The Politics of Archiving

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RESULTS

University of Southern Mississippi

Sub-Collection Categories with

Total Number of Items in Each

Percentage of Freedom Summer

Sub-Collections

Who is Donating to the

Freedom Summer Collection?

African Non-African Unidentified

Freedom Summer

Medical Committee for

Sovereignty Commission

Human Rights

Mississippi State

Freedom Summer and

Collection Total (56)

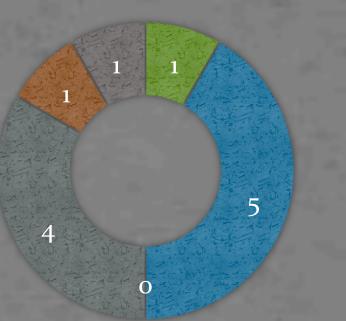
Related Total (54)

Civil Rights

SNCC/CORE

MISC

Sub-Collection Categories with Total Number of Items in Each

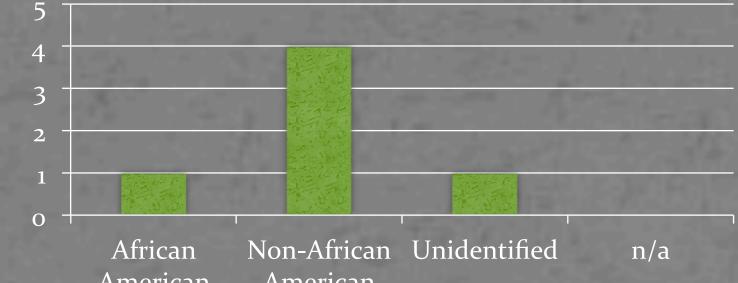


- MFP
- Student Help Project

Percentage of Freedom Summer

- Freedom Summer and Related Total (5)
- Civil Rights Movement Archive Total (6)

Who is Donating to the



Role Donor Played in Freedom Summer



- Unidentified Volunteer

Voter Registration Project/MFDP

ABSTRACT

Archives serve as representations of our collective historical voice. They are one of the most important sources of original materials that create the story of our past. Given this, it is critical to understand what makes up a collection and how the items, both present and not, impact our social consciousness of an event or time period.

METHODS

- The archives at the University of Southern Mississippi and Queens College were selected, among many Civil Rights collections, for this study because of their focuses on specific events within the Civil Rights Movement, similarities that each possesses in terms of providing access to information, and because of their geographic distance from one another.
- Using the theories of four political theorists, the author set up a framework to determine who gets to speak, about what, and why.
- This framework became the basis for how to look at the Freedom Summer collections and determine the narrative being told in each.

Jacques Derrida grammatology Archive Fever: A Freudian *Impression*



Michel

Foucault

The

Archaeology

And the

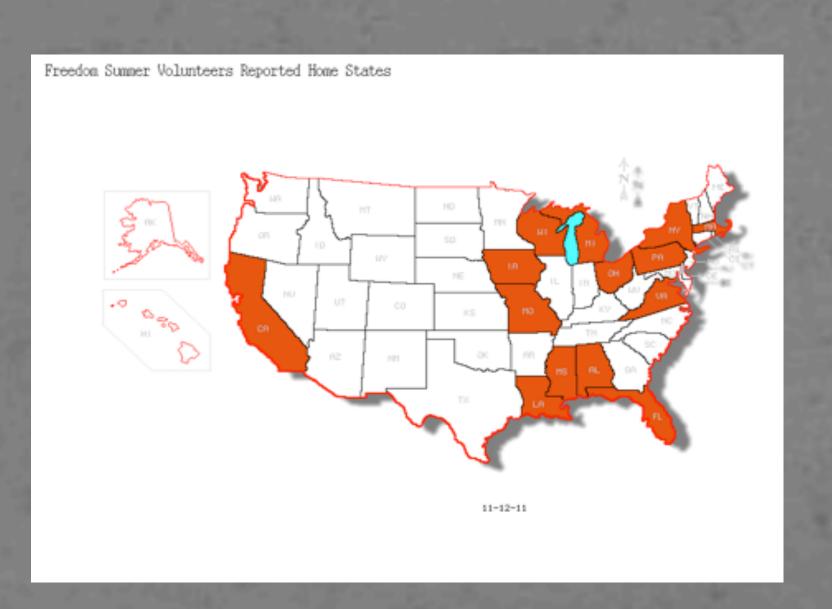
discourse on

language

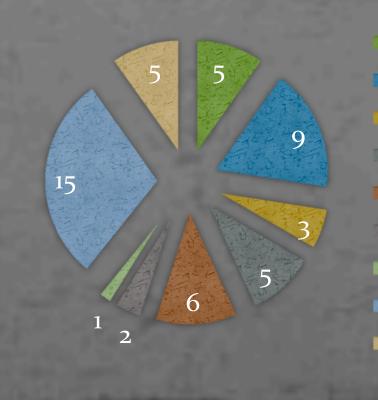




Noam Chomsky Powers and prospects: Reflections on human nature and the social order

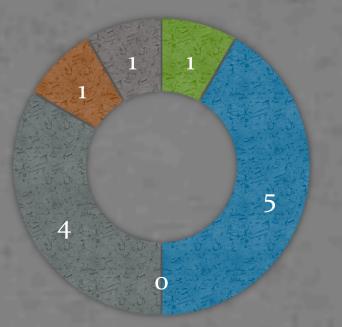


Role Donor Played in Freedom Summer



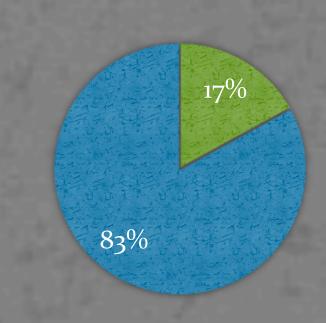
Freedom School Teacher Voter Registration Project Community Center MCHR Scholar (not Participant) White Folks Project Freedom School Student Unidentified Volunteer

Queens College

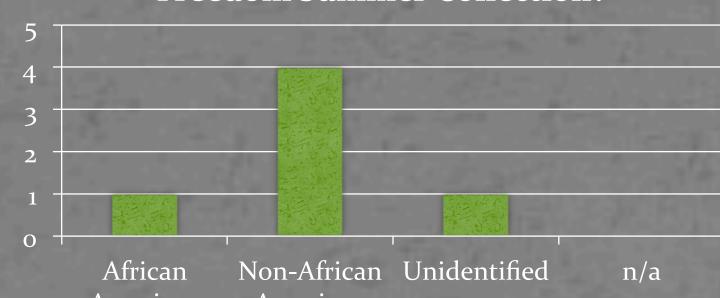


- CORE
- Queens College
- James Forman Library
- SDS

Sub-Collections



Freedom Summer Collection?



Freedom Summer Donors' Reported Home States



Freedom School Teacher

CONCLUSIONS

- Biases in Archival Collection Development
 - Native Southerners
 - African Americans
- Mission of the Collection
 - Mississippi History
 - Perspective of Northerners
- Location of the Archives
 - Mississippi

POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS

- Political Capital = Power
- Discourses are Owned by Those Who Write Them (Foucault)
- Archives are Inherently Inaccurate and Devoid of Lasting Meaning (Derrida)

REFERENCES

This poster is based on the research conducted for the Masters Thesis: Speaking for Others: A Political Analysis of Civil Rights Archives by Erin Wimmer

Works cited available upon request

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