

Gerald Fowler,
 Dr. Christine Pickard, E.A.C. Goodman, LL.B.(Sol),
 Pamela Manson.

The N.C.R.O.P.A. is affiliated to the National Council for Civil
 Liberties

NO/DAW/DP

26th September, 1980.

Christopher Ralling, Esq.,
 Head of Documentary Programmes,
 BBC Television Centre,
 Wood Lane,
 London, W.12.

Dear Chris,

It's a long time since I played in those two episodes of your "Fight Against Slavery" series (August 1974 to be precise!), but I do hope you haven't forgotten me.

This is not, however, a "job search" letter and, in any case, I expect you are now almost totally concerned with administration, as head of the department. Indeed, it is to you in that particular capacity that this letter is directed.

I founded the National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts in April 1976 as an anti-censorship campaign and to act as an effective platform to counter the intolerance, bigotry and hypocrisy of the pro-censorship lobby - the "Puritan Brigade", epitomised by the appalling but formidable Mary Whitehouse et al.

Whether Roger Mills has mentioned a meeting I had with him on 21st August, I don't know, but he kindly agreed to meet me as a result of a letter I wrote to him on behalf of the NCROPA on 8th August after the transmission of the "Inside Story" programme on prostitution. I am enclosing a copy of that letter which spells out our "beef" and the frustration we are experiencing.

I gave Roger copies of our written evidence to the Williams Committee (we also gave oral evidence) and our subsequent appraisal of the Williams Report. He has promised to study them in conjunction with 'Williams' and to consider the possibility of doing a programme based on them, although he has reservations.

In the meantime I have also written to Sir Ian Trethowan about NCROPA's general criticisms of the BBC's handling of the subject and I think it only fair to let you have a copy of that letter too.

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I do hope you will not react unfavourably to the device of sending copies of letters to other people but, in the circumstances, it seems to be the best way of familiarising you with the deeply-held opinions of both Committee and supporters of the NCROPA, of whom I am the mouthpiece.

Please give this matter your careful consideration and then, perhaps, I can prevail upon you to let me have your comments.

Finally, on a personal and lighter note, I do hope that I shall have the pleasure of working with you again in the not too distant future. I certainly enjoyed doing "The Fight Against Slavery" enormously.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

David Webb,

Organiser,

National Campaign for the Reform of the Obscene Publications Acts

P.S. Have just had Innes Lloyd on the phone to tell me that his "Play for Today" production "The Union", in which I am working, has been cancelled because of the BBC strike!

Encs.