

Mr. W. P. Kelly

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the disadvantaged which the Job Corps deals with is a cut below that dealt with an On-Job Training, the suspicion remains that an On-Job Training Program with strong support through a "Buddy System" of some type would be much more effective than a congregate institutional approach.

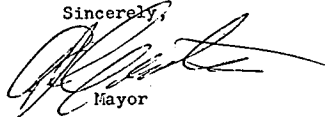
When I was first asked if I would entertain the idea of Saint Louis' acceptance of the Job Corps Center I said Yes, I would. But I would like to ask one favor, that favor was that some of the local unemployed women who originated very recently from areas several hundred miles away from Saint Louis (thus eliminating the standard reason that Job Corps Applicants may not originate in the locality of the Center to which they are sent) be accepted. We have any number of young women who have come in from Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, etc., and are in Saint Louis unemployed. It was these women that I had in mind who might be considered as Job Corps applicants. This request was acceded to. But evidently then completely forgotten. At least I was given no report on my request, and I am informed by the newspapers that all of the women (as is your general policy) have originated from other out-state areas. The courtesy of a report on my suggestion should have been honored.

I have followed with no small interest the young people in your Center here in Saint Louis but I think my comments upon how they have participated in community affairs and how they engaged in Community projects and how they have proved to be good neighbors would necessarily be less than systematic representative and of scientific value. They have assisted the City administration in several City projects, but for me to say that this lended assistance is typical or repeated in programmatic and creative sequence with other civic and broadly social agencies is clearly beyond my competence.

I repeat my welcome to the Job Corps Center to the City of Saint Louis, I know that you have some splendid administrators and I trust that you will carry out your program with all the success that it deserves. I trust likewise that you will carefully evaluate the costs of these extremely expensive residential programs and ask yourselves if the same money may not be used to greater effect for the enhancing of the life's chances of many more disadvantaged through less expensive programs such as the local Comprehensive Manpower Program or a program that might seek to upgrade the teenagers in the slum areas so that they might be accepted by the Armed Services, or the making of one of the vocational sections of the Center a pre-induction Center where the disadvantaged would receive the basic education, the medical services, the orientation that would help them to qualify for the Armed Services.

There are so many millions of disadvantaged and so few millions of dollars for the job to be done that we must figure out maximum returns on our social, economic, and personal investments.

Sincerely,



Mayor