

ACTIVITY 1:

Watch the video file **Leicester.mp4**.

- ➔ Document 1: Struggles for Black Community: Leicester, A Common History, film clip (DVD, Dir: Colin Prescod, Institute of Race Relations, 2008)

Show document 2:

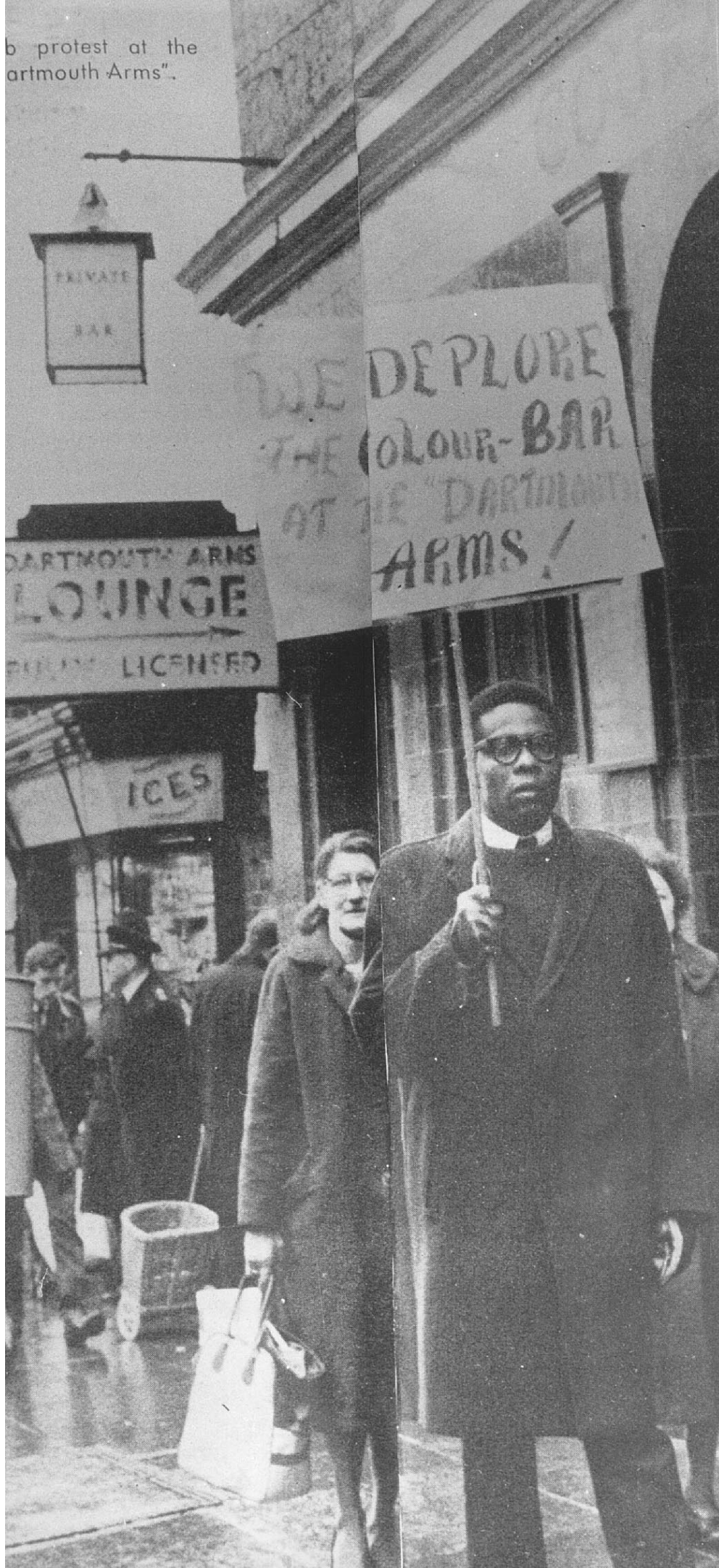
- ➔ Document 2: Photograph of a man demonstrating outside a pub, The Dartmouth Arms, in South East London, which operated a colour bar against black people (early 1960s)

Discuss as a class:

- 1) What is racial prejudice?
- 2) What is racial discrimination?
- 3) Write your own definition of 'racial prejudice' and 'racial discrimination' on the whiteboard.

