July 24th, 1983

To Whom it May Concern.

It has been my intention for many years to testify to the influence in my field of adult education of the work of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, and I am delighted to take this opportunity.

Originally a research sociologist, a research project in adult education (cf. Adult Education and the Working Class, publ. ILEA 1972) propelled me into the more practical work of teaching, and then into organising adult education in the service of the Inner London Education Authority. The work for which I gained a reputation (see, for example, the guide to Adult Education "Poor Cousin", by Michael Newman) was the very successful introduction of a wide range of religious and metaphysical programmes into London's adult education service.

Many great thinkers from Lao Tzu to Einstein came up time and again in various courses, but the modern figure who came to be the most quoted, who came to be the greatest guide to the students in their searches was Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. Somehow through his books and through contact with his followers, he spoke clearly and directly to many of our students.

London's adult education service is an exceptional service: it deals in education for education's sake, being strictly non-vocational and non-certificating. Many people, like the personnel manager of IBM, a research astro-physicist from Cambridge University, a professor of sociology, sat side by side with people of more humble vocations. It was heartening to see a stratified society like London's dropping all that division to pursue a vision of sincerity and understanding. Both the inspiration and the content of these programmes took reference again and again from the work of Bhagwan, and for that I personally, and the Inner London Education Authority generally, are amazed and grateful.

Yours faithfully

D. A. Cunningham

Former Head of Mayfield Adult Education Centre