

Hon. Barbara Lee  
State Senate  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA.

3 Oct. 1997

Dear Senator Lee:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I recently sent to Senator Hughes relative to Prop 209.

I am writing to you because I believe that it is urgent that we challenge Governor Wilson to stop using 209 simply as a weapon against people of color and women and to start enforcing 209's prohibitions against preferences for Anglo-Americans and males.

I have written a series of articles on 209 that explore the implications of the amendment for white Anglo preferences. Tragically, the daily papers of the state refuse to publish my articles and thus I have a hard time getting the word out.

Another reason that I am writing to you is because of your association with Rev. Jesse Jackson. I have written to Rev. Jackson before on Prop 209 but I am sure that my letter never got to him. The point is, that he should be aware that while 209 MAY damage "affirmative action" (and that is very debatable because a "preference" has to be proven in every case) 209 is loaded with dynamite implications for Anglo-Americans that the authors and Ward Connerly failed to realize.

For example, 209 requires a level playing field in the area of school and university curricula between each and every ethnic, racial, and national origin group in the state, as well as between men and women! Naturally, this means that the Anglo-centric, Eurocentric and male-centered curricula of the state has to be totally dismantled and rebuilt on an equalitarian basis!

But Governor Wilson is totally silent on this and other implications of 209. What I want to emphasize is that this is where Wilson and the Republicans, including Lungren, need to be challenged. They are trying to enforce 209 ONLY AGAINST PEOPLE OF COLOR AND WOMEN and they are totally skirting the preferences which are enjoyed by English-speaking Caucasians.

Rev. Jackson should be aware that 209 is not entirely what its supporters wanted it to be!! They chose language which can be turned against them, but they were too dense to realize it.

Of course, I am sure that you have heard all of the rhetoric against 209, and you should be aware that I voted against the measure myself. But now that it is in the State Constitution it is time for us to see if we can use it for equal opportunity and I believe that we can.

In any case, I hope that you will take the time to glance at my articles, a few of which I am including. My research continues, of course. And please share this information with Rev. Jackson or his key advisors.

Incidentally, I am one of the co-founders of D-Q University, one of Rev. Jackson's projected stopping points.

Sincerely yours,

Jack D. Forbes  
Professor Emeritus