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## J.M. Dabbs to Professor Silver, 5 June 1959

J. M. Dabbs

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Professor James Silver  
Department of History  
University of Miss., Oxford, Miss.

June 5, 1959

Dear Professor Silver:

Professor Paul Pfuetze, of the University of Georgia, has suggested that you might be able to give me some information on a subject in which I am interested. The magazine Commentary has asked me to write an article on the effect of the 1954 Supreme Court school decision and the resultant crisis in the South upon freedom of thought here, especially in the colleges and universities. I can do this, of course, only with the help of people connected with these institutions, especially with those where the issue has been raised.

I would of course not use your name in anything I might write.

I am not trying to make a statistical study; I am merely trying to get such information as will make possible the kind of article Commentary publishes. If you are willing to help me, I should appreciate your comments about the situation in the college, or colleges, you know. Has there been a change since 1954? Are teachers free in the class-room but restricted in public expression? How are these restraints imposed? Are any of them imposed by the state? To what degree is there an acceptance of restrictions without any feeling that they are being imposed? These questions suggest—and suggest only—the kind of material that at present seems to me important.

I hope I can get enough information to warrant writing the article for Commentary, and shall appreciate such information as you, at your convenience, can give me.

Sincerely,

  
J.M. Dabbs.