

(2) GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Youth Attitudes

1. The political posture of youth in March of this year is visibly not the same as it was last year, and it probably will have changed considerably by next.
2. Strategies and responses need to be more widely adjusted for youth than for older citizens, and probably will not be as effective. The attitudes of this cohort shift quickly in a mercurial way. It is therefore unwise to lock in on an unyielding "game plan."
3. Youth are not stratified, vertically or horizontally. They are white youth, black youth, farm youth, union youth, and so on. Youth is the weft of a few years, but the warp of race and economic status remains. Hence anything which is to be done for youth, per se, must be weighed in its effect against the other, lasting, more stable segments of political life.
4. Youth have few dependencies, and most have little immediate perception of the fear of hunger or lack of shelter. The future is "infinite" so losses can always be made up, and "so much is at stake." But more and more youth (particularly graduate students) are becoming troubled by the diminished employment picture.
5. Youth seek recognition for what they assume are their "unique insights" and particular abilities. They have little acquaintanceship with failure, or even success. But recognizing the need to learn, each of them still wants to be treated as "an equal."
6. Seeking recognition, youth do not want to be patronized or talked down to. "The past has been bad, so those who made it shouldn't talk about it."
7. Attitude toward youth reflects itself toward mothers and fathers, who still relate closely to their children.

*Need sophistication* ✓