

7627 Old Receiver Road
Frederick, Md. 21702
8/30/91

Editor
The Hollywood Reporter
6715 W. Sunset Blvd.,
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Editor,

As the enclosed copy of my letter to Oliver Stone after I received a copy of the Jay Carr interview indicates, Carr and Stone combined to sucker you and to convert your publication into puffery for what I regard as the great indecency and really obscenity Stone has in the works.

Frankly, I'm surprised that trade publications intending to publish on matters of controversy do not consult the existing public record to be certain they are not imposed upon and that in turn they do not impose upon the trust of their readers.

Stone has been saying anything that at any time seems to serve his immediate purpose, without regard for truth or his earlier and contradictory statements. It is not a figure of speech to say that he ~~can't~~^{doesn't} tell the truth even by accident.

If he had not launched his new movie with extensive publicity stating without equivocation that he was recording the history of the assassination for the people and in it would tell them who killed their President, why and how, there would be no limit to what the first amendment permits him to do. However, having said and repeated the very words I quote above, he has no legitimate objection ~~to~~^{to} informed criticism^s of what he is up to - and it is a gross commercialization and exploitation of that great tragedy - before his movie is out. After it is out is, as he knows, ^{it is} too late to avoid this newest deception of the people, this newest rewriting of our tragic history.

If as I hope you are not content to let this rest with your being suckered, you are welcome to access to all I have and to copies of the other letters I wrote Stone, the first long before he started shooting, when if he had been an honest man with honorable intentions, he could have abandoned the travesty on which his movie is in fact based.

If you have a Washington bureau, we are not much more than an hour from much of northwest Washington.

Please excuse my typing. I'm past 78 and in impaired health, with failing vision.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg
Harold Weisberg