


Dec. 17th,

Dear Judge Garity:

Perhaps too many of us who approve your actions on this Boston school desegregation issue are silent. But there are many of us who are with you.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I sent in recently to our local papers. Maybe another small voice may help.

Sincerely,



^rFriday evening at the Harvard Business School Teaching In
against Racism, Jonathan Kozol made it clear it was time for
concerned citizens to speak out if we hope to prevent
devastating defeat to the progress in race relations
achieved in the 1960's. So I have to speak out in utter
dismay at what I find in Boston today. After an absence of
three years I return to find Boston the most racist city in
the country. This is appalling! Where is the Boston that
produced William Lloyd Garrison and Wendell Phillips who
fired the spark for abolition? What became of the Boston
that raised a monument to Crispus Attucks -- the first
American to die in the Revolution?

Parents of South Boston - is the talk in your homes
filled with racism and hatred? If it is - as surely as
night follows day - it will erupt in stabbings and rioting
amongst your children on the school play-ground. You are
creating the very atmosphere that endangers your child.

As a Cantabridgian with Irish blood in my veins, let
me quote from an Irish editor who wrote for "The Pilot"
in the 1880's/. He believed in the American Dream.
Speaking before a black gathering in Boston, John Boyle
O'Reilly championed the Negro:


"No man ever came into the world with so grand an opportunity as the American Negro. He has all the qualities that fit him to be a good Christian citizen of any country."

Again:

"If my children were not allowed into Northern schools - if I myself were not allowed into Northern Hotels - I would ~~change~~ my party and my politics every day until I changed and wiped out that outrage."

Would that some of our Irish Boston politicians of today would have this faith in blacks and grant them justice and fair play.

For shame, Boston, for shame! You are denying your own great heritage.


Cambridge, Mass.