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May 18, 1992

Mr. Joseph E. Connarton
City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk
City of Cambridge, City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Connarton:

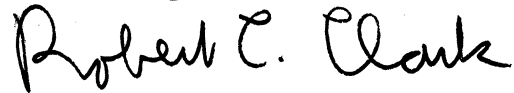
I write in response to the letter of May 7, 1992 written by John E. Flynn, enclosing a copy of a resolution of the City Council regarding the parody, published in the Harvard Law Revue, of Mary Joe Frug's article. I appreciate Mr. Flynn's sending me that resolution, and I hope in turn that you will circulate this letter to the members of the City Council.

The parody of Mary Joe Frug's article, written by some members of the Harvard Law Review, was deeply offensive to faculty, staff, and students at the Harvard Law School. (The parody was not published in the Harvard Law Review, but rather in a dinner program (titled the Harvard Law Revue) circulated privately at the annual dinner of the Harvard Law Review. That does not, of course, excuse its contents.) I personally condemned it, as did many others. (See the attached Memoranda.) Mary Joe Frug was a respected academic and a personal friend. Her murder shook our community. The parody was a terrible affront to her memory and to her family and friends.

I do not share the view, expressed by the Resolution, either that the Law School Administration is hostile to minorities and women, or that such alleged hostility caused the publication of this horrible parody. Nor do I believe there is an adequate basis for others to have made such statements. At the same time, the publication of the parody has given rise to many discussions here at Harvard Law School about how to make the climate among students and for students more civil and welcoming for all. The faculty has met as a body to discuss this matter, and thereafter the school held an open forum, widely attended by faculty, stu-

dents, and staff, to discuss these issues. The Harvard Law Review itself is engaged in efforts to ensure that the climate at the Harvard Law Review also is more civilized and welcoming and will not again give rise to such a publication. Trying to maintain here at the Harvard Law School an atmosphere in which all students, staff, and faculty feel welcome is an important commitment of the school, and we shall do our best to discharge it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert C. Clark". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Robert C. Clark
Dean

CONSENT COMMUNICATION #1

Communication from Robert C. Clark, Dean,
Harvard Law School, in acknowledgement
of a resolutions adopted by the City
Council regarding the article on Mary
Jo Frug in the Harvard Law Revue.

In City Council,

June 1, 1992

Placed on file