

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, March 5, 1965, page 1 of 1

March 5, 1965

Professor Erving Goffman  
Department of Sociology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Erv:

I have a graduate student--actually a young man who is in the Economics Department, with a very strong concern for the sociological--who is interested in doing a thesis on "The Economics of the Con Game."

His name is Richard Alexander and he is a young man of exceptional individual character and intelligence. If there is any way you could utilize him for the summertime, I would be much obliged if you would let us know.

I am under the impression that you have been working on the socio-dynamics problem of gambling. If so, this guy might really be of some use.

Yours very truly,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Associate Professor

ILH/as

Print this item: Letter from Erving Goffman, March 10, 1965, page 1 of 1

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720  
March 10, 1965

Professor Irving Louis Horowitz  
Department of Sociology-Anthropology  
Washington University  
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

Dear Mr. Horowitz:

Thanks for your note about your young man who is working on the con game.

I wish I could utilize him this summer, but I have never in my life had anyone in my employ, and I am afraid I have no monies to start now. I would be delighted, however, to look at anything he has done and will go so far, in your name and in Gouldner's, to buy him lunch should he ever turn up in Berkeley.

Regards,

Erving Goffman

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Erving Goffman", written over the typed name.

jp

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, July 18, 1966, page 1 of 1

July 18, 1966

Professor Erving Goffman  
Department of Sociology  
University of California, Berkeley  
Berkeley, California 94720

Dear Erving:

Enclosed is a copy of the testimony which Herbert Blumer and I prepared for delivery at the Senate Committee on Government Operations. Any comments or criticisms which you care to make are, of course, welcome.

With best regards,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Visiting Professor

ILH:ra

P.S.- You can reach me here through August 25th. After that I will be returning to Washington University.

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, January 23, 1967, page 1 of 1

January 23, 1967

Professor Erving Goffman  
Harvard University  
Center for International Affairs  
William James Hall 500  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Erving:

My colleague and chief Book Editor at Oxford University Press will be making the trek to Harvard at the close of January. Although I haven't spoken with you about your two studies that you gave me, I have indeed raised the matter with Oxford and believe that these are the nucleus of a first-class volume which would raise many of your social psychological observations to a more general theoretical expression. I certainly hope that you see Mr. Meyer and discuss with him publication possibilities.

I would like very much to see some of your recent stuff for professional reasons as well as business reasons. At the same time I enclose a copy of my "Mainliners and Marginals" piece from a forthcoming volume, which I think you may find of some interest.

Danielle sends her love.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Professor of Sociology

ILH/as  
enc.

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, February 10, 1967, page 1 of 1

February 10, 1967

Professor Erving Goffman  
Harvard University  
Center for International Affairs  
William James Hall 580  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Erving:

It was good talking with you by telephone last evening, and even better to find out that you will in fact be able to give our graduate students and of course ourselves a lecture.

I have cleared a flight pattern as follows: TWA #467, leaving Boston 8:30 a.m., arriving St. Louis at 11:08. And on the same date, TWA #194, leaving St. Louis 7 p.m., arriving Boston 11:23. In this way you will be in and out of St. Louis the same day as the lecture--April 5, 1967.

As I understand it, the title of your talk will be "Gambling and Gaming." At least this is my READER'S DIGEST mentality of what you said to me over the phone.

Knowing that you have a heart of gold, let me outline the financial basis of this transaction. We are able to extend the total of \$323.00. This includes \$123.00 for transportation and a \$200 honorarium. I wish it could be more, but it is the most that we can possibly pay at this cornball Midwestern, Nebraska-like University. You know that the farm areas haven't been doing too well lately.

I will pick you up at the airport and at the same time insure your safe deliverance back before flight time so that rest assured that all arrangements have been made and that we are quite delighted at the prospects of seeing you.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Professor of Sociology

IILH/as  
cc: Robert Boguslaw

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, February 27, 1967, page 1 of 1

February 27, 1967

Professor Erving Goffman  
Center for International Affairs  
Harvard University  
6 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Erving:

I have your letter of February 18. Thanks. I regret that you will be out of town on the 12th and 13th, and what I have done is rearrange my own schedule to accommodate your coming here on April 17.

