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To Whom It May Concern

Writing this letter for me is an act, a proclamation of the love, respect, and admiration I have for the person, the teacher, the inspirational leader, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. I also find it extraordinary that circumstances have created the necessity for me to write such a statement, since Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, the man, is a complete testimony to astonishing creative genius, teaching qualifications and inspirational guidance.

But enough of introductions. About myself let me say that I am very truly American. I grew up in my beloved country and received a very American education through 3½ years of university. In university I studied psychology and philosophy. I did exceptionally well and was already accepted to a graduate program at UCLA when I realized that what I really needed and wanted could not be learned from books, or from normal schooling.

I knew from within my heart, in the deepest recesses of the silence of my self that there was something more to life, something I longed for, needed, that would allow me to truly celebrate life and live it with reverence and joy and total acceptance of my self and others.

this I had not found and until I met Bhagwan was not sure that it really existed. For you see while in university I met the elite, the finest psychologists, philosophers, professors! Men like Abraham Maslow, Carl Rogers, B.F. Skinner, E.D. Lang and Sidney Jourard. Brilliant men, but only theoreticians that is men, whose minds had great ideas but not the inner experience, the inner silence and peace so necessary to inspire, to impart a very powerful message simply through one's presence. This is what Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh has and I know of being very intuitive and trusting those feelings had shown me that following the least, my inspiration was & is the best way.

These great men, professors, wrote great texts, theories about the nature of man, of life, of religion. Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh spoke from his direct personal experience and gave us over 300 volumes of what will become, already are amongst the great spiritual, inspirational, and psychological documents created. Bhagwan's books were spoken spontaneously and he did this for over 10 years. They are a testament to his capacity as a teacher, psychologist, inspirational leader and when he went into silence, for me the only change was

the power, the depth of my love, and the feelings of wanting to be with him. They intensified for me! And they must have intensified for most of us who are with him now and the additional 200,000 people from all over the world who have come to him as disciples, students, etc since he went into silence. Surely that's a real testimony or affidavit to his capacity as a teacher, inspirational leader. Yes, there are now over 300,000 people who follow and love both the teachings of the man and more important, the beloved man himself and many hundreds of thousands who are being affected, deeply so by his books, words that were spoken before, but whose impact is very much happening now and will continue to inspire.

Look please at the facts, the reality when Blagova was speaking he had a small ashram in India where several hundred people lived and worked and where during festivals several thousands others would come to celebrate. Since his silence began the two religious celebrations were had have attracted crowds of 6,000 and 15,000 respectively. These were the 1st and 2nd annual world celebrations held here at Rayneeshpuram 1982 and 1983. That's quite a jump of approximately 12-13,000

festival participants, since Bhagwan went into silence.

And let's take a look at Rayneeshpuram. This land two years ago was desolate and in a mess. In less than two years we've created no less than a miracle (It's all documented!) another testimony to Bhagwan's power as both a creative genius, teacher, leader of inspirational magnitude. For you see, Rayneeshpuram has come out of our love for Bhagwan, and a longing to help, to participate in the creation of Bhagwan's vision of the new man and a new possible way of living. Yes, Bhagwan Shree Rayneesh does work, does create, is a genius in the field of psychology. Simply because all that is happening here at Rayneeshpuram is happening because he is here among us, inspiring us, loving us unconditionally, giving so much of himself constantly.

Also here is our Meditation University. What's being taught there to the students has come solely from Bhagwan; his books, his meditation techniques (of which there are over 100). The university is growing rapidly. People from all over the world come to this out of the way town. They come to experience the teachings, the philosophy, the religion of the man called Bhagwan Shree Rayneesh.

I myself came to Bhagwan 7 years ago. I read his words, felt his love, and went to see him in India. I spent 5 months in India in 1977 and 3 months in 1980. He was speaking then. I loved being with him there, but knew inside myself this was not yet the place for me. Only since he's been in silence have I felt the compelling desire to be physically near him, to help create whatever it is he sees as possible. And so now I live here at Rameeshqaram. I love it here with him. It's so much more powerful for me than before. This really feels like I've come home! A dream realized. As a child for many years I had a dream of a place, a new world where people lived and loved together in harmony where the priorities of life were really love and self-respect of the other, unconditional love and respect. It's happening here at Rameeshqaram. Bhagwan has been in silence for over two years now and look at what he is doing, what's happening here with his presence. His presence here is the focal point. Sure without us it could not be possible. But he is the right reason, the real cause of why we are here together building a new

man, a new world, perhaps a model for the rest of this love starved world.

I travelled much, experienced much of the world, its peoples, religions and many of its religious spiritual leaders. With Bhagwan I feel at home, whole in a way I never felt anywhere with anyone. My own creative genius is flowering here. My own self-respect and self-love are flowering and as all the great teachers have said that only when you can truly love yourself can you love another. Thus love grows and simultaneously manifested on the outside.

It's real and so very powerful this thing called silent communion. More power than any of the teachings through words that I've experienced. Look to the Bible look to any religious scripture for verification of this simple truth. It's so! Look to nature! Do you find inspiration in the flowers, the song of the birds, the vastness of the mountains? Of course! That's silent communion. It's very powerful! Look to art, to music, the great music. It's all wordless inspiration through another medium, a more powerful medium and science is beginning to

Comprehend this simple truth.

The inspiration of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh is beyond all these, is greater for me than any art I've ever experienced. For me he is the ultimate expression of nature, art, music, love.

What's also very interesting is how in our schools we study the words, the theories, and sometimes the experiences of people dead a long time. Books give us their message or their deeds. Some are still inspiring to us. Look at the literature of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. He is a great psychologist. His words are inspirational. His words shall live and teach and inspire humanity long after he, you and I are gone. This man is a genius! He is a teacher, and a religious leader of immense magnitude.

I have sat with Bhagwan in silence, many times. The experience is magnificent. It fills me with inspiration, with love and motivation to help create a more beautiful world. It is such a gift to be able to live here, in Rajneeshpuram. To be so dear to this man who radiates such love.

Bhagwan is a gift! He is certainly a gift for me!  
He is certainly a gift for all of his lovers here  
and all over the world. He is a gift for this  
love shared planet. He is certainly a gift  
for America. How fortunate we are that he is  
here in our wonderful country and yet  
so appropriate, because our country is freedom  
and so is Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

Please allow this magnificent human  
being, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, to  
live in our magnificent country.

Thankyou for your patience  
with love

Sr. Samadhi Prem  
(Bareilly)