Think about the difference between racial prejudice and racial discrimination. Prejudice is not illegal, but in lots of situations racial discrimination is. It is not possible, or desirable, to make laws controlling how people think, but the law can be used to control how people act. You can also learn about the values of a society from the laws it passes – when parliament passes a law against racial discrimination it is sending out a message that racial discrimination is wrong. In Britain, racial discrimination was legal until 1965.

b protest at the
armouth Arms".



ACTIVITY 2:

Read document 3:

- ➔ Document 3: Leaflet, 'How To Expose Discrimination', distributed by the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination (CARD), 1966

All the forms of racial discrimination described in Document 3 are now illegal. CARD and its members helped to make this discrimination illegal by collecting evidence and using it to persuade politicians to change the law.

1. Working in pairs, think whether any groups still face discrimination today. This could be a national group or a group of people in your city or your school.
2. Choose one of the groups you have chosen in question 1. How would you gather evidence that they were being discriminated against? Write a plan of action on how to expose the discrimination. Use Document 3 for ideas about how to make a difference locally in the short term and nationally in the long term.
3. Find out who your local MP is. Write him/her a letter about your evidence, suggesting how the law could be changed to end the discrimination against this group.
4. In October 2007, a new government body, the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) was set up to tackle discrimination in a number of different areas. Use the EHRC's website, www.equalityhumanrights.com, to find out which groups of people it is meant to protect and what powers it can use to protect them.
5. Read the section of Document 2 on testing. In pairs, organise your own 'mock visit to a property company or personnel manager' with one person playing the role of CARD member testing for racial discrimination and the other the role of estate agent, factory boss or office manager. Both take careful notes during your visit and each write a letter to the other person either detailing the evidence of discrimination you uncovered in the interview, or defending your reasons for not offering the applicant the job/house.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

1. You are the man in Document 2. Write a short account of how you came to be protesting outside the Dartmouth Arms pub. Think about the following things. What happened when you went into the pub for a drink? How did it make you feel? How did it affect your life? What made you decide to take action? Did you take it alone? How did protesting make you feel? Did it end the discrimination? Are you going to take more action?
2. An extreme form of racial discrimination called Apartheid was practised in South Africa until the early 1990s. Use your school library and the internet to find out about the Apartheid system. Imagine you are a teenager living under Apartheid and write about how your life compares to that of a teenager in Britain.

HOW TO EXPOSE DISCRIMINATION

A C.A.R.D. PUBLICATION

**23 St. George's House,
Toynbee Hall, Commercial Street, London E.1**

Introduction :

No **CARD** member will need to be told that racial discrimination is widespread in Britain, especially in jobs, housing, insurance and credit facilities.

But when **CARD** calls for **LAWS** against discrimination, most politicians and the general public refuse to accept what we all know — that discrimination is a respectable practice in many areas of British life. They insist that the problem of racial discrimination is not bad enough, or serious enough, to justify effective Government action to secure **equal opportunities for all citizens**. One of the most urgent tasks facing us in **CARD** therefore is to build a case by case exposure of discrimination, so that the Press and Parliament cannot pretend that it does not exist. If we are to **campaign effectively against racial discrimination**, we must **publicize the evils which we are fighting**.

It is easy enough to speak out against an abstract or general enemy, but less easy to put flesh on the enemy: to say that a specific factory, or office, or agency practises racial discrimination. We need specific cases. We need them to get Government action against discrimination; we need them also if **CARD** itself is to take any action on behalf of the victims of discrimination. Nationally and locally we do not want to study discrimination, but end it. To do this, we need proof of individual cases from **CARD** members, local groups, and affiliated organisations. The results will be used in the campaign for effective laws and policies; and also as the basis for action on behalf of individual victims.

This leaflet describes something YOU can do about discrimination — CARD appeals to you to do it.
Finding cases :

This paragraph applies to new members and groups without previous knowledge of or contact with the subject.

