

2/23/74

Dear Diane,

Your red, white and blue Lesson No. 6 came several days ago but I was too busy on a special project with a close due-date to be able to answer.

It enunciates basic truths I have never heard you express before. And it is in a style I would not say is exactly yours. However, the ring is not unfamiliar. So, write in sister.

That is if you think I need these lessons or others like them.

In that case, why start with six? Or do you think that because of my advancing years my education has to be hurried a bit?

Guess I can forego the first five.

Let me show you my appreciation by giving an unnumbered lesson off the top of the head. This one is headed "Let us unite and teach the truth to the Establishment." Each separate thought is a good one, especially the uniting. That is where it all started in this country, that is where all prospect of a better life begins, with people getting together. There is nothing more American. One thing that was not a lie in school is about those town meetings. Those who established this promising form of society had a genuine belief in working together for common and agreed-upon ends.

Truth is something like beauty, which exists only in the eye of the beholder. Truth is what each individual conceives it to be. Here what most people conceive to be truth is not what The Establishment does. It colors and distorts because it has its own special objectives and purposes.

It is something like trying to see straight through lenses that make it impossible.

Until those lenses are off, it is just impossible. So the real job is first in getting The Establishment to be willing.

I would like to think that what has happened and is happening in the country will speed the day. The Establishment people have nerves, as you and I do. But the nerves of different people are more sensitive in some places and less in others. You, for example, may have a nerve that is especially sensitive in a shoulder, I may have one that is more acute in an eye. But with The Establishment, they all have one nerve that is more sensitive in the same place. It is their Pocketbook Nerve. Where you may react fastest from that shoulder nerve or I from one in my eye, they all react strongly to any stimulation of that pocketbook nerve, positively and negatively.

It is almost as though all Establishmentarians were not individuals, from their reactions and what can make them react.

When it comes to teaching them, they learn more readily where they feel more strongly. Where they may not react to a humanitarian appeal, they will react to the stimulation of that pocketbook nerve. This, I think, is what lies behind some of the thought of some of those who consider themselves revolutionaries. (This is not saying that I believe them to be authentic revolutionaries and in fact I regard most if not all as immature.)

Of all the separate thoughts in your lesson, the one I believe most likely to serve a good end is unity. Where people have the same problems in common, it is easier for them to unite in their purposes. When they are united, they can do a better job of stimulating positive reactions.

Do not confused wealth and power with wisdom. The Establishment has demonstrated a remarkable capacity for not knowing where its real interest lies. As a class it cannibalizes itself as well as its natural prey. It is that crazy. At the moment this odd beast that learns so little and that with so much difficulty may begin to learn from what it has done to itself, through what its chose is doing and has done to it.

But in this is demonstrates a remarkable fear. If it were not so cowardly, so afraid to do what so obviously its own interest requires, we'd have a different government, would have months ago.

It is so used to making out descrite itself that it never stops to think.

If those who have trouble making out who are not part of it are to make out, they do have to stop and think, and it is here that teaching can be important. Too many people do not know how to think or what to think about instead of what it does little good to think about. They have to think about the right things the right way if they are to accomplish anything. And what may be the right thing and the right way at one moment may not at another.

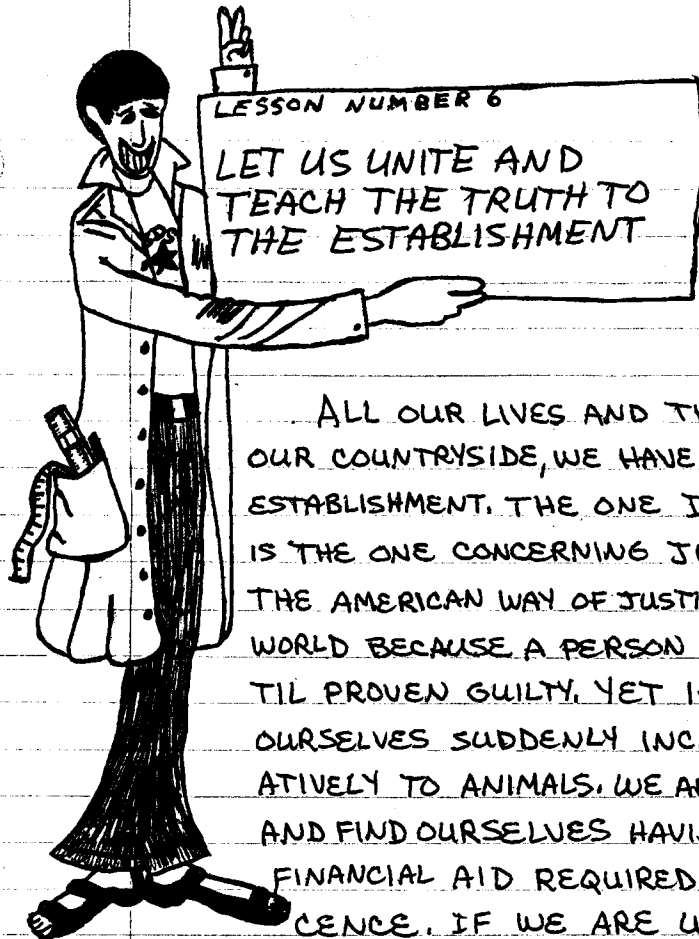
So, those who undertake to teach others must have good judgement and very sensitive instincts.

