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Saturday 30th Dec. '66
After our 'phone conversation

Sylvia dear -

At last a moment appears in which to send a few lines to you! What a never-ending frustration not to be able to write every time I have the burning desire to do so! If I thought that I had lost friends B.F. (before Epstein's book broke the dam - & much as it pains me to feel the obligation, I must give the first his considerable due for just that!), I didn't anticipate that the additional alienation would finally cut me off completely. My only friends today are you, Ray, Bill and less directly, perhaps, Ronnie Solomon. For, whereas before Epstein's book, my former friends could brush me off as being "emotionally dispossessed" (and all the other epithets attributable to anyone who dared stray from the establishment indian-man prescription), now having observed that some ^{of their} highly respected tin-gods & 63% of the nation have joined me, I now represent for them their guilt and their pitifully inadequate consciences - So I am now a serious threat to their stability and this they cannot brook. I won't buckle under for their filthy war in Vietnam and I won't be corrupted over the assassination - and even more importantly, perhaps, I dare to connect the two most scandalous

and evil events in modern history. Thus, your friendship² is more cherished, more meaningful and more necessary to my health and well-being — yes, even to my sanity — than that of those who figured so prominently in my life prior to Nov. 22/63! That is why I especially regret my inability to be more communicative, more prompt about communicating with you! I know, however, that you understand because, God knows, we all suffer from the same exigencies & demands upon us that other duties and responsibilities force upon our limited time.

Additionally, I do not possess the natural facility to express myself in articles, rebuttals, ~~articles~~ ^{arguments} so that when I feel constrained to send forth some statement of conviction regarding the case and all the drivel that is being pounded out by the defenders of the faith, it takes me days to draft something, type it, edit it, rework it, etc.

I won't dwell further on the Ramparts question. If they're committed to a January article, we can only hope that they knew enough about the subject with which they are dealing to present an honest, authentic and powerful attack. Past experience with them forces me to be skeptical but hope still springs, blessedly! There are in this nation, I'm convinced, but a very few of us — far too few — who know what we are about and who fight fiercely for our commitment to the truth whatever the stakes are. Our motives are simply and purely

the result of our commitment to the truth. The Ramparts² people and, unhappily, many other critical ~~of~~ voices of the W.R. as well as too many of our fellow-critics do not share this tenacity and I guess we must finally accept the disappointment inherent in that knowledge and go on in spite of them. If it turns out that they will have served our cause, purposely or not, so much the better but we can no longer expect that they will place anything ~~at~~ in the 1st priority class except ~~advancement~~ that which would promote advantage for them!

Your letter this morning caused me to writhe with nausea and indignation at the unmitigated guinery of Epstein in Boston — and I bled for poor Penn, for I suspect that his, rather than Vince's reactions reflect the overall effect of that miserable encounter with Agent-Cohen!

I'm enclosing my rebuttal to John Weaver, another fink-liberal who wrote a book ~~about~~ ^{extolling} Warren and has to protect his property. Please go all out with your criticism; I'm not silly enough to think it doesn't contain faults and omissions and, respecting your excellent brain + ~~power~~ ^(power) critical abilities, to say nothing of your expertise on the case + in your own writings on it, I'm eager for your comments. Also, enclosed is a letter I'm sending out to campus editors of some 30 colleges + universities in the country, with Vince's recent liberation

piece attached.

If you think the Weaver piece has any merit and is worth putting on to Arnou, you might tell him that any and all direct allusions to Weaver & his article can easily be deleted or re-stated.

Foolishly, I suppose, I'm now in the process of trying to answer this week's Newsweek piece. I say foolishly because it seems such a futile endeavor but I cannot let it lie!

Don't forget to get FACT! If you encounter any difficulty, let me know and I'll get hold of one for you. It's a good assessment of current celebrities.

If and/or when you go to Victoria, I hope you'll plan to stop off here. From Larry Schiller you know that we have the room to receive you under our roof but you, perhaps, don't know how much we would welcome a visit from you!

Thank you my dear and true friend, for your constancy and for knocking yourself out to keep us up to date on every significant (+ otherwise) development. Keep well and in good spirits. We have one another and I happen to believe that that's a whole hella lot. A bas les U Thant, etc. du monde!!

Much love,

Maggie

Sahl is powerful - pounds away relentlessly - but doesn't know enough to answer the more demanding questions.

7.
Still he's making tremendous inroads & carries a lot of weight with his large & ever growing audience.