

the civil courts for preventive relief in civil rights cases. In such a civil proceeding the facts can be determined, the rights of the parties adjudicated and future violations of the law prevented by order of the court without having to subject state officials to the indignity, hazards and personal expense of a criminal prosecution in the courts of the United States.

Congress could authorize the Attorney General to seek civil remedies in the civil courts for the enforcement of civil rights by a simple amendment to Section 1985 of Title 42, United States Code (R.S. 1980). That statute presently authorizes civil suits by private persons who are injured by acts done in furtherance of a conspiracy to do any of the following things: (1) to prevent officers from performing their duties; (2) to obstruct justice; (3) to deprive persons of their rights to the equal protection of the laws and equal privileges under the laws.

A subsection could be added to that statute to give authority to the Attorney General to institute a civil action for redress or preventive relief whenever any persons have engaged or are about to engage in any acts or practices which would give rise to a cause of action under the present provisions of the law.

Such an amendment would provide a procedure for enforcement of civil rights which in my opinion would be far simpler, more flexible, more reasonable and more effective

