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Iannone, Carol: Letters Opposing Nomination of (1991): Correspondence 36

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COPT
Miller/Swift letterhead, East Haddam, CT

July 4, 1991

The Honorable Senator Edward M. Kennedy
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

We are writing you as chairman of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources regarding the appointment of Carol Iannone to the National Council on the Humanities.

As Carol Iannone's brief curriculum vitae makes clear, her academic and professional credentials do not in any way constitute an "established record of distinguished service and scholarship or creativity," as the enabling legislation requires of Council members. On the other hand, the opinions she has expressed in such journalistic pieces as "Literature by Quota" in the March issue of Commentary appear to be the real reason that Mr. Bush has nominated her for the NEH Council.

It is our strong conviction that literary opinions, however political, should never disqualify a candidate from appointment to the Council, but they cannot substitute for a lack of scholarly or creative achievement.

When the Committee on Labor and Human Resources considers the Iannone nomination later this month, we hope you will keep these thoughts in mind.

Sincerely,

Casey Miller and Kate Swift