

Letters to the Editor of The Times

Robert F. Kennedy

To the Editor:

The murder of Robert Kennedy must not divert Americans from those urgent concerns which have been the focus of his public life and which are the basic source of this nation's sickness.

Gun-control legislation, campaign techniques, secret-service protection, and the exploitation of violence by the media are valid but secondary concerns.

Robert Kennedy's untiring commitment was directed at the fundamental social injustices which pervert American society. Watts, Appalachia, Oxford, the reservations of New Mexico and the vineyards of California were his constituency. Their needs continue.

Abstract appeals for harmony, for law and order, and for the morality of yesterday do not replace housing, jobs, education, tolerance and equal protection of the laws.

BARTLE BULL

New York City Co-ordinator,
N. Y. Citizens for Kennedy
New York, June 6, 1968

To the Editor:

Why should anyone be surprised at the shooting of a Martin Luther King or a Robert Kennedy? It is a matter of cause and effect. The only mystery would be if these things did not happen. They are not only understandable, they are inevitable.

The daily highlighting and detailing of inflammatory divisions, hatreds, violence and crime over TV and other news media, not excepting our most respected newspapers, is as certain to beget such results.

It calls for a mighty moral revolution from bottom to top in our national life. TV and the news media could be the channel for it—not painting rosy pictures, but highlighting colorfully and imaginatively the thrilling, constructive news being made every day. Otherwise these tragedies will and are bound inevitably to continue.

CHARLES H. HAINES
Mount Kisco, N. Y.,
June 5, 1968