The charge of the Light <sup>Brigade</sup> was very dramatic. But it accomplished nothing, and the memorials to those who died in it do no good at all to those who did die in an act of consummate foolishness, not really bravery. The genuinely brave know what to fight about and when to fight and when not to. Fighting in itself is not the end. What is the end is accomplishing what one fights for. As it says in Ecclesiastes, there is a time and a place for everything. If they have bibles in your durance viles, and by this I mean your accomodations, for I suspect you have others, why don't you read that book of the old testament again? Its philosophy is ageless and it has survived the testing of the ages, which have eroded almost everything else.

Lessons like this are not what I would prefer to hear from you. You, however, have your own preference, which is not to address what I want you to. About this I can do no more than express my regret. And here your understanding can be enhanced by some other reading, if books are not considered dangerous down there: Oscar Wilde on friendship. Or do you remember that from school?

Shalom!

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ALL OUR LIVES AND THROUGHOUT SCHOOLS ACROSS OUR COUNTRYSIDE, WE HAVE BEEN TAUGHT LIES BY THE ESTABLISHMENT. THE ONE I FIND MOST PAINFUL THOUGH IS THE ONE CONCERNING JUSTICE. WE WERE TAUGHT THAT THE AMERICAN WAY OF JUSTICE IS THE GREATEST IN THE WORLD BECAUSE A PERSON IS CONSIDERED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY. YET IF WE GET ARRESTED, WE FIND OURSELVES SUDDENLY INCARCERATED AND TREATED COMPARATIVELY TO ANIMALS. WE ARE SUDDENLY CONDEMNED BY SOCIETY AND FIND OURSELVES HAVING TO SCRAPE UP THE COSTLY FINANCIAL AID REQUIRED TO TRY TO PROVE OUR INNOCENCE. IF WE ARE UNLUCKY TO BE ABLE TO FUND THIS CAMPAIGN THEN WE GET AWARDED A COURT APPOINTED ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT US, HIS SOLE INTEREST IN OUR CASE IS THE TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS HE WILL GET FROM THE STATE FOR TAKING IT. HE SHOWS UP IN COURT AT THE APPOINTED TIME SO HE CAN COLLECT HIS FEE AND WE ARE LUCKY IF HE EVEN REMEMBERS OUR NAME RIGHT FOR THE OCCASSION.

ANOTHER LIE TAUGHT BY THE ESTABLISHMENT CONCERNS BROTHERHOOD AND LOVE FOR OUR FELLOW MAN. EVEN IN THIS DAY AND AGE, THE ESTABLISHMENT STILL TEACHES DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ONE'S RACE, RELIGION, POLITICAL BELIEFS AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND. THE ESTABLISHMENT TAUGHT US TO BE COMPATIBLE WITH THESE INDIVIDUALS BUT NOT TO ASSOCIATE WITH THEM FOR IT WOULD DEGRADE OUR STATUS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. WE FOUND THEM TO BE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS INSTEAD. THEN THERE IS THE ESTABLISHMENT FABLE CONCERNING DEMOCRACY. WE KEPT HEARING ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF FREE,

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ENTERPRISE, YET, WHEN WE LOOK AROUND US, ALL WE FIND IS GREED.

WE WERE ALSO ONCE TAUGHT THE LIE THAT THE POLICEMAN IS OUR FRIEND, WHEN WE PROTEST OUR PROBLEMS OR PERHAPS GET INNOCENTLY INVOLVED IN A MISHAP, IT IS THIS FRIEND WHO BEATS US AND THROWS US IN JAIL.

ONE OF THE VERY LAWS OF THIS COUNTRY THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT HOLDS SACRED IS THE LAW GOVERNING FREEDOM OF SPEECH. YET WHEN WE GIVE VOICE TO SOME OF TODAY'S PROBLEMS, WE ARE TOLD TO BE QUIET UNLESS WE CAN SOLVE THEM. MANY OF THESE PROBLEMS WE GO UNAWARE OF UNTIL WE ARE SUDDENLY CONFRONTED AND CRUSHED BY THEM.

THE RESULT OF THESE FRAUDULENT TEACHINGS WE HAVE SPENT OUR LIVES LEARNING IS THE REVOLT BY MORE OPEN-MINDED FREE THINKING SPIRITS. MANY ARE IN PENAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER DETAINING FACILITIES SUCH AS JAILS ALL ACROSS AMERICA. SOME BEING FULL OF PENT UP HOSTILITIES AND FRUSTRATIONS HAVE CHOSEN TO REBELL VIOLENTLY. THE ESTABLISHMENT CHOOSES TO LABEL US ALL RADICALS BECAUSE OF THOUGHTS AND ATTITUDES. THEY CLAIM WE ARE SICK, BUT THESE ARE TRUTHS AND FACTS WE HAVE LEARNED THE HARD WAY. CAN WE TEACH THE ESTABLISHMENT THE BENEFITS OF OUR KNOWLEDGE? CAN YOU TEACH AN OLD DOG NEW TRICKS? WILL THEY AT LEAST HEAR MUCH LESS LISTEN? NO! NOT LIKELY!

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