

1989

## Obscenity: Andres Serrano Controversy (1989): Correspondence 38

Claiborne Pell

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# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND  
HUMAN RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

August 7, 1989

Mr. Harvey Lichtenstein  
President and Executive Producer  
Brooklyn Academy of Music  
30 Lafayette Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11217-1486

Dear Mr. Lichtenstein:

Thank you very much for writing me with your thoughtful comments about the current controversy facing the National Endowment for the Arts.

I recently drafted the enclosed statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD which addresses some of the broader issues involved in this debate. I thought you would be interested in having a copy.

When the Congress returns in September a House/Senate conference must resolve the differences between the two versions of the Arts Endowment's FY 1990 appropriations bill. I am hopeful that the Helms amendment and the ban on funding for two fine arts organizations will be dropped then in favor of the House position. I have indicated my thoughts on these provisions to the conference chairman, Senator Byrd.

With warm regards,

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Education,  
Arts & Humanities