So you may take this as confirmation of the lecture date on April 17. I would ask a favor of you. I am a little harassed for time myself so could you call the TWA office in Boston and simply change the travel dates? The time is, I presume, stable.

When you have a title for your talk, let me know so we can start posting it. All jokes about the CIA are hereby and here-with canceled until further notice. If Norman Thomas is tainted all bets are off. No wonder Camus said that twentieth century realism has to be defined as cynicism.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Professor of Sociology

ILH/as  
cc: Robert Boguslaw

Print this item: Letter from Erving Goffman, April 10, 1967, page 1 of 1

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MASSACHUSETTS 02138

April 10, 1967

Professor Irving Louis Horowitz  
Department of Sociology-Anthropology  
Washington University  
St. Louis, Missouri 63130

Dear Irving:

A confirmation. I will be there the 17th. Topic title  
so far -- The Study of Social Interaction.

I trust you will look after me. Your note makes an obscure  
reference to people paying only air fare (besides the  
honorarium) and I should like to fall into dispute over  
as small as sum as possible.

Regards to everyone.

Sincerely yours,



Erving Goffman

EG:am


Print this item: Letter from Erving Goffman, April 18, 1967, page 1 of 1

Last for Int Relations Officers  
Harvard U  
Cambridge 38, Mass

April 18, 1967

Professor Irving Louis Horowitz  
Department of Sociology-Anthropology  
Washington University  
St. Louis Missouri 63130

Dear Irving:

Thanks very much for looking after me so very well, and please thank your Rand-man for laying on such a nice cocktail party. I didn't have a chance to thank your Mrs. Boguslaw enough, and I hope you will repair this deficiency for me. Danielle  looked lovely.

Cab fare Cambridge, Boston and back was \$9.50. TWA was as enclosed. See you soon at the meetings.



EG:am

Enc.



Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, April 25, 1967, page 1 of 1

April 25, 1967

Professor Erving Goffman  
Institute for International Affairs  
Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Erving:

Thank you for your letter of April 18 and the enclosed copy of the airline ticket. We will have your transportation costs and honorarium forwarded to you as quickly as possible.

Also, you can rest easy that I will pass on your kind remarks to the Boguslaws, although I don't believe that he would prefer to being called the Rand man at this point. Having gone through that all, he is rather on the defensive side. You might check his review in the April issue of Trans-action to assure yourself on this point.

Danfelle and I were both sorry we had so little time together. On the other hand, in all fairness it has to be said that a little time with us goes a long way. After less than one day, there were few insults left to be hurled, so perhaps we need these long recuperative periods.

Love,

Irving L. Horowitz  
Professor of Sociology

ILN:ib

November 6, 1968

Professor Erving Goffman  
University of Pennsylvania  
Department of Anthropology  
University Museum  
33rd and Spruce Streets  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Erving:

Needless to say, I am glad to hear from you, despite the fact that the news therein contained is a bit on the dreary side, but then again, what news this day isn't on the dreary side?

While I in no way want to interfere with your middle-class style of life--on the contrary, I can only admire the conscientiousness with which you pursue it--I nonetheless would hope that you will be able to come through on your pledge for the purchase of stock in TRANS-ACTION Magazine. The stock investment funds are the best hedge we have for further growth, and the best indicator we have that we do indeed have the support of a wide segment of the social science community.

We are now in the process of completing our first quarterly report, a process delayed by the inclusion of the results of October in the report, and I believe that the picture therein contained is optimistic and in the words of our auditors, hopeful. Coming through our first four months in private enterprise was the toughest of all processes for me personally, but I do believe that I have learned a lot and that the magazine will endure.

Concerning the second stock offering, the answer is no, it is not as good as the first, but on the contrary, costs twice as much. It is \$2.00 a share rather than \$1.00 a share, and it does not carry with it any voting privileges, although in the event of the magazine's failure, payment is made first to holders of preferred shares, which is the second offering.

