

*Gesine Schaffer*

July 18, 1983

27 York Street, Lexington, Massachusetts 02173

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

With this letter I want to give my support to Rajneesh Shree Bhagwan's application to stay in this country permanently.

I want to emphasize that I am not a disciple or follower of Bhagwan, A Sannyassin, as they are called, and I have no intention of becoming one. I believe that Rajneesh Shree Bhagwan has much to offer to all people as a philosopher, psychologist and teacher, not just to those who become disciples.

I am at present a graduate student in an APA approved doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at a Massachusetts University, and I am just completing the Master's level. My professional goals are to become an educator, researcher and licensed clinical psychologist.

I became familiar with the teachings of Rajneesh Shree Bhagwan initially through his writings, and finally also through personal contact with his disciples in his Massachusetts Ashram in Essex. His teachings are far reaching and wise, and I am particularly impressed by their solid foundation in world religion, philosophy, and psychology. His message of love of self, and love of others is the universal message of the ages. In this modern world, filled with stress and anxiety, his Ashrams provide a place for respite and reorganization for anyone who wants to take advantage of the offer. This has been invaluable to me, this occasional retreat from an extremely hectic and demanding lifestyle. At no time have I been asked to become a disciple, nor have I ever been questioned as to my thinking or my intentions. I always have been welcomed straightforwardly and lovingly. His preaching does not include coercion, force, or even persuasion.

It would indeed be a pity for this country to lose so valuable a teacher, philosopher and preacher of common sense. Please consider to allow him to stay here permanently.

Sincerely,

*Gesine Schaffer*  
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