

J. W. Cummings to Harold Fatzer

In this letter J. W. Cummings, a resident of Kansas City, Kansas, appeals to state attorney general Harold Fatzer to not desegregate public schools. According to Cummings, integration would lead to miscegenation and would be the downfall of society. He writes that "we must keep our country great by not permitting a Policing action forcing communities into a like pattern, forming a state against our will. We must have the liberty of community majority choice, to accept or reject the kind of life our children live." He also believed that those causing this "unrest" were violating the principles of democracy and had been unduly influenced by Communist doctrine.

Creator: Cummings, J. W.

Date: November 27, 1953

Callnumber: Records of the Attorney General's Office, Brown v. Board Files, Box 1, Folder 2

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 211843

Item Identifier: 211843

www.kansasmemory.org/item/211843

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J. W. Cummings to Harold Fatzer

November 30, 1953

Mr. J. W. Cummings
1215 Pacific Avenue
Kansas City, Kans.

Dear Sir:

We acknowledge your letter of
November 27, 1953 and the enclosure
forwarded therewith.

We are glad to have your views on
this important matter.

Very truly yours,

HAROLD R. FATZER
Attorney General

PEW: mh

J. W. Cummings to Harold Fatzer

November 27, 1953.

Harold R. Fatzer, Attorney General
State Capital
Topeka, Kansas .

In all humbleness, I appeal to you, for my three daughters, who I love so much, and for my country I love as well, also hundreds of mothers and fathers of children, who have talked with me on the seriousness of what some are doing to stir up unrest, seeking a pattern toward destroying segregation in our elementary schools, swimming pools, and trouble in our neighborhoods, especially where we have many colored people.

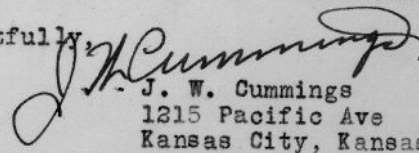
We pray you will maintain the wisdom of our forefathers, protecting our children from impositions upon their choice in liberty, in the true spirit of the Declaration of Independence. We know you do not have to nurse minority votes at the expense of our little ones.

My folks came from Iowa years ago, so make no mistake about the source of our feelings. I am thinking of my three little girls, and many like them, who must suffer flirtations and abuse, accepting the colored people in their intimacy because their liberty of choice has been taken from them, if true patriots do not arise to safe guard our nation.

The enclosed letter will express our feelings, that bears so heavily upon our hearts, and we deeply appreciate your serious concern and understanding.

We pray sincerely for Gods blessings on you and give you wisdom, as you have the decision of the future for our little ones.

Respectfully,


J. W. Cummings
1315 Pacific Ave
Kansas City, Kansas .

J. W. Cummings to Harold Fatzer

Honorable Sirs;

These days are of tremendous importance to the small girls and boys in our land, in our schools today, and the many yet unborn, who will be grown citizens of tomorrow. Even now in our government lies the grave decision of the future of these young folks.

Sir, our country, and especially these boys and girls, need your courageous help, now. They need your leadership. They need you to preserve their liberty and freedom. By your wisdom you know their future is bound and influenced by the environment and the things they do in everyday life.

Many times these days we read of freedom. Many times we wonder, what is this freedom? As the pendulum of freedom swings, toward laws that govern humanity, how far will it swing along the point of balance before it starts the incline beyond, causing impositions on freedom itself. I am a father of three little girls. I spent three years in the hell of war, fighting for this freedom. I earned for these little ones the freedom and liberty of their forefathers. I should know what I risked my life for.

Is this freedom? Is it not to live and do as what is in our hearts, burning within, with desire and passion, to love, protect, and do what is best for our love ones? Is this not the liberty and the pursuit of happiness of which we read in the Declaration of Independence?

Think of the group whose task it was to pick out a prettier and more desirable ^{colored} doll, to be placed on the market at Christmas time so that the white little girls might be more susceptible to it.

Reported by Time Magazine)

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Please think of these things, when you set your hand to settling the future of my own little girls. For you are a statesman who must lead our people. We rest assured you will guard our future, our liberty, our heritage, and will go slow in using your power of representation in changing the course of this future. These are the days of Master minds, the know it alls, who would panic us into socialistic and communistic patterns, crushing more liberties, than they give. God forbid it is my prayer. May true patriots save our country. You are our salvation.

Consider for a moment, the influence of environment upon the young in our schools, especially yours and my little girls. Think back on your youth, consider the problems and the experiences of the very young. If we are to mix the colored boys and girls, with the white, meeting them in schools, growing with them each day, participating in the traditions and the many activities, swim with them at our beach school parties, invite them to our valentine parties, include them in our hay rides and weiner roast, feeling the advances and flirtations, of the opposite sex on these occasions and many others daily, being held in their arms at our school dances, sharing our every day experiences, as we will be forced to do, then also we must accept them at our house parties, and thru this familiarity will surely follow advances, flirtations and so forth.

