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BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

April 30, 1948

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JUN 10 1948

Dr. Alan Gregg
Medical Division
The Rockefeller Foundation
49 West 49th Street
New York 20, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Gregg:

Thanks for your letter of April 12. I appreciate your continued support.

I tried to see you on each of my last two trips to New York, and hope that it will be possible to see you sometime after June 4 when I will be in New York again. You need more detailed information on the general status of our public relations.

Certainly the most serious and authoritative reviews have been unanimously for us. This has meant a great deal in the public acceptance of the material, and you may know that the Gallup poll indicates that five out of six of the population believe that such research should have been done. There is a long series of scientific reviews and journals in many fields which are very encouraging. This week a volume edited by Albert Deutsch brings together the reviews of more than a dozen outstanding scientists and people of the social sciences (Prentice-Hall, publishers). There is a book by Morris Ernst (Graystone Press, publishers), and next week a pocket book comes out in Penguin books with Donald Geddes as editor and with another notable series of scholars commenting on our book.

In contrast to the above, there are certain people in the sciences and in clinical practice who are very bitter in their attacks on us. These are only beginning to appear in print but you will see more of them within the next month. The emotional intensity of their attacks provides evidence that something more than scientific objectivity is involved in their criticisms. Compare, for instance, the newspaper review which you have seen by Geoffrey Gorer and the more vicious one which he is planning to publish in the American Scholar this summer, with a careful analysis of our statistical method made by Leo Crespi of Princeton, who is a statistical advisor to the Gallup poll. His article is in the Deutsch Volume mentioned above.

Jealousy animates some of the other reviews from persons claiming scientific standing. The psychoanalytic objections reached their climax in a review that Dr. Kubie will have in an issue of Psychosomatic Medicine, in which he calls upon the Rockefeller Foundation and the National Research Council to take the project out of our hands and put it in the hands of psychoanalysts who can do the job properly.

There is no organized church nor religious move against us, but there are inevitably persons who object that we have no right to publish and distribute results which threaten our moral system as much as this book does. The most specific move in this direction will center in articles to be published in June and July issues of the Readers' Digest. Morris Ernst has already answered this criticism of the public distribution of our book in the volume which is off press this week, and Alice Field writes a splendid article which covers this point in the Deutsch book.

You will also be interested to know that we have even been the object of jealousy with certain sections of the underworld which is involved in the distribution of obscene books. A volume which came off press this week entitled "Sexual Conduct in Men and Women" purporting to have been written by a Norman Lockridge, with a special chapter on Professor Kinsey by G. Legman, was in reality written by Sam Roth and personally published by him and not by the Hogarth House whose imprint the book carries. Both Roth and Legman have done penal time and been involved in the publication of obscene material which brought them before the courts, and the day after they put our book out the post-office descended upon them and closed them out of business for publishing another book which was obscene. Unfortunately, this still leaves the stock of the book against us, available for circulation through the clearance houses. Time magazine, in its perverse way, has already given publicity to the book.

With all, the reactions have been much more favorable than we could have had any right to expect. Nevertheless the emotional intensity of the moves against us needs to be understood and everyone concerned with this project needs to stand firm on the scientific and social desirability of this study and our right to make the results available to the public. I have spent sometime with Doctor Corner concerning these matters and he has reacted splendidly and given a good deal of his time to helping at various points.

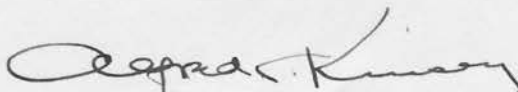
Dr. Alan Gregg

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He has made moves to strengthen the personnel of the NRC committee and we feel that they can be increasingly useful to us on this project.

I am enclosing a copy of the ^{ATTACHED} report which we submitted to Doctor Corner's committee this month. When I see you in New York, I should like to inform you in more detail about these things.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alfred C. Kinsey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alfred" being more prominent than the last name "Kinsey".

Alfred C. Kinsey
Professor of Zoology

Enclosure
ACK:erm