The most obvious way of finding cases is to ask people for them: try to get the facts about your area from any local immigrant organisations. A sympathetic Youth Officer or Youth Employment Officer, or local trade unionist may also be willing to help with information. A single case in which you can follow through investigation by getting redress for the person involved, is likely to lead to more information. Until your group is well established, and known, **personal** contact is more likely to get results than more distant means of communication such as door-to-door canvassing without an introduction, or public meetings, etc. Before you are known there is no reason why people should trust you. Canvassing and meetings with the general aim of introducing a new group may be a good idea however.

Always make it clear that any information given will be treated as confidential and will not be given any publicity without the consent of the informant. The information should be as precise as possible — facts rather than opinions or suspicions. It is also vital to stress that we are not collecting information for its own sake, but in order to change things. If you are in a position to follow-up complaints and try to end discrimination by local action, make sure that your potential informant knows this.

Testing :

The most dramatic and effective way of proving the existence of a colour-bar or discrimination is to send a white person to apply for a job or flat (or mortgage or loan or insurance policy, or hotel room, drink in a bar, etc.) which has just been refused (or overcharged) to a coloured person.

Here are some of the kinds of test which the **CARD** Complaints Committee has tried:

1. Telephone test: when a coloured applicant has been refused a job on the grounds that there are "no more vacancies" or that the firm needs special qualifications, telephone as though you were another (white) applicant and see how the firm responds then.
2. If you have the manpower, send a couple — one white the other coloured — to apply for jobs in person. The white person should be slightly less well qualified than the coloured applicant. Remember that not just paper qualifications but e.g. experience, voice and appearance have to be matched to the kind of job applied for.
3. The letter test — send pairs of letters — one person making it clear that he or she is coloured — to 20 or 30 firms advertising for staff in the national or local papers. They must be the kind of jobs for which written applications are necessary. And again, the "coloured" applicant should have slightly better paper qualifications than the "white" applicant.
4. Get two members to apply for estate agents' lists, specifying exactly the same requirements of size, price, etc., and compare the lists to see that they are the same. Get coloured house-buyers or flat-hunters deliberately to apply for accommodation in previously all-white areas, or better still for housing which they **know** is up for sale or rent in such areas.

Ideally, every group should keep panels of people available to test jobs, housing or insurance in this way. It is not an easy business: qualifications have to be matched, testers have to learn the ins and outs of house-buying or

being interviewed for particular kinds of jobs. It may be necessary to practise by acting out a mock visit to a property company, or personnel manager.

Every step in the testing process must be carefully documented. The more information you have, the better the basis for action.

N.B.—Any advance publicity of the testing would, of course, ruin it; publicity comes later.

The Complaint Form :

As soon as you get a case which seems valid, please complete a **CARD** Complaint Form and send it to **CARD**.

Where possible try to persuade whoever has first-hand knowledge of the facts to fill in a Complaint Form. But this can also be done by an observer, who hasn't himself suffered the discrimination.

Complaints Forms should be filled in :

1. When a test has proved discrimination. This kind of case best stands publicity, and can be the subject of immediate action.
2. When you are convinced there is a valid case, but cannot prove it by testing. Send a form in any case.

Confrontation :

Once a complaint of discrimination has been received, checked, tested, and a form sent to **CARD**, comes the vital stage of action to end the discrimination. The work involved is generally long, detailed, time consuming, and how much can be done depends on the resources of the particular group.

Many different techniques may be used, depending on the circumstances of the case: negotiations

e.g. publicity, local or national
boycott
protest action
industrial action.

CARD has no wish to press for any particular strategy or tactic; local groups are in the best position to decide for themselves.

But even the smallest and least formal group can collect information — information which is especially vital to us in the next six months. The facts that you collect will be used in the campaign for effective Government action; they will be used in arguments with the Race Relations Board, Government departments, MP's, and meetings of the public.

All we ask is for evidence of discrimination to be gathered as quickly and as carefully as possible, and for local action on behalf of and with the support of the victims.

Printed by The Stanhope Press (T.U.), 96a Stanhope Street, N.W.1. EUSon 0041