President Truman  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.  

22 September 51  

Dear Sir:  

If you really care so much for freedom and thought and inquiry and speech as your letter to the American Bar Association indicates, why don't you destroy the source of all this evil, your very own executive order on government employees?  

Is it possible that you have not yet put two and two together and assessed the reason for your getting the sorry work out of your own employees that you are getting? Have you no idea how the security program has been used by the conventional bureaucrats to so discredit the inquiring, the inventive, the competent, who threaten their positions, that their usefulness is virtually destroyed? Don't you know that one cannot do his work without the cooperation of the cowardly who make up a majority of all Civil Servants, and to whom a loyalty check is tantamount to proof of disloyalty? Don't you know that your own program has put a premium on blind conformity that does not stop at the political level, but extends to the technical as well? If you do not, I suggest that you look into the matter before the Bar Association embarrasses you by putting the finger of guilt where it most certainly belongs, on the freethinking Harry Truman himself.  

You cannot much longer straddle this fence. You will either have to give support to the Jeffersonian liberals who put you in office, or surrender yourself entirely to the authoritarian bush-bush party of the Dulles. You cannot have it both ways.  

Sincerely yours,  

Rachel Welch  
(Mrs. James Welch)