

Shifting Landscapes

Race/Racism Resources

Session 3: February 21 White Power Movement : White Women and the Politics of White Supremacy

“In a 1964 column for Jackson, Mississippi’s *Clarion Ledger*, Florence Sillers Ogden predicted that when the North faced ‘forced’ integration, northern whites would act much like their souther kin... Her 1964 prediction emerged because she was a well-informed, politically connected, conservative female segregationist imbedded in national networks committed to various forms of segregationist politics. . . For three decades, she had watched the language of overt racism transform periodically into new political expressions that subsumed segregationist agendas under the larger umbrella of parental authority, constitutional integrity, limited government, national sovereignty, or school choice. She expected that white women across the nation would rise up for conservative causes and in opposition to the next stage of the civil rights movement. When the busing crisis erupted, it was clear that her predictions were right. Massive resistance was national, and white women helped to make it so.”

Elizabeth Gillespie McRae

Mothers of Massive Resistance: White

Women and the Politics of White Supremacy