

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

Kennedy Brothers

The Honorable John R. Lewis describes his admiration of John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy.
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.