1968. Lieberman came to Florida State University in 1968 and is presently a junior, majoring in philosophy.

Lieberman became involved with politics while still in high school. He was on the executive committee of the Dade County Teen Democrats while in the eleventh grade. In 1967 he participated in the Vietnam Summer peace project in Washington D. C. In 1968, after joining the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, he took part in the Poor Peoples March on Washington.

In 1968 Lieberman was chairman of the North Dade Youth for McCarthy. Following the McCarthy campaign he became disillusioned with the two major parties.

At Florida State University Lieberman was a co-founder of the Students for a Democratic Society in 1968. In 1970 he joined the Young Socialist Alliance. He is now a member of the National Committee of the YSA.

Lieberman ran for U. S. Senate in Florida in 1970 on the Socialist Workers Party ticket. He is presently SWP candidate for U. S. Congress in the Second Congressional District in the State of Florida.

that the CPE program for the fall would be delayed indefinitely until the Dean of Student Affairs could review all CPE courses for approval or disapproval. At this same meeting the Board of Regents unanimously passed a recommendation that FSU ban Lieberman's course and a course on "The Homosexual in America." The Board of Directors of CPE agreed to delay the start of the program for one week.

On September 23, 1971, Lieberman presented the first lecture in his course. The following day the university administration suspended Lieberman for "disobeying" the "ban" on CPE courses.

Lieberman's case was heard by a Student Honor Court, which acquitted him of all charges. The administration appealed this acquittal to the Student Supreme Court, which again found Lieberman innocent. However, on November 7 President Marshall overturned the decisions of the student courts and dismissed Lieberman from the university.

Marshall's action was explicitly aimed at halting Lieberman's presentation of his socialist views as part of the CPE program. The dismissal letter states, "You are hereby barred from participating in any manner in the Center for Participant Education program." It should be noted that, in line with the informal nature of the CPE program, CPE classes are open to be taught or attended by *any* student, faculty member, university staff employee, or private citizen. Jack Lieberman is the only person who is not allowed to participate in this program.

Lieberman has initiated Federal court action to win his reinstatement as a student and his right to present the course. On January 12, 1972, Judge David Middlebrooks, Federal District Court of Northern Florida, denied Lieberman's suit and upheld Marshall's decision. This ruling is now being appealed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Committee for Free Speech at FSU feels it is clear that Lieberman was not dismissed for causing any "intentional disruption or interference" with the functioning of the university. Rather, he was dismissed in order to prevent his political views—which are unpopular with some influential state legislators—from being ex-