

July 22, 1983

To whom it May Concern:

As an American citizen, an attorney for the past eleven years, and a veteran of the Viet Nam War, I am writing this letter in deep concern over the possible deportation of an outstanding spiritual leader and master, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

I first experienced Bhagwan Three years ago when I read one of his 360 books. Like so many people I was immediately and deeply affected by his ability to articulate insights about life that I had been searching to find for many years. For me personally, and for many of my friends, his words have the unmistakable ring of truth.

I have been fortunate to be in Bhagwan's presence at Rajneeshpuram several times in the last year. Although Bhagwan was in silence, his love and spiritual guidance was felt by me and thousands of others far more than any words could say. For the first time in many years my heart was filled with love and joy at being alive. One hour of just sitting with a man of Bhagwan's being is worth more to my well being than anything that money could buy.

To take a position, as the Immigration Service has, that Bhagwan's self-imposed silence

disqualify him as a religious teacher, is foolish and unsupportable. His very presence in the United States is a light which could lead millions of struggling Americans back to a more wholesome and peaceful existence. To deport this man, who is loved and respected by people all over the world and who has contributed his being and teachings to a world that sorely needs it, would be a travesty of justice and an insult to Americans such as myself, who have served this country to keep it free for all peace loving peoples to worship and live in freedom.

I am appealing to you and your conscience to make sure that Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is allowed to remain in this country. If there was ever a truly religious leader who deserves to live in a free country, it is Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

Sincerely yours,

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