

The FBI Shames the Nation

"Look man, I guess your old lady doesn't get enough of it at home or she wouldn't be shucking and jiving with our black men in action, you dig? Like all she wants to integrate is the bedroom and us black sisters ain't gonna take no second best from our men. So lay it on her, man, or get the hell off..."

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This scurrilous letter was signed "A Soul Sister" and addressed to the white husband of a white woman active in a black organization in St. Louis. But no soul sister wrote it. The FBI did. And com-

pared to J. Edgar Hoover's persistent harassment of Martin Luther King, this was a rather modest exercise in slander.

Apparently the main difference between official attempts to undermine an American Nobel Peace Prize winner, King, and a Soviet one, physicist Andrei Sakharov, is that the FBI did it surreptitiously while the Russians air their character assassination openly. And just as the anti-Sakharov campaign is bringing shame on the Soviet Union, the FBI's hate mail should lie heavily on the conscience of the United States.