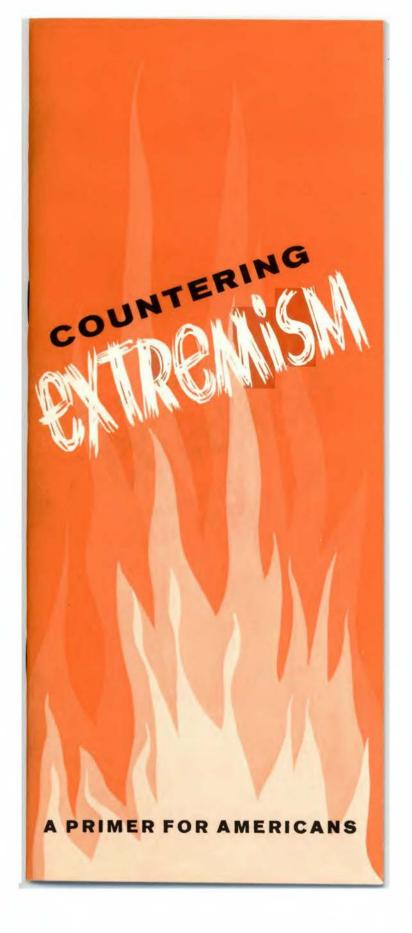
Publication or Copyrighted Material not Scanned in Its Entirety

[For Full Access, Contact the Archives of the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library and Museum]

Type of Material: Pamphlet
Author(s): Ralph Bass
Title of Publication or Description: Countering Extremism: A Primer for Americans
Publisher: American Jewish Committee
Title of Series/Chapter/Article:
Edition:
Volume Number:
Issue Number:
Date of Publication: 1966
Page Numbers: 28 pages



Mr. Hyman Bookbinder American Jewish Committee 818 18th Street Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bookbinder:

Many thanks for your note of October 14, 1968, and the material which you sent with your note. I understand our Co-Director Sheldon Levy has been in touch with you and the American Jewish Committee and that you have been most helpful.

Very truly yours,

James F. Kirkham Co-Director, Task Force on Political Assassination

Selfer Spill Spill Might

HYMAN BOOKBINDER

14 October 1968

To: James Kirkham

You may be interested in seeing a copy of the letter just sent by Mr. Arthur Goldberg to Mr. Cutler and the enclosed materials.

Washington Representative, American Jewish Committee 818 18th St., NW -- Washington, D.C. 20006 Tel: AC 202 -- 298-8787 October 10, 1968

Mr. Lloyd Cutler, Executive Director National Commission on Violence 726 Jackson Place, N. W. Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cutler:

The American Jewish Committee considers the Commission on Violence an important vehicle through which the nation can study the causes and importance of preventing violence in our society.

As our former president, Morris B. Abram, who has just assumed the presidency of Brandeis University, wrote to you last June, both the American Jewish Committee and Brandeis University are engaged in a series of studies into the nature of intergroup and interpersonal hostilities and conflict, including the ultimate expression of violence. The Lemberg Center for the Study of Violence at Brandeis and AJC are planning a cooperative study of non-violence in all of its historical manifestations, its philosophical implications, its practical and strategic importance and its present and future potential. The study of violence to isolate and treat its causes, and the study of non-violence to identify the constructive forces it liberates, we feel, are basic to our understanding of what can and must be done to reduce tensions and strengthen our security and well-being as a nation.

Enclosed is a handbook, The Police on the Urban Frontier, which Judge George Edwards of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and Police Commissioner of Detroit in 1962-63, wrote for us. It is being used extensively by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, many police departments and community groups in programs to help shape safer cities and defuse violence. Also enclosed is a copy of a pamphlet, Countering Extremism: A Primer for Americans, we recently published.

As you may know, the American Jewish Committee was the first intergroup agency to mobilize the social sciences on a fundamental attack on prejudice and discrimination. Its book, The Authoritarian Personality offered practical insights into the causes and cures of aberrant individual behavior.

Our Washington representative, Hyman Bookbinder, informs us that you plan hearings on "The Role of the Media in the Process of Social Change." Here too we have a certain amount of expertise that we would be happy to place before the Commission. Specifically, we conducted a conference a year ago, with the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, for the Community Relations Service of the U. S. Department of Justice on the Mass Media and Race Relations. This two-day session, which chartered new ground in the area, has since served as a prototype for similar conferences in a dozen cities across the country, and stimulated a number of activities in the crucial matter of increasing representation of members of minority groups on the mass media. Enclosed is a summary report of that conference.

While we are not in the mass-media business as such, as intergrouprelations experts we have developed a number of concrete suggestions in what is certainly one of the most important areas of current intergroup concern. If you should desire it, we would be delighted to have a representative testify at your hearings.

Because we consider your efforts of tremendous importance, both the American Jewish Committee and Brandeis University would welcome an opportunity to be helpful in any way possible. Please let us know how we may help you reach our common goal of transforming our national anguish into a constructive force for peace and progress, justice and compassion.

Cordially,

Arthur J. Goldberg President

AJG:eak encl.

cc: Thomas Barr Robert Baker: Hyman Bookbinder