September 29, 1957

My dear President Eisenhower,

I am what you might call a typical teenager. Lately I've been reading the newspapers more carefully and I'm finally realizing what a great and wonderful leader America has.

I am an American, and I can proudly say that and mean it. A person cannot be a true American and not believe in equal rights. He is not worthy of living or thinking as an American, nor attending American schools, nor entering a Christian church if he does not believe as an American.
There is no such a thing as a slave or people of different colored skins in God's sight.

Please believe me President Eisenhower. I do not wholly condemn these trouble-makers. They were instilled with this racial hatred since they were young.

It's so hard to unlearn something that is so deeply imbedded. I feel confident though that if these people would read the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence and ask our God to judge their thinking, many heads would be hung in shame.

The hardest words in the world to say are "I'm sorry" or "I was wrong." I'm truly sorry for the people who don't believe in equal rights for all because they are in a sense "Men without a Country." These ignorant people need much more help than you and I can ever give them my dear President.

Soon I will be getting married and when I do, my children will be taught that there is no superior race or clan of people.

Our senior class is coming to Washington the last of May for our annual senior trip. More than anything I would like to meet you. But since this will probably be impossible I only hope that you will personally read my letter.
God bless you President Eisenhower and all the good you stand for.

Sincerely,

Dana Anderson