

Mayor Frank Duehay
City Hall
795 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge MA 02139

April 12, 1996

Dear Mr. Duehay,

Please find enclosed the names of 202 people who signed the following statement.

On January 30, Harvard University Extension School photography student Toni Marie Angeli began serving 30 days in jail for disorderly conduct and destruction of property. Zona Photographic Laboratories had called Cambridge police to question Angeli about photographs she made of her unclothed 4-yr-old son for a class project she titled "Innocence in Nudity." Hearing detectives accuse her of child pornography and threaten the removal of her child to state custody, Angeli forcibly resisted arrest. Judge Roanne Sagrow sentenced her to 18 months probation, community service, and an order of restitution. Angeli refused the sentence, on the grounds that to accept it admitted guilt. She was immediately sent to MCI-Framingham, the state's medium security women's correctional facility.

We in the arts community share the anxiety that all responsible people feel about the protection of children. However, if we suspect pornography and abuse in all images of children's bodies, we will lose the freedom to see and enjoy a great human subject, in works of art as well as in personal records of family life. Displaced fear now clouds our ability to distinguish between documents of child abuse and our celebrations of children's beauty.

As Americans we insist on the protection of images by the First Amendment. As taxpayers we protest the diversion of scarce resources from cases of real child abuse to fabrications like the case against Angeli. As citizens we protest the abuses of power represented by the overreaction of the Cambridge Police and the inexplicable harshness of Judge Sagrow's sentences. As parents and concerned adults we deplore the only genuine child abuse in this regrettable affair: the unnecessary 30-day separation from his mother of a 4-year old boy.

Cynthia M. Alexander, Wellesley College, MA
Pamela Allara, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
Natalie Alper, artist
Alexandra Anderson, AICA, New York, NY
Lasse B. Antonsen, University Art Gallery, U.Mass./Dartmouth
Emily Apter, UCLA
Susanne Arnold, Fairfax, VA
Ashley Atkins
Aaron Augenblick, Numbersign Foundation, Boston
L. Austin, Upper Marlboro, MD
Debra Balken, independent critic and curator
Richard Bambout, Yale University, New Haven, CT
Miles Barth, International Center of Photography, New York, NY
Beverley Becker, University of Chicago Press
Becky Bedell, Wellesley College
Carl Belz, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University
Bettina Bergman, Mount Holyoke College, So. Hadley, MA
Patricia Berman, Wellesley College
Josh Bernstein, Numbersign Foundation, Boston
Sheryl Best, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Laura Blacklow, artist, Cambridge, MA
Laurel Bradley, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Nathaniel Bradley, artist
Steve Bradley, University of Maryland, Baltimore
Bill Burke, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Sheila Levrant de Bretteville, Yale University School of Art
Deborah Bright, Rhode Island School of Design
Joy Broom, art instructor
Kathleen Butler, U. of Ca. at Berkeley
Susan Cahan, Deputy Director, The New Museum of Contemporary Art
Nancy Campbell, Mount Holyoke College, So. Hadley, MA
Susan M. Canning, College of New Rochelle
Nick Capasso, DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA
Margaret D. Carroll, Wellesley College
Christina Causl, Bromfield Gallery, Boston
Madeline H. Caviness, Tufts University
Tina Cheung, Pratt Institute, NY
Ruth C. Clarke, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Judith Colton, Yale University
Gregory Conniff, photographer, Madison, WI
Erica Daborn, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Michael T. Davis, Mt. Holyoke College, So. Hadley, MA
Jessica Davison, student, Monserrat College of Art
Jason Dean, Numbersign Foundation, Boston
Penny Dell, Old Church Cultural Center, Demarest, NJ
Laura DeNormandie, Davis Museum, Wellesley College
Mindy Dewart, Brookline, MA

Mario Diacono, Mario Diacono Gallery, Boston
Garrett Diamond, Numbersign Foundation, Boston
Arthur Dion, Gallery NAGA, Boston
Marianne Doezema, Mt. Holyoke College Museum of Art
Elsa Dorfman, photographer, Cambridge, MA
Janis Ekdahl, Museum of Modern Art, New York
Susan Emerson, Yale University
Kristen Erickson, Smith College Museum of Art
Peter Fergusson, Wellesley College
Richard S. Field, Yale University Art Gallery
Barry Friedman, Barry Friedman Ltd., New York, NY
Howard Fussiner, artist
Lucy Flint-Gohlke, Davis Museum
Barbara Brennan Ford, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
Corinne Fryhle, Davis Museum
Judith Hoos Fox, Davis Museum
Judi Freeman, independent curator
Alice T. Friedman, Wellesley College
John Fuller, SUNY-Oswego
Ronald Glowen, Seattle, WA
Marian Goethals, Williams College Art Museum
Judy Ann Goldman, Boston
Frank Gohlke, photographer
Barbara E. Gurth, Kennewick, WA
Cynthia Hadzi, Cambridge, MA
Dmitri Hadzi, artist, Cambridge, MA
Gillis Reenhill Ham, Purchase, New York
Gillian Greenhill Hannum, Manhattanville College
Carla Hanzal, International Sculpture Center, Washington, DC
Kathleen Harleman, Davis Museum
Donna Harkavy, independent curator
Bunny Harvey, Wellesley College
Anne Hawley, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, MA
Thom Haxo, artist
Sam Heath, independent curator, Dallas, TX
Robert Herbert, Mount Holyoke College
Santiago Hernandez, Davis Museum
Elizabeth Hess, Village Voice, New York, NY
Anne Higonnet, Wellesley College
Cecilia Hirsch, The Art Institute of Boston
Marianne Hirsch, Dartmouth College, MA
Eva R. Hoffman, Tufts University, Medford, MA
Jenni Holder, Houk Friedman Gallery, New York, NY
Elizabeth Alice Honig, Tufts University
John Jacob, Photographic Resource Center, Boston, MA
Sydney O. Jenkins, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale on Hudson
Anita Jung, Ohio University, Athens, OH
Paul Kane, Bellevue Gallery, IN
Melissa Katz, Davis Museum

