

14 February 1968

Personal and Confidential

Dr. Michael R. Sacks  
World Health Organization  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Mike,

I am grateful to you and Barbara for your sympathetic message of condolence. The very fact of our long personal friendship and affection, and mutual solicitude at times of misfortune, makes it all the more a reluctant task to say "no" on the professional level of our long association. But it would not be fair to equivocate and possibly to mislead you, so I think I should say a firm no to your suggestion that I might come to Geneva to replace Bea. Needless to say, I am most appreciative of your confidence that I could do the job—it is quite a compliment! But I still have many ties here (e.g., to a certain Chief Justice and a certain District Attorney, among other more compatible ties) and I've never liked living in Geneva, even for a few months.

Truly, Mike, I don't like to disappoint you in anything, but where something of this magnitude is at stake I have to do it. What about Elly Kamen? I would have thought her an excellent candidate to take over when Bea leaves.

With thanks, and with love to you and Barbara and William,

Sincerely,