

NEW ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701

2/21/68

Dear Mr. Levin,

When I was in California my wife informed me of your telegram. I was so busy, as I imagine you know if you heard my broadcasts, I did not have time to phone you. When David Lifton phoned me and told me he had been counselling with you and that he had had you insert some of the language in your letter I am glad that it was not possible for me to phone you, for it is better all around that this be in writing.

I accept your representations as a declaration of your own honorable intentions. If I had ever doubted them, I would not have engaged in a verbal understanding to begin with and one without the principal's signature thereafter.

However, the correct facts are these: The original offer was to pay my expenses. This was later confirmed when you presented the proper questions by your principal about my appearance if I had to be in New Orleans at that time. I never added any charges or costs to transportation, not even the usual ones of accommodations, for I did not expect to incur such costs.

It is inconceivable that this was originally planned as a daytime, school-only meeting, for you not only made clear that it was not but you explained the necessity of certainty before tickets were printed and advertising put out.

Despite his contrary protestations, Mr. Lifton is an associate of Mr. Liebeler. He told me that the real cause was that I had added charges to what you would have to pay. You know this is false. I believe it should inform you or his position in this matter, which was none of his business. He is not connected with your school or your class, is connected only with Mr. Liebeler.

Does it not surprise you that he knew of this debate? I did not inform him of it. Does it not surprise you that he suddenly appeared to give you advice on writing your letter? If you needed help, certainly it was available from your school officials or your parents.

This is, of course, an embarrassment for me, for I had to schedule my time to make it possible, and I made other commitments I will now not be able to keep. I repeat, I hold you personally faultless. At the same time, I reiterate that your letter of February 9 is not entirely consistent with reality.

We all learn a little from those things that go wrong. May I suggest that from this you might learn that you are able to handle your own affairs, with such advice as is normally required by high-school students? Mr. Lifton's intrusion was no kindness to you. It might have needlessly embroiled you in a dispute if I had any intention of making an issue of it.

Meanwhile, I do thank you for your promptness in letting me know.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

February 9, 1968


Dear Mr. Weisberg,

As stated in the telegram I sent you, I regret to inform you that the Cleveland High Debate scheduled for March 22 has been cancelled.

Let me assure you that the other participant in the debate and myself were not responsible for this unfortunate situation.

Last week, I was called into my principals office for a conference. The principal told me that she was very sorry but the debate could not go on. Her reason was the school decided that they were not at liberty to finance anyone to come to California to speak or otherwise. She also said that the debate would have to be during the school day. I realize as you stated previously that you will not pay your own airline fare, therefore, we have no alternative but to cancel the debate. It is very unfortunate that this was not brought to my attention earlier, however, I am not at liberty to question the administration as they have the final "say" in everything. I am sure they acted fairly and used the best judgement that they possibly could. Again, I am very sorry things turned out this way, however, I can only say I tried my hardest to remedy the situation. Thank you for all your cooperation, and perhaps in the future, we will be able to present such a debate to the public.

Sincerely,

  
Harvey Levin  
Boys' League President

Harvey Levin, 17801 Saticoy, Rededa, Calif. 91335  
213---344-9372

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HAROLD WEISBERG

RT 7 301-473-8186 FREDERICK MD

DEAR MR WEISBERG, REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT THE MARCH 22ND  
CLEVELAND HIGH DEBATE HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO ORDERS UNKNOWN  
TO ME UNTIL NOW, BY THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION. FURTHER DETAILS  
WILL FOLLOW, IN FUTURE LETTER. SINCERELY

HARVEY LEVIN BOYS LEAGUE PRESIDENT 17801 SATIOY RESEDA CALIF  
213-344-9372.