Irene Kestenbaum, Davis Museum
Helen R. Klebesadel, past president, National Women's Caucus for Art
Katy Kline, List Gallery, MIT, Cambridge, MA
Eric Knudsen, Davis Museum
Alexis Kuhr, artist
Rachel Lafo, DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA
Shelley Langdale, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Maud Lavin, author, Farrar, Straus & Giroux
Michael Leja, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
Joanne Leonard, School of Art, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Gail Levin, City University of New York
Candace J. Lewis, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU
Lisa Leavitt, The Jewish Museum, New York, NY
Frank Lewis, UWM Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI
Eve Luckring, Otis College of Art & Design
Lisa McDermott, Davis Museum
Lenore Malen, New York, NY
Catherine P. Malone, Wellesley College
Grace Markman, Brooklyn, NY
Jann Matlock, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
C. Maurice, Art Institute of Boston
Mary McCallom, artist, Boston
Phyllis McGibbon, Wellesley College
Sheila McTighe, Barnard College, New York, NY
Josefa Mileure, photographer
Susan Mulski, Brookline, MA
Marion Miller, Mount Holyoke College, So. Hadley, MA
Mary Miller, Yale University
Honor Moore, writer
Suzanne Muchnic, Playa del Rey, CA
Ellie Nall, Wellesley College
Anedith Nash, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, St. Paul, MN
Matthew Nash, Numbersign Foundation, Boston
Marcel Navarro, student, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston
Elisabeth E. Neville
Nicholas Nixon, photographer, Massachusetts College of Art
Linda Nochlin, NYU Institute of Fine Arts
Kenda North, University of Texas @ Arlington
Mariann Nowack, New York, NY
Ky Ober, Boston, MA
Colin Owens, Numbersign Foundation, Boston
Astud Oviedo de Mienes, CUNY/The Graduate School, NY
Tod Papageorge, School of Art, Yale University
Mary Pfeifer, International Center of Photography, NYC
Howardena Pindell, artist, NY
Sheila Pinkel, Pomona College, Claremont, CA
Melissa Poissard, student, Montserrat College of Art
Kathryn Potts, The Jewish Museum
John Pultz, The University of Kansas

Judith Raab, Williams College Art Museum
Pamela Reynolds Rajpal, Belmont, MA
James Rayen, Wellesley College
John Rhodes, Wellesley College
Mary Virginia Richel, Harvard University Graduate School of Design
Naomi Ribner, Wellesley College
Emma Roberts, University of Liverpool, UK
Barbara Robertson, Williams College Art Museum
Bonnell Robinson, The Art Institute of Boston
Walter Robinson, Art in America, New York, NY
Bill Rock, Washington, DC
John Rossetti, Davis Museum
Deborah Rothchild, Williams College Art Museum
David D. Rubin, College of Public & Comm. Service, U.Mass/Boston
Janet Saad, Davis Museum
Patricia Sanders, San Jose State University
Leslie Schick, Wellesley College
Jim Schietinger, Milliken University, Decatur, IL
Linda Schivalon
Allan Sekula, California Institute of the Arts
Karen Shafts, Boston Public Library
Linda Shearer, Williams College Museum
Accra Shepp, Wellesley College
Mary Sherman, Boston Herald
Ann Sievers, Cambridge, MA
Robert Silberman, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Jeffrey Silverthorne, artist, South Bend, IN
Ajay Sinha, Mt. Holyoke College
Christina Olson Spiesel, artist
Paul Staiti, Mount Holyoke College
Nancy Stapen, art critic, Brookline, MA
Thomas Starr, Rhode Island School of Design
Katherine Stefko, Davis Museum
Judith E. Stein, art critic, independent curator
Sally Stein, University of California, Irvine
Susan Stoops, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University
Judith Tannenbaum, Philadelphia, PA
Susan L. Taylor, Maine College of Art
Susan M. Taylor, Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Brett M. Van Hoesen
John Varriano, Mount Holyoke College
Cate Vermeland, Concordia College
Brian Wallace, Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College
Richard Wallace, Wellesley College
Peter Walsh, Davis Museum, Wellesley College, MA
A. Weible
Laura Weiblin, Skinner Inc.
Jonathan Weinberg, Yale University
Rachel Weiss, Chicago, IL

Margaret Werth, Barnard College, Columbia University, NYC
Susan Arthur Whitson, Houk Friedman Gallery, New York, NY
Judith Wilson, Yale University
Armando Williams, Pratt Institute, NY
Deborah Willis, Nat. African American Museum Project, Smithsonian
X Bonnie Woods, artist, Boston
Pamela Wye, Jersey City, NJ
Mimi Yiengpruksawan, Yale University
Barbara Zeles, artist, Medford, MA
Rebecca Zurier, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

3/21/96

S-217

Consent Communication #20

Communication was received
transmitting a petition of
202 residents expressing their
concern regarding the Toni
Marie Angeli case, her 4-yr-old
son and her class project entitled
"Innocence in Nudity".

In City Council April 22, 1996

Placed on file.

Councillor Tristafellon

Abstained.