

5 September 1971

Dear Harold:

This concerns the carbon of your memo on what you found in the archives about the shirt and jacket, forwarded with a note dated Aug. 19.

We disagree with your language on page G regarding Specter not because of the four-letter word in itself but because it distracts from your actual meaning, or what we think is your meaning. Furthermore, you proceed to mix your metaphor, changing sex in midstream as it were.

The problem is that you use the word in the sense clearly indicated by your parenthetical insert, that of insemination, which, by the way, is an undeniably male function. However the word itself has come to have a meaning -- in our admittedly male chavunist pig society -- more restricted to the violent implications of rape, rather than normal, citizen-type fucking. Therefore we feel this implication of violent violation of an unwilling victim is out of place on two counts. First, there is no great indication ~~the~~ ^{the} victim was unwilling, and second, we feel you really are saying that Specter was planting the big lie, or the key to it, the first step in a kind of brainwashing process in which the Commission and history would be totally misled. And we're not sure what you mean by "in ~~this~~ guilty lust." ~~Lust~~ Lust for what? We accept the probability that he was guilty of perpetrating a fraud and knew it. If his motive was personal advancement or gain, or whatever, this should be made clear.

In the next sentence you mix your metaphors and say this is perhaps the first time in ~~a~~ legal history that a single man is both pimp and whore. A whore cannot inseminate, and I find the suggestion that even so flexible a character as Mr. Specter/^{can do so} somewhat distracting from your real point, which ~~is~~ is that he not only prostituted his own honor but that of the Commission as well. I know that's clumsy, and do not suggest it ~~as~~ as a replacement, but I question whether Mr. Specter is all that original. There are male whores, of course, but I don't think that fits ~~right~~ either.

Sorry not to be more helpful.

More elsewhere,



jdw