

Editor — The apology of Harold Eggers for the pardon of Richard Nixon, deserves a rebuttal.

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President Nixon was of course pardoned for any and all crimes he may have committed, not merely those of a political nature having no element of personal gain as averred by Eggers. Ergo, it is conceivable that he could have been convicted for income tax fraud and a variety of other felonies as to which his assorted associates have now been tried and convicted. The charges brought by the Congress were not confined to some political oriented violations and these were by no means the full spectrum of violations of law with which he could have been charged sans the unpardonable pardon.

The bottom line is that this affair disclosed a flagrant disregard for equal justice under law which is the cornerstone of our form of government. No expediency or potential travail, however grave the consequences, could toll that fundamental principle without a more serious and far-reaching effect upon the quality of law obedience and enforcement, in my view. Apparently, most Americans share this opinion, instinctively, and we doubt if this questionable act will ever be forgiven by those who respect equal justice.

President Ford had a unique opportunity to set a fine example of American justice and law enforcement and the simple fact is that he blew it. Any attempt to justify injustice is just so much specious nonsense and we are confident that the public will so view it for a long time to come.

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