

October 20, 1972

Polk State School and Hospital
Polk,
Tennessee

Mr. Mike Levine
KDKA-Radio Station
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Most evenings I usually end up being tuned in on the Mike Levine Show and have recently heard you make mention of Polk State School and other state institutions. to the side you apparently have with respect to phone communication between patients and parents.

I thought you would be interested in seeing the attached copy of my letter to Dr. McClelland of Polk, whom I admire greatly for the neat things he has done for my daughter during the past thirteen years she has been a resident there. Communications between patients and parents are crucially important. Quite inadvertently, I apparently found a sensitive spot at Polk when I tried to phone my daughter to explain why Daddy couldn't come up for Circus Day. Incidentally, while the letter consisted of two pages and eight paragraphs, the only acknowledgement I have received so far from Dr. McClelland has been relating to the third paragraph, acknowledging my check for her immediate needs and my plan to take her on a larger shopping expedition. His response totally ignored all of the other seven paragraphs, however, I do plan to pursue this a little further.

In my particular instance, however, my daughter has specifically requested that I visit her on Circus Day. My wife's situation of OVERLY MANUFACTURING COMPANY is such to come up and felt that for my daughter's welfare and general health, it would be beneficial if I were to communicate with her via phone. I am just why I am unable to attend the circus on that day.

H. W.

When you and your staff have made with me the past thirteen years, I also feel that in changing these rules, invariable rules, such as the communications rule, etc., etc., they need to be reexamined and reworked. And since that, I feel that many of your patients and their families would receive substantial emotional and psychological benefits if there was communication other than via correspondence via envelope, with limits.

Bob/31