
MOTHERJONES

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for National Progress

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Dec. 5, 1995

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

Thank you for sending us chapters from your book-in-progress. Unfortunately, we are unable to use it in Mother Jones. Good luck in placing it elsewhere.

Though we no longer accept unsolicited manuscripts or fiction, we continue to accept query letters and certainly appreciate your interest — as a reader and writer — in Mother Jones.

Thank you and take care,

Leslie Klein
intern

Writer's Guidelines

WHO WE ARE

Mother Jones, with a circulation of 110,000, is one of the largest progressive publications in the country. The national bimonthly magazine is known for its investigative journalism and exposés, and its coverage of social issues, public affairs, and popular culture. Most of the articles we print are written by freelancers.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Hard-hitting, investigative reports exposing government cover-ups, corporate malfeasance, scientific myopia, institutional fraud or hypocrisy, etc.

Thoughtful, provocative articles which challenge the conventional wisdom (on the right or the left) concerning issues of national importance.

Timely, people-oriented stories on issues such as the environment, labor, the media, health care, consumer protection, and cultural trends.

HOW TO QUERY US

Send us a letter proposing your story idea(s). Explain what you plan to cover and how you will proceed with the reporting. The query should convey your approach, tone, and style, and should answer the following: What are your specific qualifications to write on this topic? What "ins" do you have with your sources? Can you provide full documentation so that your story can be fact-checked?

Keep in mind that our lead time is three months and submissions should not be so time-bound that they will appear dated. If we, or another publication, have run a similar story in the last few years, explain how your story will differ.

If you have not contributed to *Mother Jones* before, please send two or three photocopies of previously published articles along with your query. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts or fiction. *Mother Jones* assumes no responsibility for unsolicited queries or manuscripts and will only respond to those accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Therefore, please do not query us by phone or fax.

RATES

Our current rate for commissioned stories is eighty cents per word. In "Outfront," the department devoted to short unreported (or underreported) news items, stories run 250-500 words. Short features run 1,200-3,000 words, and longer features run 3,000-5,000.

Back issues are \$5.00 and can be ordered through Reader Services, *Mother Jones*, 731 Market Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94103.