



STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Genetics

April 24, 1970

To: Members of Panel 20: Biology and the Future of Man
Committee on Research in the Life Sciences

The final edited version contains, as you may already have noted, a number of significant changes (see especially pp. 892 and 907 relating to DDT and oral contraceptives, respectively) compared to the text that we approved. I do not necessarily take strong exception to them, but personally do not wish to be associated with them, particularly as they may be used as polemical ammunition in a number of current controversies. But I do not wish to embarrass Phil Handler nor the Academy either.

I believe that embarrassment is inevitable if we simply ignore the question until we are challenged strongly.

For that reason, I urge you to subscribe to the attached letter. Curt Stern favors this procedure, but has not yet seen the text that I am sending out herewith.

You may, of course, prefer to alter the text of the proposed letter. If you have sufficiently strong feelings, please effect them by circulating a proposed revision to the entire group. The signatures should, I feel, be presented in alphabetical order.

Please let me know soon.

Sincerely yours,


Joshua Lederberg