

Mrs. Marina Porter  
Box 220A  
Rockwall, TX 75087

12/7/90

Dear Mrs. Porter,

Although I never look at programs like Inside Edition, when I heard the promotion for it on a Washington station I did look at it. The promotion mentioned you only and advertised that you had something new and if I recall correctly sensational to say.

Instead you were exploited to promote David Lifton, on whom that segment really was. And he, despite his representations, is one of those who have been promoting themselves and their untenable theories with the inevitable result that the people are more confused and misinformed and the prospects of learning what really happened and why, never good, are worsened.

This is the opposite of what you told me your interest is and that is why I write. I let some time pass trying to make up my mind because I do not want you to think that I am trying to intrude into your affairs on the one hand and on the other hand have knowledge you do not have and can see that you acted against the interest of which you told me.

Most of those who advance these theories, often presenting them as factual when they never are, are rather nice people. Some are not, a minority. Almost all are sincere or give that impression. Some know better than they write and say but say and write what serves their purposes, not truth.

Unless you want personal attention or have no concern about being exploited to promote what you might not want to promote if you understood it fully and correctly, may I suggest a rule to you, one to which I have found no exception: those who advance theories about how JFK was assassinated are irresponsible and on fact wrong and most are interested only in promoting themselves and their interests.

I think that what finally made me decide to write you is being asked to offer an opinion on the new book published in Fort Worth, Jim Moore's Conspiracy of One. While I have no way of knowing whether or not he might try to involve you, I do know and have no reluctance in saying that it is a thoroughly dishonest and entirely incorrect self-promotion that, as you can deduce from the title, insists Lee was the lone psychopathological assassin. With his characteristic lack of modesty, Moore describes his book as the only "definitive" one. It is simply a frightfully rotten bit of invention with a little literary thievery, a really bad and indecent book.

Lifton is one of those who seek to persuade that they discovered sex and invented the wheel, so to speak. There is, however, not a single original fact in his Best Evidence. The theory is his and it is in all particulars impossible and he knew this when he made it up. The rest, at best, is second-best evidence because all the fact that he palms off as his work had been published many, many years earlier. But he sure is persuasive! And as amoral. And whatever he may have told you to persuade you to appear on that show, the reality is that it and you promoted his VCR cassette, which means promoting him and his business interests.

It is not pleasant to write you like this but it also isn't pleasant to see you taken advantage of, especially when that may be counter to the interests you expressed to me. I have and can have no ulterior purpose in this and if you think back, you'll realize that I've never asked anything of you and offered what help I might be able to. On balance I decided to risk being misunderstood on the chance it served your interest, as I sincerely believe it does. If you have any questions or want me to validate what I say, please feel free to ask and I'll provide it.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg

