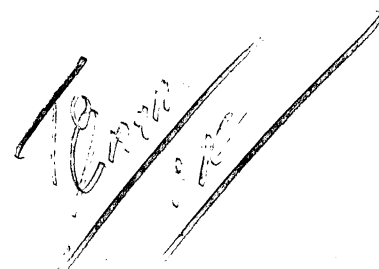


24 Traymore
Cambridge, Mass. 02140
June 26, 1980


Dear Ms. Graham,

I am extremely angry about this morning's incident at Harvard and want you to know about how Harvard treats members of our community. A friend and I were slowly and cautiously riding our bicycles through Harvard Yard as this is the only direct way for us to get into the Square. As we approached a dorm near Lehman Hall, we were stopped by a Harvard policeman and told there is no bike riding allowed in the Yard. We got off our bicycles and felt a little miffed at what we felt was selective enforcement of this rule, as we've seen a lot of other bicyclists (even some cars) going through the yard lately. My friend made a comment about "all the goddamn cars" going through the yard whereupon the policeman and the group of Buildings and Grounds employees he was standing with started insulting my friend with catcalls and one shouted: "are those the lips you kiss your Mother with?"! These were grown men doing this! These were Harvard employees. I didn't know Harvard would hire such red-necks. My friend became angry at this and a few words were exchanged with the group. We continued to walk our bicycles out of the Yard. But then the Harvard policeman stepped way out of line. He ran up to my friend and started pushing him back. He grabbed the bicycle and would not let my friend leave! He said he'd called some more police. This is an outrage! What kind of treatment is this? The policeman and friend taunted my friend (because of a comment), insulted him, then physically tried to prevent

my friend from leaving the Yard! Under what authority can Harvard physically restrain a Cambridge citizen just because some angry words were spoken? My friend was not dangerous! We both had obeyed the policeman's request to get off our bicycles. By the way, as all of this was happening, one or two bicyclist streamed past us in the yard and nothing was said to them. Soon we were joined by two or three more Harvard police. A tall black man who was said to be the head of the police started lecturing us on riding our bicycles in the yard, ignoring or not commenting on how his man over-reacted. Surely Harvard cannot condone the abuse of a hot-headed policeman who seems to think he can treat members of the Cambridge community any way he chooses just because we were on Harvard property!

I feel both very insulted and angry about this and feel an apology is in order. For Harvard and Cambridge to co-exist, we must have some tolerance and kindness, and should not promote a feeling that Harvard is a self-protected bastion with its own "laws". If Harvard wants to maintain a good image in this city (which generously tolerates Harvard's no tax status), it would be wise to treat Cambridge citizenry with some measure of reasonable conduct. This incident should never have happened.

Thank you for taking the time to hear me out.

CC:

Alfred Vellucci
Thomas Danehy
Kevin P. Crane
Leonard J. Russell
David E. Sullivan
Walter J. Sullivan
David Wylie
Francis Duehay

Sincerely,

Ms. Cherie Zarr

Ms. Cherie Zarr

Ref to C. Inf. for report to C/K under separate cover.

28 S- 346

6/30/80

Referred to the
City Manager