

15 Nov. 1954

The Honorable Thomas Stanley
Governor
State of Virginia
Richmond, Virginia

NOV 17 1954

Dear sir,

I was interested to read your recent comments reported in local newspapers as to the desires of the people of Virginia in respect to school segregation. I believe you stated that the overwhelming majority of the people of Virginia favored continued school segregation.

I wish hereby to be recorded with the "minority" in this instance. Both myself and my wife believe that the decision of the Supreme Court was proper, and best for the country. If properly carried out, it can be good for Virginia.

I am reminded of some words of President Lincoln. In effect, he said: "As I would not like to be a slave, neither would I be master." I think his words might be paraphrased in this day and age as follows: "As I would not like to be inferior, I will not try to claim to be superior."

I believe further that this is a Christian and law-abiding nation. Both the principles of Christianity and the law of our land point toward elimination of racial segregation.

As it seems fashionable to question the right of the citizens of northern Virginia to have opinions about state affairs, I think it only expedient that I point out that I have been a resident of Alexandria or Fairfax County since 1946; of West Virginia from birth until 1941; and had at least one ancestor who served in the Revolutionary Army.

One of my children begins elementary school this fall. I believe it would be to her advantage to become acquainted with school children of both races in her community, as it will be for my younger daughter when she becomes of school age. I trust she will have this opportunity.

Respectfully yours,

Carl E. Auvil
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Falls Church, Va.