

WHO IS BOBBY GORE?

Bobby Gore was the spokesman for the **1960s Conservative Vice Lords**. Along with other CVL leaders, Bobby transformed the notorious Lawndale street gang into a community organization. The CVL started legitimate businesses, like the **African Lion**, a store selling African clothes, and began two **Tastee Freez** ice cream stores. They helped Lawndale youth develop their artistic talents in a program called **Art & Soul** and demanded "**Grass Not Glass**" as they cleaned up Lawndale's streets. Their actions built a sense of Black pride.

As spokesman for the CVL, Bobby worked to make peace between Chicago's gangs. **He marched with Dr. Martin Luther King** in his Chicago housing campaign, and was a founder of **YOU**, a national organization of youth gangs advocating peace.

Despite these activities, in 1969, **Mayor Richard J. Daley** declared a "**war on gangs**" and his hand-picked States Attorney, **Edward Hanrahan**, began arresting gang leaders, including Bobby Gore. Less than a month after Gore's arrest, Hanrahan led the raid of the Black Panther headquarters that resulted in the killings of Black Panther leaders **Fred Hampton and Mark Clark**.

Gore was convicted by an **all-white jury** of murder although the main witness against him was the likely killer. He was **denied the counsel of his choice** (R. Eugene Pincham) and his inexperienced attorney (Patrick T. Murphy) was rushed **to go to trial ahead of 62 other murder cases**.



Gore was sentenced to 25-40 years for a murder he did not commit. While in Stateville, Gore continued his work as a peace-maker among rival gangs and was called the "Kissinger of Stateville" before his 1979 parole.

Bobby Gore's life has always been dedicated to peace and freedom. Since his release, Gore worked helping ex-offenders reintegrate into society with the SAFER Foundation,

Today we are working to give him a **measure of justice** and recognize the accomplishments of the 1960s CVL.

We are asking your help

For more information go to <http://gangresearch.net> or kbc@uic.edu

