

Processed by: DAD
Date: 4/23/75

BREWER

BREWER, VIVION (OH-171) 44 pages PRCQ

President of the Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our Schools, Little Rock, Arkansas, 1958-60.

DESCRIPTION: Interview #1. Formation of the Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our Schools (WEC) in fall of 1958: importance of Mrs. David Terry and Mrs. J.O. Powell; difference between wanting the public schools opened and being a committed integrationist; lack of black women in WEC; tactics used by WEC to educate the people; reaction to actions taken by Governor Orval Faubus. Comments on how her husband was forced out of his job. Recall election campaign in 1959 against segregationists on Little Rock School Board. WEC's efforts in the political arena. Observations on why people, especially businessmen and ministers, did not dare openly support WEC. Brooks Hays, and his campaign against Dale Alford. Reflections on the role that people played in the Little Rock crisis, 1957-60: Faubus; James Karam; Bill Fulbright; and Henry Ashmore and the Arkansas Gazette.

[COHP interview by John Luter, 1971]