

1991

Iannone, Carol: National Council on the Humanities Nomination (1991): Correspondence 17

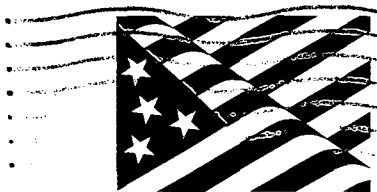
R. P. Held

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Sen. Clayborne Pell
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91 JUL 20 PM 10:07

July 18, 1991

Dear Senator Pell,

As one old enough to have lived through two book burnings in Europe: One by the Nazis and the other by their heirs the Communists as a way to stamp out opposition to their odious creed. I can not help but to compare these to the Iannone rejection to the NEH by your gang of 'moral' desperadoes. (I almost appended 'and intellectual', but any gathering in which an Edward Kennedy and a Barbara Mikulski are full partners, it is devoid of any taint of or pretense to intellect, by definition.)

Carol Iannone's sole transgression is her ability to expose the meretricious and the intellectual fraud, so dear to your ilk: That everything scribbled by a harridan berserker or a black hack must be idolized, and established norms of literary criticism must not be applied.

It is perverse indeed, that Marxism today survives on two dunghills abroad : Cuba and North Korea, but in the US it flowers in Academia in general and in the Modern Language Association in particular. It is discouraging that these frauds, these pathological haters of America can look to the Democrats to do their dirty work for them, as you just have.

Carol Iannone dares to stand up for values and ideas, which your ilk in Washington have whored away (how else could the Knight of Chappaquidick chair your committee?). In such a universe no room for the intellectually honest and the talented. Ultimately the perverse logic prevailed in the hands of the perverted and Carol Iannone is out (but alive), - which on balance is perhaps still better than to have been invited for a drink and a drive along the ocean by the Honorable Chairman of your esteemed Committee!.....

Yours


R.P.Held