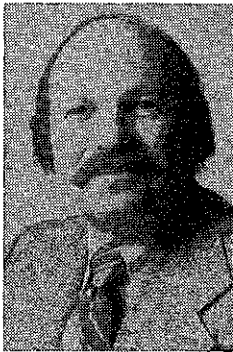


# Editor's Page

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## Help Wanted

This writer has recently received a very official-looking memorandum from a governmental agency that purports to remind those to whom it was sent that "discriminatory practices" on the basis of "race, religion, sex, age or national origin" were illegal under various circumstances. As I reviewed the way I live my life and conduct my affairs, I realized with growing apprehension the many short-comings of my behavior and character. Even the fact that I can attribute such short-comings mostly to my upbringing did not help me much to allay my panic at possible punishment. Nor could I easily dismiss my guilt for falling so short and for being so imperfect.



DR. BAR-LEVAV

The memorandum sadly brought to my attention the fact that I do not consider all human beings as being equal, and that I do not even consider all human beings as having equal rights. After much soul searching and self incrimination I have reached the conclusion that it is perhaps more advantageous for me to expose my short-comings in public, rather than live in constant fear of exposure by others:

Professionally, I discriminate against those I consider incompetent;

Sexually, I discriminate against members of my own gender;

Socially, I discriminate against pompous dullards, those with strong body odor, and loud-mouthed baseball enthusiasts;

Politically, I discriminate against followers of various totalitarian regimes, briefly, against those who would use the freedoms inherent in Democracy to destroy it;

Emotionally, I discriminate against those who hurt me, especially willfully;

I have been known to discriminate against my own children, and to arbitrarily leave them at home when I attended functions or affairs that are not basically intended for them;

I consistently discriminate against those whose obnoxious commercials on radio and T.V. insure that I do *not* buy their product;

Religiously, I discriminate against members of all other religions and associate exclusively only with members of my own during worship;

In my practice as a physician, I refuse to accept as patients those I do not believe I can help;

As a person, I discriminate against all humanity when I wish to be by myself, and against most humanity, when I wish to spend time exclusively with one other person.

I must reform. I must correct my ways. I never believed that children have the same rights as adults. I do not believe students have the right (or the wisdom) to determine what should be taught. I do not believe patients have the right to determine how their physician should treat them. I do not believe that patients are equal to their physicians, except in their humanity. I write prescriptions and orders. I do not believe that women are the same as men. I do not believe that Italians are the same as Frenchmen. I discriminate against restaurants that serve basically soul food. I do not like chitterlines. I also discriminate against restaurants run by individuals whose national origin is on the Indian sub-continent. I abhor curry. I did not condemn a friend who refused to drink goat's milk mixed with zebra blood on his African safari, and who cut his visit with a native tribe short, since he discriminated in favor of his own food. In fact, in general, I prefer people, food, music, customs, languages and moral standards that are more like

myself, for I am most comfortable with them. I usually discriminate in their favor, all other things being equal. Almost universally, I discriminate in favor of English books and periodicals when I have a choice between them and German ones; I find the latter more difficult to read, and less enjoyable.

In fact, I could make this list very much longer without ever trying. But, I better stop now and go into hiding. Various agencies of the U.S. government, State government and City government are probably already after me. I assume I am also being sought by subpoena servers from the League for the Protection of Children's Rights, various civil liberties unions, the Organization of Ex-Mental Patients, a variety of women's organizations with their vocal, and not so feminine, champions, the supporters of Senator McGovern, young Democrats and young Republicans, the National League of Retired People, anti-defamation leagues, Consumers Against the Sales Tax, and on, and on, and on.

Paranoid nightmares have never been as frightening. Hordes of love-filled, fair-minded, mature, sensible, well-balanced and well-motivated individuals and groups all dressed in pure white are all chasing me, wishing to stomp me out, once and for all. The government is after me also.

Please Help!

R. Pan-Lewis M.D.

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