

Editor's Mail Box**Presidential pardon**

To the editor:

By pardoning Nixon at this time, President Ford has undermined our faith in American justice and spent whatever good will he commanded. His action smacks of a deal. There must be someone in this country to serve as President who cannot be bought. We shall seek such a candidate for 1976.

JOSEPH and NANCY REYNES
Sonoma

President Ford's pardon of Richard Nixon was a courageous and compassionate act that will help unite the nation. Now similar courage, compassion and concern for full and free amnesty is needed to bring our young men in Canada back home. As with Nixon the issue is not as much right or wrong, vindication or punishment, as it is simply what will let us all get on together.

JAEB SAWYER
Berkeley

How hideous the truths that must be concealed from the American people. What a rape of justice! We begin our fight on crime by excusing the accused. Another Pearl Harbor from the start!

Nixon has reneged, defaulted and polluted the oath of the Presidency in words, thought and deeds . . . We are witnessing not the mercy of justice but its murder.

BEN MALLIA
San Francisco

Ex-President Richard Nixon hasn't served our country honestly and now that he is a private citizen he should be treated as such. Many of those under him have been indicted for wrongdoing. So why should he not receive the same treatment?

ELIZABETH KITJEN
San Francisco

Reiteration of the many overwhelming objections to this rash action would accomplish little . . . However the body blow that President Ford has dealt to equal justice under the law for *all* men in this nation cannot be deplored too strongly or too often . . . Beyond this wrongful act lies the frightening new knowledge that we have a President whose decisions may, at any time, be made solely on the basis of his emotions and subjective reasoning . . .

DR. LELAND H. JOHNOSON
and three others
San Francisco

Congratulations to President Ford for pardoning former President Nixon. By his action he has taken the nails and the hammer out of the hands of the news media, as they were about to conduct the final phases of the crucifixion of the ex-President . . . I do not think the American people would tolerate seeing their former President going to jail while Ellsberg, who gave

secret to the enemies of the United States is set free . . .

RUDOLPH M. DiCARLO
San Francisco

Gerald R. is just another Ford that needs to be recalled due to a defective part.

LEN GILMORE
San Francisco

The American people should shout for joy to learn that President Ford has decided to grant a full pardon. I wonder why he doesn't do the same for the rest of Nixon's cronies. Dean is serving time and yet he's the only one of the clan who had guts enough to tell the truth . . . I really can't see that Nixon has suffered at all . . .

PAUL TRIPP
San Mateo

How can President Ford pardon Richard Nixon when 14 of those Nixon employed have already gone to jail?

R. SCOTT COCHRANE
Oakland

Yes — he sure has courage! The Chapquiddick kid, Teddy Kennedy, sounding off about a double standard of justice!

NICHOLAS PAWLAK
Menlo Park

Today, there are tears of shame on the face of the Statue of Liberty. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights are blurred and obscured . . . For justice has died.

PEGGY McGOVERN
San Francisco

I don't believe that most reasonable people will question President Ford's assertion that his decision to pardon Nixon for any crimes he may have committed . . . was motivated by Ford's genuine sense of compassion and what he construed to be in the best interest of the nation. However I believe that most reasonable people will question the wisdom of this action coming as it does before Nixon has actually been indicted for a crime . . . Worse still is the damage it may have done to President Ford's credibility . . .

BRUCE W. NUSBAUM
San Francisco

TODAY'S QUOTE

"There is a difference between a nuclear country and a nuclear weapons country: We don't have any bombs and we don't intend to use this knowledge or power for any other than peaceful purposes."—Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India