

January 27, 1953

Mr. Groucho Marx  
1150 So. Beverly Drive  
Los Angeles 35, California

Dear Mr. Marx:

I was most happy to have your letter. Especially so because you are the one Democrat with whom over the years I have been able to join in real heart-expanding and soul-enriching enjoyment. So many of the Democrats are funny, but in a rather expensive way. You always have given me my money's worth.

I am doubly happy because I will be set up with my children very considerably, since I have received a letter from their favorite motion-picture actor.

Seriously, I appreciated your comments because I am facing the same situation, although in a minor way, that you are. It seems that almost everything I say in my three newspaper columns and in Newsweek every week elicits fanatical letters from people, usually not addressed to me but to the editors, advocating my speedy retirement to private life or, in some cases, my demise by some violent means. If the management of Newsweek were to be as cowardly as CBS was in the case of Kaufman, I would now be in the army of the unemployed.

It is irritating, too, because so often we have letters of that sort without any compensating comment from people who agree with us. The sad thing about human life is that when you do what is normal and proper and good, people take it for granted. It is when they disagree that they become articulate.

I have, I may add, been watching your television show and I want to comment you on the fair and quiet but amusing way with which you handle serious subjects. I have never seen you take an unfair advantage of an amateur on that show.

Sincerely yours,

*Groucho Marx*

January 9, 1953

Mr. Raymond Moley  
Los Angeles Times  
202 West 1st Street  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Moley:

Since I am a democrat I rarely get a chance to agree with you, but your column on George Kaufman struck fire.

It's getting increasingly tough to say anything. The slightest complaint from the daffiest bigot will scare a sponsor to death. Pretty soon all that will be left to satirize will be the weather, and even then we will probably get a squawk from California and Florida.

Sincerely,

*Groucho Marx*

EH