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CITY OF BETTENDORF IOWA

GEORGE R. THUENEN, Mayor

March 13, 1967

CITY HALL
Phone 355-1865

MAE G. STEFFEN
City Clerk

THOMAS G. GETZ
City Treasurer

A. J. STAFNE, JR.
City Attorney

EUGENE BETTENMAIER
JAMES STEK
Aldermen-at-Large

ROBERT NIXON
JOHN GODUTO
ANTHONY MOHR
Ward Aldermen

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Director of Public Works

RICHARD E. QUINN
Street Commissioner

STEVE P. TOMETICH
Chief of Police

ARTHUR J. VOELLIGER
Chief of Fire Dept.

DR. ALWYN TOU VELLE
Health Officer

LEO CARLSON
Building Inspector

ROBERT G. DUGGLESBY
Plumbing Inspector

GEORGE KAPOLKA
Electrical Inspector

NORMAN H. PETERSON
Police Judge

RICHARD WATSON
Planning Engineer

Mr. W. P. Kelly
Acting Director
Job Corps
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D. C. 20506

Dear Mr. Kelly:

In reply to your letter of March 8, 1967, I would like to insert some of my own thoughts of the teenager of today.

The vast majority of young people are men at work. They have their world-weariness and hopeless love affairs. But, by and large, they do not seem rootless and alienated. Perhaps, because they feel that the future belongs to them, they have built-in sanity valves.

There is, however, a small but significant portion of the younger generation that is at open war with society. Some time ago I was asked by the father of a teenager if I would attest to the good character of his son, who was brought into our court for his part in a wild party. "Sure, he's a good boy," I said, "but it was a dam fool thing to do." The father expected me to admire him for getting brought into court on a foolish demonstration. We seem to have forgotten that not everything a good boy does is good.

I could go on and on about our teenagers, but in the overall picture a lot of the blame can be laid at the adults' threshold. Now to get to your questions.

In the spring of 1965, after our flood of the Mississippi River, we had the pleasure of using the youngsters in the Job Corps for a clean up job. They did a terrific job for us and their supervisors also did a good job laying out the work and seeing it through to completion. They were a great help to our community. Should we again have a flood or other disaster, I would surely recommend the Job Corps for help.

Yours very truly,

Steve P. Tometich

Steve P. Tometich
Chief of Police
City of Bettendorf, Iowa

SPT/gw