

cc - Gov. Shapp

1407 Carter Place  
West Chester, Pa. 19380  
April 27, 1973

Mrs Helene Wolgemuth  
Pa. Dept. of Welfare  
Harrisburg, Pa.

As a taxpaying citizen of the State of Pennsylvania I take strenuous objection to your high-handed, arbitrary action in firing the head of that retarded persons home near Pittsburgh. Who do you think you are, in terms of judgment, versus a respected, qualified professional person in the handling of those poor unfortunate people? Does your intelligence(?) go beyond the "motherhood statement" of "not keeping human beings in cages," to understand that the safety of others is more important than confinement of potentially violent individuals? Does not "hurt" a person who doesn't have responsibility for his own actions to be confined thusly, as it does the one who is injured if the irresponsible one is let loose to do physical harm! My child was never impaired or damaged mentally or otherwise because he was put in a pen to play.

I suggest that instead of retreating to your plush office in Harrisburg after playing God in your do-good fashion that you spend some time managing such a home for retarded, and get first hand experience in doing what is best for society in general at the expense of inconvenience for a few before you remove competent people from their jobs.

signed - J. A. Robertson