

14 December 1966

Miss Joan Wharton
Newsweek
144 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

My dear Miss Wharton,

Thank you for your note of December 12, 1966 and the
tear sheet of the current Letters column.

I am, of course, appreciative of your attention to my
letter and of Mr. Roberts' reply. However, I regret that
in publishing part of my letter, Newsweek did not indicate
elision but did insert a phrase "--to cite but one example
--" which does not appear in the original letter and which,
frankly, leaves in doubt which "example" is indicated. Is
it Mr. Roberts' statement about the qualifications of the
autopsy surgeons, or is it his article as a whole?

Regretfully, I must also question the objectivity of the
editors' decision to publish perhaps one-fourth of my letter,
amounting to 17 lines of type, together with a 23-line reply
to one point, the others remaining unanswered. I wonder how
much "benefit" your readers can derive from so incomplete and
partisan a presentation of facts. My letter addressed itself
not merely to the qualifications of the autopsy surgeon but to
their product, specifying two forensic experts who have found
the autopsy report incomplete and defective, and mentioning some
of the specific defects in the procedure. I am sorry that while
Mr. Roberts had space in which to quote his expert, my references
to two experts who take a very dim view of the autopsy report
were omitted.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Meagher
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