

July 13, 1983

To Whom it may Concern:

I am a 1964 graduate in Philosophy, of Stanford University, a 1967 graduate of The Yale Law School, and a member of The state bars of California and Missouri. I am presently completing a Masters in Counseling Psychology at UMKC. I am writing to support the application of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh to become a permanent resident of The U.S.

I am not an adherent of Rajneesh, but I know several persons who are. I have read many of his writings and listened to tapes of his lectures on numerous occasions. I consider Rajneesh to be an extraordinary philosopher and humanitarian as well as a religious leader. He emphasizes the deeper currents which run through all religious thought and observance, regardless of sect or time or place. He points out the inconsistencies and idiosyncracies in religious dogma which have led to strife throughout the centuries and have clouded the deep purpose of religion to put man in touch with his spiritual self. His message is of

love and hope, and of freedom. I consider it quite appropriate that he make his home in this country, and I support his being allowed to remain.

I very much regret that this application has come at a time when there is an unusual, and I think justified, sensitivity to foreign religious leaders and groups. Rajneesh has been branded a cult leader by the media. This is a stereotype, and unfair. The persons I know who are followers of Rajneesh are responsible and thinking people, less "brainwashed" in my view than the loyal adherents of almost any religion that I know of. I hope that those who make this decision will be able to overcome the public's present apprehension and judge the Rajneesh application only on the merits of the man, and not on the activities of others.

Sincerely,

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