

BOB OSKAM

LITERARY SERVICE

50 GREENWICH AVENUE / NEW YORK, N.Y. 10011

(212) 807-6897

16 July 1983

To Whom It May Concern:

I wish hereby to add my whole-hearted support to the petition presented the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service on behalf of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, requesting that he be accorded permanent resident status in this country.

I have known of and admired Bhagwan for more than seven years. Indeed, I can honestly say that he has exerted a strong influence in my life during that period - through his teachings recorded on videotape, audio-cassettes, and in books, and through the love and gentle grace of his sannyasins, among whom I count dear friends.

I am astonished that the INS entertains any doubt as to the genuine nature of Bhagwan's work as a teacher and inspiration to thousands in this country, as well as abroad. The devotion of those who follow him is undeniable; their testimony of the changes he has wrought in their lives is eloquent in its simplicity. He exhorts all to a deeper understanding of themselves and an acceptance of others as brothers and sisters to live with in peace. As one seeking to promulgate a message of love and brotherhood, he is in the mainstream of a flow of leaders and visionaries who have placed the stamp of their dreams upon this country - people such as Anne Hutchinson, William Penn, and Roger Williams, to name but a few. How can that self-same vision of mutual love and tolerance that spurred those early settlers on these shores have come to represent a threat to governmental order in this century? Does America no longer honor its own historical traditions?

Through the influence of Bhagwan, I have become a more happily productive contributor to this society. I have learned from him the courage to trust my own abilities. I have learned from him once again the old lesson taught by Christ, to love my neighbor as myself, which comes only after I have learned to love and accept myself. I am troubled to think that so powerful a teacher of so important a message to all should be in risk of deportation as unsuited for permanent residence in the United States.

I urge those who have the disposition of this case in their hands to see the truth and to respond to it with open hearts. For I know that not only am I richer for the experience of Bhagwan in my life, America is richer because he is here.

I enclose herewith a copy of my curriculum vitae for reference in the event of any question about my professional qualifications or achievements.

EXHIBIT "A-363"

Robert T. (Bob) Oskam

BOB OSKAM - literary service
50 GREENWICH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10011

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INDEPENDENT LITERARY AGENT - representing a limited number of clients, including sports figures, fitness experts, business consultants, novelists, and freelance writers. Project sales include titles sold to Simon and Schuster, St. Martin's Press, and Everest House.

BOOK AUTHOR -

Search: A Handbook for Adoptees and Birthparents, Harper & Row, 1982
(with Jayne Askin)

Negotiate the Deal You Want, Dodd, Mead & Co., 1983 (with Henry H. Calero)

Choices and Consequences: Teaching Your Child to Make Good Decisions, Harper & Row, 1984 (with Gordon P. Miller)

EDITORIAL CONSULTANT - working on a regular basis with a number of publishers, including

Warner Books
Simon and Schuster
Hearst Books
Dodd, Mead & Company
Carroll and Graf

Project work includes manuscript analysis, manuscript reorganization, line editing, individual project coordination through production stages, permissions review coordination, copyediting, proofreading.

INSTRUCTOR - The School of Visual Arts, Program for Continuing Education, 209 East 23rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

Teaching a 2-hour college-credit course in Business Writing

COAUTHOR/EDITOR - "Winning Negotiations," a business consulting newsletter published by Advanced Management Reports, 50 East 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10017. April 1980 through October 1982.

SENIOR ACQUISITIONS EDITOR - E.P. Dutton Publishers, 2 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016. September 1979 to August 1980.

SENIOR ACQUISITIONS EDITOR - Hawthorn Books, 260 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016. February 1973 to September 1979.

Editorial background includes experience in manuscript review, contract negotiations, rewrite work, line editing, design review, preparation of sales and publicity aids. Coordination with authors, literary agents, editorial colleagues, subsidiary rights managers, production personnel, house sales reps. Acquisition of projects submitted as manuscripts or proposals, of paperback reprint rights to titles previously published in hardcover editions by other publishers; initiation of projects conceived personally, with coordination through all stages.

Books handled as an acquiring editor included titles in current

affairs, sports and physical fitness, business reference, memoirs/
biography, self-help, crafts and hobbies, gardening.

Among the dozens of books handled:

Somoza: And the Legacy of U.S. Involvement in Central America
by Bernard Diederich, E.P. Dutton, 1981

Splitsville by Frank Baginski and Reynolds Dodson, Hawthorn Books,
1980

Who Owns What Is in Your Head? Trade Secrets and the Mobile Em-
ployee by Stanley H. Lieberstein, Hawthorn Books, 1979

Under the Influence: Congress, Lobbies, and the American Pork-
Barrel System by William Ashworth, E.P. Dutton 1981

Yesterday's Seasons: Memories of a Rural Medical Practice by
Gene Schulze, M.D., Hawthorn Books, 1978

Flowers When You Want Them: A Grower's Guide to Out-of-Season
Bloom by John James, Hawthorn Books, 1977

A Writer's Guide to Book Publishing by Richard Balkin, 1st edition
Hawthorn Books, 1977; 2nd edition E.P. Dutton, 1981

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Current consulting work ranges across both nonfiction and fiction titles.
Books with which I've been associated include:

The Book of Rock Lists by Dave Marsh and Kevin Stein, Delta Books/
Dell Publishing, 1981

Life Extension: A Practical Scientific Approach by Durk Pearson
and Sandy Shaw, Warner Books, 1982

The Hilton Head Metabolism Diet by Peter M. Miller, M.D., Warner
Books, 1983.

Bodies and Souls by John Rechy, Carroll and Graf, Publishers, 1983

I've also done a lot of standard editing work on mysteries, women's romances,
teen romances, and general-market novels, and continue to do that on a regu-
lar basis.