

August 5, 1993

Dear Judy,

I received your letter. Even though, it was a form letter it conveyed your general warmth and voice of concern. I applaud your commitment in presenting a workshop at the national conference. You are always doing great things.

Presently, I am still in ad. seg awaiting resolution of the institution's recommendation for transfer. I tried to contact the designating official in the regional office today, but he was out to lunch. Hopefully, I will get the opportunity to try again early next week.

The last time we spoke, you had mentioned that Linda was doing some work on the parole situation for old law offenders. I am very, very, interested in seeing what Linda has compiled. On another similar matter, if you recall shortly after you moved to California you wrote a letter to Judge Murphy in support of my request for sentence modification in my consecutive state sentence. The judge had basically said that he would reduce the sentence at the "appropriate" time. I don't

Know what he considered the "appropriate" time, but the day before yesterday I learned that he had been elevated to the Md. Court of Special Appeals; and therefore, had no jurisdiction to give the sentence reduction he promised. So, basically I am stuck fighting the most ridiculous and absurd sentence: a 30 yr. sentence to run consecutive from the federal sentence I am now serving!! Judge, in all honesty, I have been devastated and in a state of mental depression since I got the news. However, I will be alright. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord." If I shall become a victim of this system, it will not be because I lost the faith, hope, or determination that it takes to succeed.

Notwithstanding, the fact that sometimes things are simply insurmountable. What the hell??

I will write something for you by October 1. Thanks for the pre-notice. Those last minute requests be bogging me down.

Currently, I am trying to finish a paper for the Physicians Ass. for AIDS Care in Chicago. How do you explain the situation of

prisoners struggling with AIDS in twelve pages? What parts do you talk about -- lack of education, homophobia, rejection, lack of support, crooked doctors and unheard of medical practice, etc. Or, do I just talk about all the prisoners who have died in prison when they really didn't have to.

That's what was so bad about Springfield. The inmates there was truly sick. Judy, when I say they were dying by the dozens, I am not exaggerating. And, the majority of the staff was just as unconcerned as they could be. It was very depressing. On the other hand, I woke up everyday with the attitude that I was going to do something. Yes, I worked like a mad woman, but every little change meant so much. Because, I knew it would help somebody who really needed.

Well, sis, I don't mean to make you depress. I know that you know how things can get. I have put your new number on my list. Even though, you probably got everything I ever wrote

I am going to get all my articles together for you. It a shame my booklet won't be completed in time. Chico was suppose to send me some designs for the cover this week, but tomorrow is the last day of the week and I still haven't heard from him.

Take care and write whenever you can.

Love & sisterhood,
All Jan

P.S. Got a book today called "Coming Out: an anthology of international gay & lesbian writings." Have you read it??