



STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Department of Genetics  
Professor Joshua Lederberg

February 12, 1970

Mr. Hugh M. Pease  
6114 Ramshorn Place  
McLean, Va. 22101

Dear Mr. Pease:

I have been giving more thought to the issues raised in your letter of Sept. 20 than you would have any reason to suspect. A somewhat related question, the significance of ideology for the well-being of the species, permeated the Stockholm conference from which I wrote the column to which you responded. You may correctly surmise that I am somewhat suspicious of ideological movements, but I would be blind to decry their power.

My more recent column, enclosed, is again a partial answer to your challenge. I would be the first<sup>to</sup> admit how confused it is.

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Your letter suggested that some "recent writings appear to be fumbling for a more positive concept". I would be interested to know what you had in mind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joshua Lederberg".

LT. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, JR. LABORATORIES FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE  
dedicated to the study of mental retardation

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