Every girl, becoming a victim of these circumstances, can they always resist these persistent suitors, when they are forced into their arms on these numerous occasions? Who will cast the first stone when some of the white girls take the Negro suitors, with less caution? Was it not our making? The blood is on our hands and is serious. Will they be called discriminating to refuse to dance, refuse flirtations? Or can they refuse? Does any one care? Are we going to

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keep looking the other way? Shall we cast them adrift because we have been so blinded by those Not affected? Shall they suffer for being led into this by this generation? Shall we be led by those of a socialistic dream, disguised as a humanitarian? Would you reject the wisdom of our forefathers, for over a hundred years, for if you vote for these measures, you are saying to my little girls, that they must accept the colored people, in their entirety. May I ask of those who would see this, ' Do you invite the colored boys into your home, for your daughters to accept them as any other boy, who wishes their attentions? If you do not, you are not being honest with yourself or my little girls, and do not practice what you are asking my little girls to do. Also, you will have to consider colored teachers as readily, as leaders and teachers of your little ones. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Let us consider for a moment, freedom. Perhaps you have said, we can invite into our homes who ever we please. It is a liberty I hope no Legislature will take from us, even tho now, by these measures, these socialistic patterns, will cause impositions even on this basic of all liberties.

Is it not within our freedom to invite into our homes, those in whom we find the greatest joy, satisfying that desire to be with the people of our choice, seeking liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which will bring love, marriage, and happiness to our young?

Does it not follow that neighborhoods of people, with the same background, the same desires for liberty, can become one in the liberty and the pursuit of happiness, thus exercising that freedom set forth in the Declaration of Independence? Are there not China Towns, French Towns, Italian Towns, and so on , grown as such because the like

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people understand each other and desire to associate, love, marry, and live in a community of their own people? Also are their not sections of most cities, set aside and zoned for homes of a more expensive nature, again because of a desire to unite for a common cause of liberty, in the pursuit of happiness. This discriminates. Should this be denied them? Our Constitution guarantees them this freedom of choice, this liberty, this community majority vote.

Our forefathers fought all impositions over their freedom of choice. They broke away from a country of strangling and commanding nature. They came for freedom of action, freedom of choice, freedom to unite in a community for a cause, which will bring, love, marriage, and the pursuit of happiness to our young. We can not give up this freedom they fought for. We must have a revival of the spirit of 1776. and return to the Declaration of Independence for our Inspiration.

Must we run for cover because some who call themselves humanitarians would cast my little girls into a socialistic pattern, destroying their human liberties, the true concepts of the Declaration of Independence, their heritage. Stand firm, fellow patriots, we have a heritage to be proud of.

Must it be said that minorities can force their way into communities, where the majorities wish to seek liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which will bring love, marriage, and happiness to the young in their community? Is there no freedom to unite for a common cause of liberty, especially when it brings greater happiness to our children? To be denied this freedom, is an imposition upon liberty and a total disregard for the essence of the Declaration of Independence and the true meaning of Democracy, Liberty and Freedom is denied and our country will lose its greatness, and decay.

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It is our duty to advise and protect our young. We must have the⁵ freedom of liberty to band together for a common cause, and be proud of our convictions, as God gave us to see the right, by rejecting or accepting the way we wish to bring up our little ones, among those we understand. It is our natural desire. We can not disregard community majority choice. Our country's greatness lies in the unity of ideals. It was formed in the unity of States for the basic principles of liberty.

We can not be forced into a like pattern, cast by one die. God made us different, and even as he did in the birds, as in them selves are different, and the animals to seek their own kind, protecting their young according to their own convictions. To us he added a brain, so we can elevate ourselves or by our mistakes cause our own deterioration. We dare not lose our freedom or individual liberty. We can not bargain away our principles, they are priceless as Life it self.

Let us improve the conditions of the colored man, and all americans for that matter, with out giving up the freedom in liberty and inherent rights, we hold dear. We must keep our country great by not permitting a Policing action forcing communities into a like pattern , forming a state against our will. We must have the liberty of community majority choice , to accept or reject the kind of life our children live, as God gives us to see the right. Minorities can not be placed in favor by causing impositions on the liberties we all desire. I deeply believe the colored man is happiest among his own people, as we are, and should be proud of his race, seeking advantages by institutions of his own, and I am sure the large part of them, do not wish to infringe upon the happiness of others.



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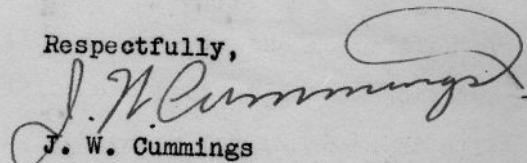
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It is not Democracy when minorities dictate to the majorities by imposing upon their good will. Minorities are protected by majorities as long as there is a common interest in harmony for the good of all the people. In the very essence of Democracy, the minorities enjoy the liberties and many freedoms because of the generosity of the majorities, and can not be placed up in special favor, causing impositions upon the liberties of which we all desire. Constitutions are amended by majorities. An elaction is won by one vote, even in our local communities. This is Democracy. Trickery and blindness will be our down fall, if we do not fight to protect these principles.

Stand firm for these principles, you can not go wrong accepting the wisdom of our forefathers. God bless you for your task at hand, as you have the decision over my little girls.

Authority is hereby
granted
to reprint copies of
this message.

Respectfully,



J. W. Cummings

Kansas City, Mo.

Please do your part to help these little ones and our country
We can not surrender our love of independence, the choice in liberty given us by our forefathers; to those who would distort our duties to our love ones, divide our churches, teaching and incouraging interracial marriages, and thus hatred, to accomplish their Communistic Socialism . This destroys the individual choice in liberty and independence of thought, bringing a Totalitarian Socialistic State, another Union of Soviet Socialist Republic , Russia.