William F. Fore
P.O. Box 20640
Estes Park, CO 80511

October 22, 1997

George Gerbner
Annenberg School of Comm.
3620 Walnut St.
Philadelphia, CA 19104

Dear George,

As you know, I have retired from Yale Divinity and turned CONNECTIONS over to Jeffrey Mahon at Iliff. Now I am embarked on a new project in which I hope you might become involved, which might be considered ancillary to CEM's work.

During the early part of this year I taught at United Theological College in Bangalore, India, helping to set up a Masters program in Communication and Theology. I spent a good deal of time doing research on the Internet , and was amazed to discover that most religious material on the Internet has been put there by fundamentalists, Biblical literalists, and proselytizers. As more and more people use the Internet, there is a glaring need for quality scholarly material to be available to students and researchers worldwide, especially in places such as India, where books are almost impossible to secure.

Therefore, I have established a new web site called Online Religion, on which I am placing scholarly material from all of the disciplines of theological education – areas such as Biblical Studies, Theology, Ethics, History of Religious Thought, Sociology of Religion, Church and Society, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Liturgy and Worship, and Religious Education.

I am writing to ask if you would be willing to supply some of your writings to the project. They can be in the form of articles, speeches, monographs, chapters from a book --anything that is not strictly copyrighted, such as a book sold to a publisher and still in print. On the other hand, you may have a book no longer in print where the publisher has returned the rights to you (this is true in my own situation). I am looking for material that best summarizes your writing and teaching in the fields of communication and culture.

I can use copy that is typewritten, printed, or on floppy disk. I am collecting material during these next few months, planning to officially open the Internet Site early next year. (If you want to see the site "in progress," you can access it at www.religion-online.org)

No one will make money on this project. I am giving my time and paying the costs of the Web Site. But eventually your "audience" could be substantial. You will have world-wide reach. For example, a religion resource site in Canada has had more than 11,000 "visitors" since 1996 – an average of 17 enquiries a day. I will of course request researchers to give you credit when quoting your material, and will provide a brief bio sketch and list any books you may have in print.

I hope you will send along some of your best material. You can send it to the above address. If you want to discuss the idea further, my telephone is: 970-586-4463. E-mail is wfore@oneimage.com. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

FAX

Cordially,

Bill

William F. Fore

To: wfore@oneimage.com, Kate Duncan <cem@libertynet.org>
From: George Gerbner <ggerbner@nimbus.temple.edu>
Subject: Greetings!
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments: Stories/tell Until Now Publist

Dear Bill:

Was glad to receive your letter of 11/22, and be in touch. Congrats on new web site, 11,000 plus "hits."

Diffficult to figure out what would be most useful. So, I am attaching a general piece that ends up as pitch for CEM ("Stories to Tell"), an account of activities ("Until Now"), and a publications list. Let me know what else may be useful.

Have you received info from Kate about Board oif Directors meeting in Chicago Feb, 6-8? Just in case, I am copying Kate on this message.

Look forward to your response. See my new title, career. Please use only my home address for hard copy mail, which is:

234 Golf View Rd.
Ardmore, PA 19003

Best regards --

George

Called, left msg 12/3/97

Called, left msg 12/9/97