

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 1970

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear John:

I am not only not pleased by your letter, I am genuinely troubled by it. It seems to me yet another example of a persistent pattern of biased treatment of the Administration by public television. I would not say this to many persons, but I will say it to you.

Consider the implications of the casting of the forthcoming debate on the question of a guaranteed minimum income which will appear on The Advocates.

One President and only one President has proposed such a scheme. His name is Richard Nixon. His bill has passed the House and is now before the Senate. Who do you choose to oppose the idea? Naturally, an economist who was Special Assistant to President Nixon when the Family Assistance Program was devised. (He was an associate of Dr. Burns who -- it is hardly a secret -- opposed the plan.) And now who do you get to support the idea? A member of President Johnson's Commission on Income Maintenance. My respect for President Johnson is surely as great as yours, but you know perfectly well the previous administration would not go near the subject. If you think otherwise, ask John Gardner.

Your audience will be liberal to left in its politics. They will be for the Guaranteed Income. They will see it opposed by an appointee of President Nixon's and defended by an appointee of President Johnson's. A Reagan Republican will side with the Nixon man, and a Minnesota liberal will side with the Johnson lady.

I leave the White House every bit as much a Democrat as when I entered. But, dear Sir, I also leave profoundly uncertain of the moral and intellectual capacity of institutional liberals to defend the standards of liberal enquiry.

Best,

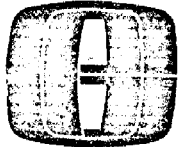
Daniel P. Moynihan  
Counsellor to the President

Honorable John W. Macy, Jr.  
President  
Corporation for Public Broadcasting  
888 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20006

PS: I will watch the show and am prepared to take it all back on Wednesday morning. But I doubt I shall have to.

**bcc:** H. R. Haldeman  
Len Garment  
Peter Flanigan  
John Ehrlichman

**DPM/crm**



CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

888 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Phone: 202/293-6160

1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019. Phone: 212/582-2020

JOHN W. MACY, JR.,  
President

Reply to Washington

November 25, 1970

Dr. Daniel P. Moynihan  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

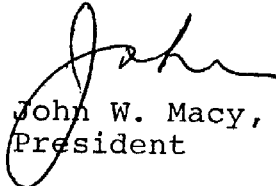
Dear Pat:

Because of your interest in welfare reform, I thought you would appreciate knowing that on Tuesday, December 1, public television's award winning debate series, The Advocates, will explore the question of guaranteed minimum income as a solution to the poverty problem in America.

Guest witnesses opposing the guaranteed minimum income plan will be Mr. Roger A. Freeman, economist and former Special Assistant to President Nixon, and Honorable Ronald Reagan, Governor of California. The Honorable Barbara Jordan, State Senator from Texas and member of President Johnson's Commission on Income Maintenance, and Professor Theodore Marmor, Associate Director of the School of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota will defend the need for such a plan.

This program, which will be broadcast on public television stations nationwide, will be shown on WETA-TV, Channel 26 on Tuesday, December 1, at 9:00 pm. I hope you will have an opportunity to view this program and will find it of interest.

Sincerely yours,

  
John W. Macy, Jr.  
President