

February 10, 1969

Grinnell College

Dear _____

You have been identified as one of a group of students who dis-
robed in Gates lounge on the Grinnell campus last Wednesday,
February 5, with the stated purpose of protesting the visit of
a Playboy magazine representative and his magazine's unsavory
commercial exploitation of womanhood.

By a process of reaction that by now has become very familiar
to college campuses, the incident has done harm to the college's
educational effort by damaging its public reputation. Most
probably, your action will finally have less impact on the
problems you describe than it will in confirming many in their
belief that appearances do count, that the college "looks bad",
and that when its good action is publicized, even that will be
somehow suspect. At any rate we do make the point that your
action has left the human issues less usefully defined, and in
some quarters has generated a reaction antagonistic to the col-
lege and to its educational goals.

On a personal level, we note that the problems generated by a
conflict of this sort (that is, problems created by doing im-
pulsive damage to the institution that you presumably are bene-
fitting from) are becoming steadily more complex.

We are sending a copy of this letter to your parents and would
invite you and/or your parents to discuss the implications of
this incident with us.

Sincerely yours,

Alice Low
Dean of Students

S. Eugene Thompson
Dean of Students

cc: Mr. _____
2475 _____
San Diego, California 92120

Mr. _____
2500 _____
Oklahoma City, Okla. 73112