

Paul Carton, Ph.D.
555 Quince Orchard Rd., Suite 200
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
(301) 975-0103

April 29, 1994

Dr. George Gerbner
234 Golfview
Ardmore, PA 19003

Dear George,

Greetings. I wanted to get back with you regarding my short story, *Death of the Woodstock Generation*, which I dropped off at your office a couple of weeks back. I believe it addresses a number of important contemporary themes -- mass manipulation, the development of a deviant urban youth subculture, the longterm effects of violent and sexually explicit media imagery -- themes that, to date, have not been fully explored in American fiction.

I've made up my mind to self-publish this piece (you may remember mentioning to me that this was one possible alternative when we first discussed it a few months back). While the approach I am taking is somewhat unusual, I very much hope that you see the work has some value and that you will draft a sentence or two of comment. I will place your thoughts in a tasteful manner on the back cover -- where such comments usually go.

An artist friend of mine in New York has developed an impressive front cover and plans are to go to print in the next couple of weeks. The final product will be perfect bound.

You should know that I deeply appreciate your taking another look at this short story and hopefully jotting down a few words of commentary. My fax number at work is (301) 975-0109.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,



P.S. I also faxed this communication over to your office.

Paul Carton, Ph.D.
555 Quince Orchard Rd., Suite 200
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878
(301) 975-0103

~~May 2, 1994~~ May 2, 1994

Dr. George Gerbner
234 Golfview
Ardmore, PA 19003

Dear George,

I spent Sunday working on the story but it seems to be going in another direction. I realized, after talking with you, that for you to publicly comment on the story might possibly leave you somewhat more vulnerable to criticism from the media industry -- and that would be particularly unwise at a time when you're putting together a proposal that could have you engaged in monitoring that same industry.

We don't want to give media conglomerates any kind of excuse to take a potshot at you, however ridiculous. Considering the pressure they're now coming under, these days anything is possible. Thus I feel the only prudent thing is to withdraw my request for you to comment on the story.

From a political standpoint it's always wise to draw a clear line between fact and fiction. It's enough for you just to be getting the facts out to the nation.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Carton". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed word "Thanks,".