

Post  
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## More on the Presidential Pardon: In Support...

### Concurs

I wholeheartedly concur with President Ford's pardon of Richard M. Nixon. This man has already been tried in the courts of public opinion, has been found guilty, and has been sentenced to shame and disgrace not only for his remaining life but for all of history. What more do the American people want of this man? Do they want to nail him to the cross on some high hill, have the occasion televised for the whole world to see, meanwhile forgetting totally the many tremendous accomplishments he has to his credit while in office? I'm totally aghast at the vindictiveness of the American people under the thin guise of "equal justice."

I. J. Williams.

Washington.

### Splendid Move

In your September 12 edition you quoted that only 5 letters favoring the Nixon pardon had been received. Perhaps the reason is that when an objective one wishes has been achieved, there seems no reason to write in favor of it.

The President's decision to pardon his predecessor, though surprising in its timing, was a splendid move toward getting the country back on a normal path. It was a great shock to learn that some would have a fight forever—and over something about which they know only a smattering and over which they have no control. This continuing fighting because Nixon's body was not presented in the marketplace for flogging by all who wished is incomprehensible. And to think—these are some of the same people who laugh at "the South" because "... they continue to fight the Civil War..."

The news media should give President Ford a medal, however, for it was about to get back to routine reporting and column writing. Like Watergate, where else would one get as good a subject to stir up the country?

Eleanor Tarpley

Washington.

*Editor's Note: President Ford's decision to pardon Richard Nixon continues to generate letters of reaction and comment. As of Saturday afternoon, The Post had received 628 letters—597 opposing Mr. Ford's action and 31 favoring it. An initial sampling of the letters was printed here Thursday.*

### Act of Courage

It was an act of courage to pardon Mr. Nixon and bring on the wrath of the liberal commentators and columnists, thus endangering a few more weeks of peaceful coexistence. It would have been far easier to postpone such a controversial decision, but President Ford acted decisively and proved himself to be the kind of man that we need for President in these days when the world needs strong leadership.

A. G. Chavoor.

Washington.

### 'Justice Is Reasonable'

Laws are rules of conduct recognized as binding and enforceable by a controlling authority. Courts are established to enforce the law and to dispense justice. Justice is the impartial adjustment of claims by assigning rewards or punishment that is equal to the claim or crime. Justice is reasonable, fair and is equivalent to the crime. Man as part of a group is very sadistic and wants to see and enjoy blood being spilt. Remember history and the Roman punishment of the Christians; the brutality of war where life is not held sacred. Man is brutal to man and is his own predator.

In the case of Richard Nixon, what more can be done to punish the man? Can the courts assign any more punishment than society has already burdened the man with? Are we just showing our sadistic selves and calling for blood? When a man is dead is it necessary to dismember the body?

Richard Nixon has been pardoned of his crimes—the courts have been eliminated from the process—yet his

own personal agonies of the last several years will never be pardoned and his relationship to public service for society will never be resumed. What is there left for him? Is a court conviction of guilt and jail the ultimate in punishment or has the ultimate already been attained? Punishment is meant to disgrace the individual in public; hasn't public disgrace been reached for Richard Nixon?

Think... let us not be sadistic but accept the fact that punishment enough has been assigned. Let us not criticize President Ford for his humane actions, but turn the page in the history book and continue to meet other challenges and problems as efficiently but not as biasedly as the Nixon chapter.

Carolyn McHale,

Silver Spring.

### 'Wise Decision'

Thank God for President Ford and his wise decision to pardon Richard Nixon.

How is it possible for a simple act of mercy to arouse such a storm of protest?

The very fact that practically all the protests in Congress come from the Democrats seems to prove that they wanted Mr. Nixon prosecuted and dragged through the courts and then imprisoned, if possible, in an effort to destroy the image of the Republican party for years to come.

President Ford's move has spared the country such a divisive and humiliating spectacle.

Howard T. Keats.

Hyattsville.

### Faith Restored

President Ford's immunity for former President Nixon re-establishes my faith in the American system of government.

Your "brain washing" has not been too successful. You just lost your "pound of flesh and one gallon of blood" revenge.

Richard J. Haller.

Lancaster, Pa.