

3/14/70

Dear Mary,

While you neither say nor indicate you feel it, I do hope your serious problems are not complicated by a sense of shame. I say this because it is the kind of thing one might go to some length to hide.

I fear that our generation gave Jimmy Lee's more difficult problems than those we had. Ours were serious, but tangible, and for the most part, within our capacity to do something about. Ours were immediate, could be taken one at a time. Theirs are not of this character and there is little they have been able to do about such immoralities enforced upon them as the undeclared war and the attendant bestialities and the ruptures in their lives it causes.

If they didn't let you know from Monday to Friday, you sure have a first-rate police force. I wonder if immediate attention could have made a difference. I'm kinda square and untutored and uninformed on such matters. However, I do know of cases where the overdoses were not voluntary and that they can be given very easily by others, for whatever purpose, including "okes" and accidents.

I do hope he works his way out of it okay. He certainly has the understanding and help to make it possible.

From what I hear, drugs of various sorts are a problem everywhere, where poverty is greatest and where the children of the middle class are discontented, detached, uneasy. I fear also that everywhere too many doctors do not want to get involved, and possibly Gary knows better than we how legitimate their reluctance can be because of the possible complications.

We do hope everything gets alright. There are two things I have been meaning to write you about. We did file my first suit Friday, on the Ray/King matter (almost total suppression in the papers); and Fisher has acknowledged to me, in writing, that he was ramrod on the panel report. I think I'll file that case as my own lawyer, if I have to, because I can ask questions Bud cannot. He cannot get the time to learn what I have.

There are other things I'd prefer not to put into these mails. In time you'll know.

Our very best hopes and wishes,

Sincerely,

4406 Holland  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
March 12, 1970

Dear Harold and Gary:

Gary, thank you for your note to Jimmy Lee. It really thrilled him. Harold, thank you for the Japanese "funny book." We have all enjoyed it. Incidentally, Harold, he is almost 20 years old, but he is my "baby."

I would prefer that no one else in our little "round robin" circle know this, but the boy got a massive overdose of LSD sometime between Monday morning, Feb. 2nd, and Wednesday evening, Feb. 4th. He left for college on Monday morning as usual. We didn't expect him home until Friday night. The police picked him up Wednesday evening, in Dallas, in the most "fashionable" section of the city, trying to crawl into a mailbox. He had on no shirt... only his pants, and was barefooted. He was "hallucinating" so badly, he thought he had been "programmed" to kill himself. The doctors say there is still a very great danger of suicide.

We didn't know the police had him until Friday morning, February 6th. Carol Anne, my 30-year old daughter, went to get him. He didn't know her. He was calling her, the police, the narcotics men, and everyone in sight "Mother." (Gary, you know the boy... he is not a "mother's boy type.") Anyway, when Carol Anne called me and said he had either lost his mind or was drugged, I told her to take him immediately to Dr. Jim Krafft, a personal friend who is a pediatrician but has been working diligently with teenagers who are using dope. His own son, Mark, a literal genius, spent two years in the state pen a couple of years ago for selling LSD...

Since February 6th, we have had a psychiatrist, a psychologist, Dr. Krafft and a sociologist with Jimmy Lee. So far, the sociologist has had the most and best effect on him. He has never admitted to the police or to us that he knowingly took the LSD. The police say they questioned him for 40 hours and he never "broke"... I don't know whether this is good or bad. Of course, I had sort of closed my eyes to the knowledge that all my boys were occasionally fooling with marihuana... for a long time. I think I told you, Gary, that about twenty or twenty-five years ago, I did a little experimenting with it and thought at that time that it should be legal. However, because it was illegal, I left it alone. And, at that time, as far as I knew, no one I had ever known personally had ever even been in the presence of any hard narcotics. The sociologist is now telling me that I have deep guilt feelings about the whole thing. I sincerely think he's "crazy" on that score. I've never had the time to waste on such a luxury as a guilt complex.

Now, on to other things... Gary, I have three extra copies of Judy Bonner's book. I'll be happy to donate one to a worthy cause... namely Gary Schoener... if you don't have one yet.

I am going to try to get together with Mrs. Jackson Saturday afternoon. Before Christmas, we just couldn't seem to make connections and since February 6th, I've been "baby-sitting" with a 19-year old.

Jimmy Lee really did like Fred and Marlynn Newcomb and he has never been to California. They have invited him several times to come visit them. As soon as the doctors tell us it is safe for him to make the trip, we plan to let him go out there for about a week. (They know about his problem and say they are willing to watch after him.) He gets into very depressed states and still has the feeling that he has been "programmed" to kill himself. He says he doesn't want to do it but is very affraid that he may kill himself. Of course, we're going to pay Fred and Marlynn for the time he spends with them... however, if a short visit would help Jimmy, no amount of money in the world could truly pay them. Gary, you are going to be an extremely wealthy man one of these days, if the fees we are paying these doctors is any indication... The psychiatrist and the psychologist are \$5000 an hour and Dr. Krafft is \$30.00 an hour. The sociologist, who is doing the most good, is only \$20.00 an hour. Jimmy goes every day to one or more of them, including Saturdays.

There are very few doctors in Dallas who want to fool with the drug problem at all. And it is certainly A PROBLEM HERE...

Well, I said "on to other things" and then got right back on my personal problems. So you can see that I am pretty well occupied these days with this thing... Sorry!

When Jimmy first started talking about a possible trip to California, I talked on the phone with Fred and Marlynn about it. Sue knows. But, I don't want Arch to know anything about it. He has those three little girls and he has some distorted idea that such things are contageous... So, please keep this letter confidential.

Love to you both,

*Mary*

P.S. Gary, I always send the originals of my letters to Harold because of his eyesight...