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Teenager

10/2/57
September 29, 1957

My Dear President Eisenhower,

I am what you might call a typical teen-ager. Lately I've been reading the newspapers more carefully and I'm finally realizing what a great and wonderful leader America has.

I am an American, and I can proudly say that and mean it. A person cannot be a true American and not believe in equal rights. He is not worthy of walking of living or thinking on American soil, nor attending American schools, nor entering a Christian church if he does not believe as an American.

There is no such a thing as a
slave or people of different colored
skins in God's sight.

Please believe me President Eisenhower
I do not wholly condemn these trouble-
makers. They were instilled with
this racial hatred since they were young.

It's so hard to unlearn something that
is so deeply imbedded. I feel confident
though that if these people would read
the Constitution and the Declaration
of Independence, and ask our God to
judge their thinking, many heads
would be hung in shame.

The hardest words in the world
to say are "I'm sorry" or "I was wrong."

I'm truly sorry for the people who

don't believe in equal rights for all
because they are in a sense "Men
without a Country." These ignorant
people need much more help than
you and I can ever give them my
dear President.

Soon I will be getting married
and when I do, my children will be
taught that there is no superior race
or clan of people.

Our Senior class is coming to
Washington the last of May for our
annual senior trip. More than anything
I would like to meet you. But since
this will probably be impossible I
only hope that you will personally
read my letter.

God bless you President
Eisenhower and all the good you
stand for.

Sincerely,
Dana Anderson