

Coat of Many Colors

On February 1, 1960, the Greensboro sit-ins began with four North Carolina A&T students in non-violent protest. Within days, hundreds had joined. But the movement confined itself neither to Greensboro nor Woolworths. Within weeks, similar demonstrations were organized in Winston-Salem, Durham, Raleigh and Charlotte. Soon, other students in other states organized similar protests.



Is it not time to expand Moral Mondays to Asheville, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Burlington, Asheville, Sanford, Brevard, and scores of other places faced with similar threats to public health? Are these communities not where the banner of environmental justice should also be raised? Where pollution poisons the air and water, where roll-back regulations have their impacts?

The Rev. Dr. William J. Barber said, "The forces of greed, selfishness, fear, and division have a long history of promoting a divided America. They are good at it. They are loud at it. And they are *consistent* at it." We can learn much from his

leadership and the example of the A&T Four.

It is time for the forces of generosity, charity, courage and unity to band together to display an unswerving commitment to equality, equity and justice. Beginning with as few as four people, organize Moral Mondays before city halls and county courthouses across the land in harmony with those in Raleigh. Let us take steps, community by community, to unravel the golden garment being woven by the forces of greed and create a coat of many colors.



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