

I really sympathize with you on debate. Arguing  
against these people must be heart-breaking.  
You can say "red is red" & they will insist it is not!  
Like facing a brick wall.

Dear Sylvia:

Plumber just gone after big emergency with toilet. I'll try to collect my thoughts.

Penn called night before last. He has some interesting new information which fits in with an interest of mine of long-standing on Waco. Will let you know. I think there was a Nazi group working out of Waco with ties with B. Weissman. Again this means nothing. At the moment more investigation is needed. This group also works out of Sweden and may be tied in with the Solidarists. I finally got the information I wanted on the latter group; none of it was different from what I already imagined; still, it was good to have it made factual.

Lee Oswald may have been a more surprising character than we realize!

Oh, Sylvia, in regard to the Hoffa charges against RFK: you have got to look carefully at your sources to make sure you have all the facts on this. Your accusation that RFK was taking any means to an end against Hoffa sounds a great deal like Hoffa-propaganda to me. You know the Teamsters have great control in Washington; certain members of the Congress accept much money from this group. By the same token, J. Edgar Hoover (who hates RFK almost as much as you do) has ties with the Teamsters which have not been fully ~~exploited~~ explained yet. This had a great deal to do with JFK's decision to let J. Edgar "retire" shortly after 1964. On the other hand, how many of us have given RFK the opportunity to explain to us in full detail his pursuit of Hoffa? RFK did everything within proper bounds. If there was impropriety, it was Hoffa's--and Hoover's. Frankly, I am not in the business of protecting a man like Jimmy Hoffa who is tough as nails and very, very boring to boot. The Depression Years gave rise to a strange illness in American thought patterns--that the laborer was noble (shades of JJ Rousseau). Frankly, he isn't. Because he labors makes him not one whit better than a millionaire--nor does it make the millionaire better than he. Both must be judged individually. Sweat isn't ennobling. It's just sweaty. The terrible abuses of the Industrial Age made the pendulum swing the other way by necessity--I was glad to see it swing. But human nature stays the same--where you had the great Robber Barons, you now have the great Union Barons. Only the names change. We will have to wait for time to pass and RFK to publish his side of the Hoffa argument before we can swallow Hoffa's story whole.

As for the illness: my opinion is that JFK would NOT have been assassinated at the time and place he was if not for a terminal illness. As you know Addison's Disease is NOT controlled by drugs in all cases. Much depends again on the individual, his childhood illnesses, his physical injuries, his resilience to shock, physical and emotional. The fact that LBJ was about to offer a "resignation" to the Kennedy Administration, tied in with the fact that if LBJ had not faced exposure on the Oct. 3-Bobby Baker-expose thing and with JFK's probable death from natural causes within a year or two of 1963, all these in my opinion add up to extremely slippery circumstances that must be used historically to expose Johnson. We know of course that LBJ took the VP only because he was told Kennedy could not possibly live out the Presidency. Knowing this, imagine his chagrin when he realized that his indiscretions (with the Bobby Baker crowd) had removed the Presidency from his grasp. The only hope being, of course, that JFK would NOT survive LBJ's forced "resignation."

Received  
10/8/66

How stupid and egotistical I am to infer to you that I am sure in my own mind why RFK is behaving as he is in regard to the Warren Report. Yet I am sure. Nor does this fault your effort--or mine. President Kennedy said "every man can make a difference--and every man should try." Both President Kennedy and RFK would be very proud of you. You are an example of what they liked best in America--and an example of what they wanted the majority of people in this country to be. The myth-shattering that occupied Kennedy so much is exemplified in you. The hard work you have done, the hours of lonely reading, the courage to examine anything and everything without regard ~~for~~ pain or penalty, all these things are part of you and the Kennedys. You are a great deal more like the President than you think. You would have enjoyed his company, and he yours.

But I can't sell him to you; and as Vickie says it is silly to try. I think he will sell himself as time goes on for he rarely made a false step--a wrong step, often. But seldom a false. He hated pretense just as you do. Trust him, lady, he'll prove more true than those who have the cunning, etc., etc.

As for all those virtues you listed (as being on the Left--Vickie says you forgot to mention sex)--they are fine in print, but Left or Right or son-of-a-bitching Middle, I rarely see them carried through. The Left murders and assassinates (for example the Left in Europe routinely ~~murders~~ assassinates members of the West German Solidarists--and I got this information from a Far Leftist)--the Right murders and assassinates. There is no virtue extant in either, save perhaps for the general progress of history. What we are living and doing in the world today we cannot judge. We don't KNOW FOR SURE that we are on the right side. We assume we are. But to be on a "right side" in so far as no blood shed is concerned, we would have to hie us hence to a nunnery! And even that is abhorrent generally because the Lord vomits the lukewarm, you know!

Seriously, Sylvia, life is disappointing to everyone. Life breaks your heart, Kennedy said. And "I wish I had had more good times." (Not very many people realize that most of his life was spent sick and in pain from the age of 17 onward.) "Life is unfair" he said, knowing damn well that all the money in the world could never buy him a long life and health. Only three things are certain, he inscribed on a cup to Dave Powers--"God, human folly and laughter." The first two we can do nothing with, but with the latter we can have a working arrangement. And so he chose to work hard (his campaigns, the Presidency, all these sapped the years he had left. Addison's Disease is a stress-circumstance. Had he lived quietly on the Riviera he would likely still be with us today). But he liked to work and to live each day full. On top of this, he hardly feared death. Being a man of modest intellectual attainments he had never searched hard for religious answers. He knew that if he did he would "come out the same door which in he went." So he accepted the fact that he lived and that the Universe was beyond his control. But he had great faith in man's ability to arrange improvements and it was because he felt this way he involved himself.

But the fact of his death remains. And if he was so Establishment, if he was so conservative, if he was so disinvolved with a negotiation with the Revolutionary world, why was he killed? He was killed because he was the first break-through the progressive in America had had in many years. His brother offers a second chance. If Bobby dies, if the Left refuses to see their last hope, then, the concentration camps in California (Penn says they are being readied) will be full. Only in unity

with power (RFK) can we hope to turn the tide.