



MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38152

July 15, 1983

Department of English
901-454-2651

To Whom It May Concern

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in support of the petition of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh to remain in the United States.

I first began to read the books of Bhagwan five years ago, and for this many years I have used his ideas and his meditations for consciousness raising in the creative writing classes which I teach at Memphis State University, and I have used aspects of his commentary on the psychological nature of modern man in the classes, both undergraduate and graduate, which I teach in contemporary literature. I have found that because of the concepts I have learned from Bhagwan I have grown professionally and hundreds of my students have benefitted immeasurably.

I have a Ph.D. in literature, have published a book on contemporary literature, have read a great deal of modern thought, but I have never come across as profound a mind and as stimulating a teacher as Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

What a tragic and unnecessary loss if Bhagwan were deported. It is sheer ignorance to fear him. Read one of his three hundred fifty books and find out what this philosopher, scholar, psychologist, master teacher is all about.

Sincerely yours,

Ray Willbanks

Ray Willbanks
Associate Professor of English
Memphis State University.

EXHIBIT "A-1117"