

St. Petersburg, Fla.
September 25, 1957

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President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Eisenhower:

(Please, Secretaries, let this letter pass to the addressee. I request my civil right to contact my leader in the only way possible for me as a humble citizen.)

You have been in my prayers lately. I am a mother of school children greatly concerned for the physical safety of my children even above a good education, which has been our ultimate goal in life. In this Democracy with equality, freedoms and the pursuit of happiness as a foundation; is it true that we would be forced to endanger (the health, mental attitude and the very lives) our children against our will? To sacrifice in war is horrible enough but this will far surpass any youth gang war and the loss will be yours and every citizen's.

Children are becoming more conscious of the differences in races than ever before, fathers are promising their sons protection in the form of guns, mothers are weeping to think of the daughters who will be exposed to venereal disease germs and the immoral ways of life that destroy home life. I believe you are doing what you think is best for the entire country and that with guidance from God you will do right regardless of unpopularity at home or abroad. Our forefathers did not take advice from other countries as to how to govern this nation they realized our problems were specific and had to be met by local contact. I have toured West Point but I would not presume to give you any military advice, however, I know of what I speak in this letter in no way that you possibly could.

Nations rise and fall. At a certain peak of prosperity decline is preceded by an intermingling of races, which is not in accord with God's laws. He does not want intermarriage nor contributing factors. Separate and equal education facilities are wanted by both races if given a chance to say so.

Guns in the hands of teen-agers would not seem the same to you who were bred on army life where power and rank rule, whereas, I have a deep respect of the ten commandments, peace among men and the needs of others .. majority rule. Please ~~tell~~ tell me why in this great Democratic country must the very ones (parents of school children of both races) who are most vitally affected having the least opportunity to help solve this problem?

May you keep a clear conscience, answerable only to God. Your greatness is truly being tested as never before.... no matter what a seemingly big horn blower, general trouble-makers and others who envy our national way of life have to say may the future generations be proud of you.

Thank you if you read this,

Mrs. W.D. Alexander

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(add. on envelope)