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Department of Special Collections
Washington University Libraries
One Brookings Drive, Campus Box 1061
St. Louis, MO 63130
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Students for a Democratic Society Records (WUA00190), 1956-1969. Series 1: Students for a Democratic Society Material, Series 1, Box 1, Folder 1: Unclassified letters, Dec. 1966 - Aug. 1968.

[Radical Organizing Committee letter to unnamed recipient, Thursday July 25, 1968]

RADICAL
ORGANIZING
COMMITTEE

Thursday July 25, 1968

We, the Radical Organizing Committee (roc), are a band of organizers who understand that a radical reconstruction of our society is necessary. To bring this about we must build a world of radicals. Since a person develops a radical critique of his society through an evolutionary process of reading, observing, and direct involvement, our role is to encourage this development.

While we are a group do not accept any single ideology for building a viable society, we do agree on the necessity of radical education, organization, and confrontation with the social structure. We recently walked out of the Student Mobilization Committee because it thinks that its function is solely to stage periodic "mass mobilizations". Although individually we represent the spectrum of political positions from new left anarchism through pacifism to old left marxism, we feel that our organization will be defined by the issues around which we work.

As of now roc's only specific structure is an administrative committee concerned with the direct implementation of roc program. The administrative committee has decided to base its program on the following broad and interrelated issues:

1. Immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam;
2. Resistance to the draft and all forms of militarism;
3. Reconstruction of educational institutions to represent the values and aspirations of their constituency, the students;
4. Liberation of black people in the U.S. and all oppressed peoples throughout the world.

One of roc's major problems in getting off the ground is a lack of funds. The difficulties of this period are intensified by the urgency with which we must get moving.

At this point we are the only student organization mobilizing support nationally for the demonstration in Chicago while the warmakers [sic] convene. We tentatively plan to hold educational and training workshops as well as demonstrations in Chicago before and during the Democratic Convention. We must also begin to work on our others programs. All of these programs, plus office expenses, will cost a great deal of money.

Traditionally student movements have been funded by "adults and adult groups," but this kind of funding is especially difficult in this election year. Furthermore, money from this frequently has strings attached. The only escape [sic] from this bag is to become internally

funded. Therefore each of us must take the responsibility [sic] of raising money and contributing personally.

Peace,
The roc staff.