

"in  
Teenager

10/2/57  
September 29, 1957

My Dear President Eisenhower,

I am what you might call a typical teen-ager. Lately I've been reading the newspapers more carefully and I'm finally realizing what a great and wonderful leader America has.

I am an American, and I can proudly say that and mean it. A person cannot be a true American and not believe in equal rights. He is not worthy of walking of living or thinking on American soil, nor attending American schools, nor entering a Christian church if he does not believe as an American.

There is no such a thing as a  
slave or people of different colored  
skins in God's sight.

Please believe me President Eisenhower  
I do not wholly condemn these trouble-  
makers. They were instilled with  
this racial hatred since they were young.

It's so hard to unlearn something that  
is so deeply imbedded. I feel confident  
though that if these people would read  
the Constitution and the Declaration  
of Independence, and ask our God to  
judge their thinking, many heads  
would be hung in shame.

The hardest words in the world  
to say are "I'm sorry" or "I was wrong."

I'm truly sorry for the people who

don't believe in equal rights for all  
because they are in a sense "Men  
without a Country." These ignorant  
people need much more help than  
you and I can ever give them my  
dear President.

Soon I will be getting married  
and when I do, my children will be  
taught that there is no superior race  
or clan of people.

Our Senior class is coming to  
Washington the last of May for our  
annual senior trip. More than anything  
I would like to meet you. But since  
this will probably be impossible I  
only hope that you will personally  
read my letter.

God bless you President  
Eisenhower and all the good you  
stand for.

Sincerely,  
Dana Anderson