

THE COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP - AN OPEN LETTER. JULY. 1964.

While accepting that the earlier statement of the aims and purpose of the group remains unchanged in principle, we feel that we must, in fairness to ourselves and those others who follow our progress, attempt to state as clearly as possible the position in which we stand.

The group consists of the following members:-

Bill Breakey	Medicine.
Angela Breakey	Speech Therapy
Desmond Rea	University Administration
Norman Smith	Mathematics, now studying for the Ministry.
Pamela Compton	Librarian
Patricia Gallagher	Social Studies
Barbara Mol	Medicine
Rosemary Willis	Psychology
Desmond Dornan	Teaching
<i>Craig Cameron</i>	<i>Accountancy</i>

Our inspiration has come from visits to communities such as Iona, Agape and Taize, a study of what is meant by living together and an attempt to understand the task of the Church in the world.

The group meets weekly for worship, study, discussion and planning of action. We consider that the task before us is to follow to the best of our ability the lines of action outlined in our earlier statement. In the last year this has meant working together each Sunday evening in a Belfast Youth Club. We have planned the programme to include, in addition to the usual recreational activities, an item such as a panel game or a topical discussion, or illustrated talk, or a "face to face" interview, and have closed each evening with an epilogue. In the near future we hope to continue this work, and also to attempt to find some way in which we can help the Rev. Bill Boyd of College Square North with his work in that Congregation and in industry.

The form of living and action towards which we are groping is governed by our resolve that at this time each member of the group should pursue the vocation for which he has been trained, and through his work attempt both to understand the situation in which he is involved, and to put into practice the ideals which we have agreed together to maintain. This means that any activity in which all the group are involved is necessarily limited, and that ~~in~~<sup>our</sup> future development is uncertain. We want, however, to encourage in every way possible action on any of the lines we have outlined, and it is with this in mind that we hope that anyone who is interested in our work will join us. In particular we hope that it may be possible to establish a Centre as a place of reconciliation and dialogue for the wider community of which we are all members.

While we want to express our thanks to the Home of Healing at Portballintrae for their inspiration and hospitality, we cannot see our way to any unity of action with them. We assure them, however, of our continued friendship and interest.

We are grateful for the encouragement of many friends and hope for their continued support.