

Transcribed Excerpts from the Civil Rights Act of 1957, September 9, 1957

Excerpt 1

Sec. 104 (a)

“The Commission shall —

- (1) investigate allegations in writing under oath or affirmation that certain citizens of the United States are being deprived of their right to vote and have that vote counted by reason of their color, race, religion, or national origin;
- (2) study and collect information concerning legal developments constituting a denial of equal protection of the laws under the Constitution; and
- (3) appraise the laws and policies of the Federal Government with respect to equal protection of the laws under the Constitution.”

Excerpt 2

From Sec 131

“No person, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, shall intimidate, threaten, coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote or to vote as he may choose, or of causing such other person to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate...”