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, January 10, 1969, page 1 of 1

January 10, 1969

Professor Erving Goffman  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Erving:

It was very good to hear from you by phone the other evening and, needless to say, I share your delight at being in the area with you. As a matter of fact, the very next morning I received a copy of Time magazine and there you are in the photographic flash. Actually the writeup was quite good given the nature of Time magazine, although I notice they did not run the picture of you in your Batman costume.

I am enclosing a copy of the memorandum I spoke to you about concerning my move from Washington University to Rutgers University, and I think it will explain the situation fully and fairly. Believe me when I say that in no sense do I feel pushed, but rather pulled to something more potentially and dramatically useful.

As ever,

ILL:sm

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Professor of Sociology, and  
Editor-in-Chief

Enc.

Print this item. Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, September 16, 1970, page 1 of 1

September 16, 1970

Professor Erving Goffman  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Erv:

I thought you would never get organized on anything. My heartiest congratulations on this bold step forward into the field of politics.

We are now deep into our second year back East and haven't seen each other yet. I do hope we can get together before too much longer.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Chairman

Print this item: Letter to Dr. Erving Goffman, February 25, 1972, page 1 of 1

February 25, 1972

Dr. Erving Goffman  
Benjamin Franklin Professor  
Department of Anthropology and  
Center for Urban Ethnography  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dear Erving:

Would you be kind enough to give me your appraisal of Wilbur H. Watson, who is presently being considered for an appointment in our department. As I understand it, he is finishing his dissertation now and its theme is "Body Idiom in Social Interaction." He clearly has an extensive and extended background, but we would be most anxious to know your appraisal of his possibilities as a long run appointment.

Erving, as you know from Herb's letter, we will be doing a feature review of your new book in SOCIETY magazine. I hope you find it interesting, and of course should you be desirous of making response, the pages of the magazine are open to you.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Chairman

ILH/lhw

Print this item: Letter from Erving Goffman, March 2, 1972, page 1 of 1

*UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA*

PHILADELPHIA 19104

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
33rd and Spruce Streets

March 2, 1972

Professor Irving Louis Horowitz  
Department of Sociology  
Livingston College  
Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

Dear Irving:

I have your letter regarding Wilbur H. Watson, and it is a pleasure to reply.

Watson has been a student of mine for three years and I have followed his progress closely. As you probably know, his dissertation topic is interaction behavior in an old folks' home. He began his work with little experience in the field, and I had some doubts about his capacity to pursue it. However, quite on his own, he has gradually acquired a good foundation in the field and a competence in the use of film technology required. Indeed, he has progressed very appreciably in one of the hardest ways to progress: from an uncertain grasp of intellectual materials to an increasingly secure one. How far this will allow him to make any contribution to the professional literature I do not know, but I can vouch for his competency in regard to current literature.

While developing an interest in the detailed study of interaction, Mr. Watson has also pursued his interest in minority group issues and ideology to good effect. In all of this he has sustained a very firm commitment to the intellectual standards and ideals of the sociological enterprise. Although I have not heard Watson lecture, I have listened to him in seminar and talked to him many times at length and find him to be quite articulate. From all that I can see he should make an excellent teacher. May I add that the University community here has shown a distinct interest in Mr. Watson and has offered him a variety of different job opportunities within the University.

It's nice about the Blumer review, nice for you to encourage it and nice for you to do it. But no thanks about replying; Blumer has a special perspective with a logic of its own, and although I do not fully agree with it, I would not consider disputing it.

Sincerely,



Erving Goffman  
Benjamin Franklin Professor  
of Anthropology and Sociology

Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, March 8, 1972, page 1 of 1

March 8, 1972

Professor Erving Goffman  
Benjamin Franklin Professor  
of Anthropology and Sociology  
University of Pennsylvania  
33d and Spruce Streets  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dear Erving:

Thank you very much indeed for your letter of March 2 and your evaluation of Wilbur H. Watson. Your letter is very helpful in our arriving at a decision, and of course it will be given every possible consideration.

