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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
University of Massachusetts
Amherst 01003 OCT 1, 1971

Dr. J. Lederberg
Dept. of Genetics
Stanford Univ. Medical School
Palo Alto, Calif. 94304

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I have just finished your article on tainted blood in the Sept. 29, issue of Current Contents, and while I applaud many of the ideas you express, I must protest your derogatory remark on the color gray.

We grays are a proud race, and this type of careless allusion only serves to inflame passions and arouse smoldering resentments. That would be better left to die.

To be sure, we are a small and not very powerful group, but I hope that our weakness will not be exploited by those who have only recently recognized some of their unconscious attitudes toward our black brothers. I hope the gains of the blacks will not be our losses.

I am sure there are circumlocutions or synonyms which are just as useful and much less (painfully) obvious.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Steven Roseberg