

LeeAnne Wilson  
189 Madison Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario

20 July 1983

To whom it may concern:

I am writing on behalf of the spiritual teacher, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. I am a teacher of children, adolescents, adults, and of individuals with emotional disturbances and other special needs. Attached please find a biographical summary. Bhagwan's understanding of man, his complexities and potentiality, surpasses any of the philosophies, foundations and concepts of education that I have become acquainted with. What this religious teacher has given modern man goes to the heart of his learning and growth.

In the beginning I came to know of Bhagwan through one of his meditation Centers. I practised his meditation techniques, listened to audio- and video- tapes of his discourses, and read his religious books.

Later I became more familiar with him through his responses to my personal questions. And finally by becoming more closely associated with his followers, I felt the meaning of his teachings.

The presence of such a teacher is a great asset to the general community. What we all seek in our lives is found in his presence. People are productive, energetic, happy, creative, youthful. I have seen a beautiful flowering of competence and confidence among the children who live in the community Bhagwan has inspired. Without neglecting high-quality school curriculum, the school provides for participation in the work and life of the community. Children find work that is productive, that allows for their unique expression of talent and skill, and that encourages their growth. The same approach to work applies to adults as well. Work and experience is the school for everyone. And the spiritual life is found in the mundane activities and the daily work everyone is engaged in.

The effects of his spiritual teaching go beyond his spoken or written words. Much discovery and learning happens without words. In my own experience frequently depressed, confused, withdrawn students, or people with language problems - stutterers and dyslectics - have come to me. Spoken language is a barrier to working and being with them and only serves to continue the patterns that frustration and a sense of worthlessness have established. In my saying less and less, a shift in their expectation and patterns happens. More of what the student is unfolds, more of what he feels and knows is expressed. Finding himself accepted and supported, he has more energy and begins to enjoy himself. This is a simplified progression, but silence is a powerful tool in learning and teaching.

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We are fortunate in having such a teacher available, alive and present. Bhagwan's understanding of man's problems and potentials inspires the whole endeavour of teaching. We are given insight into dimensions we have tended to neglect. For learning to become long-lasting we nurture the individual as he is, we increase the energy and ability of the body, we allow the unfolding of individual talents, and we encourage the intellect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "LeeAnne Wilson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

LeeAnne Wilson

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

Name: LeeAnne Wilson

Education:

- 1968 Pomona College, Claremont Colleges, California  
B.A. History and Government
- 1969 University of California, Berkeley  
Completion of elementary/secondary teaching program
- 1978 University of Toronto  
Ontario Teaching Certification

Professional experience:

- 1969 - 1974 Mendocino State Hospital, California: Teacher Adolescent  
School and Therapy Program
- 1974 - 1976 Clearwater Ranch, California: Teacher, Residence for  
seriously emotionally disturbed children
- 1980 - Bleiweiss Center for Creative Learning, Toronto: non-  
residential program for adolescents and adults

Publications:

- 1974 Contributing writer for the anthology  
Community. A non-medical model for Therapeutic Residential  
Programs

Honors and Awards:

Roman Lamp Honor Society of California  
Ephibian Society of California