Let me say personally, that it is this kind of letter which perhaps is the most decisive factor in any serious evaluation of collegial participation. Thank you.

Under separate cover, I am sending you a copy of the current issue of SOCIETY magazine. It does not have quite the historical scope of the New York Times Review of Books, but I think you will agree that it has a sociological imagination quite lacking in the Times review. I fully appreciate your wish not to respond; I think it is a wise decision.

In any event, the review is basically as positive as one would expect from Herb, given his unique frame of reference.

Assever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Chairman

ILH/nw

Print this item: Letter from Erving Goffman, October 6, 1972, page 1 of 1

*UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA*

PHILADELPHIA 19104

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
33rd and Spruce Streets

October 6, 1972

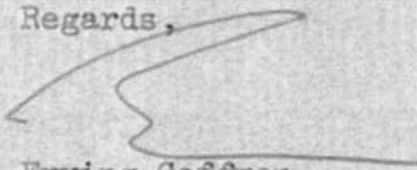
Professor Irving Louis Horowitz  
Department of Sociology  
Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

Dear Irving:

Thanks for sending me on a copy of your letter to the Southern Illinois University Press on the Martindale volume. It's an extraordinary letter, an expression of an extraordinary amount of attention to the manuscript, and I am grateful to you for having done it. It also forcibly reminds me of my bad citizenship in these matters.

Again, thanks.

Regards,



Erving Goffman

EG/LAC



Print this item: Letter to Professor Erving Goffman, October 12, 1972, page 1 of 1

October 12, 1972

Professor Erving Goffman  
University of Pennsylvania  
Department of Anthropology  
University Museum  
33rd and Spruce Streets  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104

Dear Erving:

Thanks for your note of October 6. Needless to say, I am pleased you reacted the way you did to my response to the Martindale volume. Ordinarily I am so terribly burdened with work that I don't do this sort of refereeing thing; but Vernon Sternberg is an old friend, and I felt I owed it to him. Indeed, in this case, I am glad I did, for otherwise one more piece of crap would have inundated our already overwhelmed profession.

I had meant to contact you on many occasions, but the sad truth is that Philadelphia is at least as far away as New York these days; and I get to neither big metropolitan area very frequently. The work here is unbelievable and the obligations many. Nonetheless, there is going to be a meeting in Philadelphia, between November 12 and 14, of the Peace Research Society (yes I am still interested in that subject); and perhaps if you will be in town on any of those days, I will try to target my trip so that we can have the benefit of each other's company at least for a supper. Take care.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz  
Professor of Sociology  
and Political Science

ILH/cw

Print this item: Letter to Dr. Erving Goffman, April 18, 1975, page 1 of 1

April 18, 1975

Dr. Erving Goffman  
Benjamin Franklin Professor  
of Anthropology and Sociology  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Pennsylvania  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104

Dear Erving:

Enclosed is a commentary on your book which I was asked to prepare by COMMONWEAL. They asked me to choose the best book of the year, and believe it or not, it was a much easier process than I thought it would be, or perhaps I am reading much less these days. Anyhow, I hope you like the enclosure. I have not seen any other reviews on your book. I presume they have all been good. I thought I should record my sentiments and send them on to you.

Take care.

As ever,

Irving Louis Horowitz

ILH:acb  
Enclosure

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 19174

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY MUSEUM  
33rd and Spruce Streets

April 24, 1975

Professor Irving Louis Horowitz  
Department of Sociology  
Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

Dear Irving:

Thank you for your choice of FRAME ANALYSIS and for a very nice review. You do me an honor, doubly so since FRAME ANALYSIS fits a tradition that has protected us all from wider political views of our own doctrines, which traditional limitations you, among a handful in America, have devoted yourself to overcoming. So I count your act generous, as well as kind. Again, thanks.

See you at the meetings.

Sincerely,



Erving Goffman

EG/LAD