



YALE LAW SCHOOL
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*re agency
of Peace Williams correspondence*

October 10, 1969

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2)

This is obviously a huge subject.
I must ask you to make some effort to understand my position as a precondition of legitimate comment on it; and I am afraid this may entail some work, at least until I get my own book out. I do enclose a pile of material selected for its relevance.

I will have some more explicit material on "Controls for Genetic Experimentation" in a couple of days (weeks?) and will send it on.

Do recall what Freud had to say about psychoanalysis. I think there is a legitimate parallel to ask what controls should there be on psychiatric investigation and practice.

I tend to have a somewhat paradoxical, talmudical or spinozistic style -- call it what you will -- please do not confuse my ventilation of a subject in what I try to keep a detached mood, with affirmative advocacy of an action program.

My BAS article explores some of the basic difficulties in establishing normative goals for eugenic (or algenic) programs. However, even non-action is a genetic policy too.

Some bibliographic notes are attached.

For a reciprocal favor, would you send me any titles you have run into on Prometheus as a mythical basis of our theme. Say post-Shelley (Frankenstein, the new Prometheus).

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Cordially yours,

Jay Katz, M.D.
Professor (Adjunct) of Law
and Psychiatry

*also
N.H.C.*

I am enclosing a set of my columns on the subject, which embody most of what I have published on this theme. However, JK/kl

I am writing up my 1969 Silliman lectures for publication next year, and that ms. should have some additional material of interest to you.

I hope you will carefully distinguish between controls on the enlargement of human knowledge versus its technological application. Also, many youngsters confuse the hope that sometimes arises that we had never known anything about some particular subject with the expectation that thought control can maintain an ignorance that remains blissful without side effects. I particularly recommend the 2 recent reports by an NAS panel on technology assessment, and by a Library of Congress team for Repr. Baddario.

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