

6 December 1967

Miss Laura Donahue
Laura Scales House
Smith College
Northampton, Mass. 01060

My dear Miss Donahue,

You do not lack audacity.

Please be advised that the writing of a book does not convert an author into a public institution or a public service. If you will consult a copy of my book at your local library, you will find on the back jacket flap such information as I care to provide about my personal life. If you will take the further step of reading my book, you may agree that I have considerable respect for scholarship and careful research. That being so, I would not place my right of personal privacy above any legitimate research need.

However, I feel no obligation to contribute to any "career line analysis of the critics of the Warren Commission Report." It is the criticism, not the critics, which has historical importance and which should be the subject of study and critical evaluation. A "career line analysis of the critics" seems to me to be of lesser priority than confrontation by the universities and colleges with the overriding issue of fraudulent Government "explanation" of the assassination of the late President Kennedy and the organization of a new investigation. The shirking of that confrontation by the intellectual community, as it is usually called, might also constitute a useful subject for analysis.

I return your blank questionnaire herewith.

Yours very truly,

Sylvia Meagher