The Honorable John R. Lewis  
U.S. Representative of Georgia (1987–2020)  

Kennedy Brothers  
*Interview recorded December 11, 2014*  

Well, during the late ’60s there were individuals in Atlanta saying that I should run for something, who kept encouraging me. I was deeply inspired by the presidency of President Kennedy and the campaign of Robert Kennedy. I admired, I loved President Kennedy, and I really loved his brother, Bobby, really. I remember Bobby Kennedy saying to me on one occasion, he said, “John, I now understand”—I think this was in June or July of 1963—“I now understand. The young people have taught me a lesson.” After President Kennedy was assassinated, I felt like something had died in us, died in America.