

May 13, 1969

To Faculty and Students:

The College has decided to close the Institute for Community Studies. If the Mt. Vernon Community wishes to create and direct such an Institute and wishes to call on the resources of Sarah Lawrence College for professional aid, the College will be glad to respond.

Mr. [REDACTED] will, as an individual researcher, complete the projects drawing to a close in Mt. Vernon this Spring, but will not undertake new ones.

(Signed) Esther Raushenbush
(Original being held by students in Lynd House)

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To: Esther Raushenbush and the Black Students Association
From: The Spirit of the People Occupying a Portion of Lynd House and the Sarah Lawrence Institute for Community Studies

At this time we feel that Mrs. Raushenbush has made a definite effort towards answering our non-negotiable demand. There are two more points which must be clarified before we feel we can vacate the premises:

1. The college must respond gladly to all surrounding communities that have been exploited by the Sarah Lawrence Institute for Community Studies (not just Mt. Vernon).
2. Before any group can create and direct the Institute when re-opened, the response to that group must come from the President of the College and the Black Students Association.

We would like to say, at this time, that we appreciate and acknowledge all efforts made on our behalf. We are now only awaiting answers to these two points.