

July 23, 1983

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been asked by followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh to provide a statement about him as a spiritual leader. This I am happy to do and I believe that my qualifications make me suited to the task. I have a B.A. in philosophy from the University of Colorado; an M.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara in philosophy of religion; and a Ph.D. from Princeton University in the history of religion. My academic speciality is american religious history. I have published numerous articles on various aspects of religious life in America. I am especially well acquainted with new religious movements and the legal implications thereof. For the past four years I have taught american religious history at U.C.S.B.

By any criteria, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is one of the most important spiritual teachers in America today. His followers number in the tens of thousands--and they look to him as the embodiment of wisdom. He has developed programs for self-transformation that are as ingenious as they are various. He has published more than twenty books which develop and explain the ancient wisdom of tantra yoga. He has delivered hundreds of lectures, many of which have been transcribed and published. He has gathered around himself a community in Oregon that exemplifies the spirit of his religious movement. Rajneesh and his followers deserve the full protection of the law and constitution.

*R.C. Gordon-McCutchan*  
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EXHIBIT "A-21"