

July 19, 1949

Mr. George Coplen
Modern Home Builders
3849 34th West
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Coplen:

Knowing of your interest in problems confronting members of minority racial groups we are writing to bring to your attention a matter of mutual concern.

In recent weeks, several members of minority racial groups who are in the market for housing have received letters from the Modern Home Builders advertising four new housing developments. These persons, Japanese and Negro, have visited the developments only to learn that the property is "restricted". We are of course aware of some of the realistic problems facing real estate operators, but we bring this to your attention in the hope that it will be possible to limit letters of this kind to persons who will be allowed to purchase the property. As one Nisei woman reported to us after visiting the developments, "The letter just adds insult to injury".

We know that there are individual real estate operators like yourself who are concerned regarding the housing problems of minority racial groups. At the present time the problem has been brought to our attention in a forceful way because we have been asked to assist two members of the University of Washington faculty to secure housing. One of these professors is Chinese and the other Japanese. Both are desirous of purchasing homes in the university district ranging in price from 10,000 to 12,000 dollars. Although both prospective buyers have found suitable homes for sale these homes are not available to these faculty members because of their race. This presents a real challenge

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to our community.

We will appreciate it if some steps can be taken to safeguard members of minority racial groups from receiving letters about "restricted" housing. We also hope you may have some positive suggestions regarding the immediate housing problems of the above mentioned faculty members.

We will appreciate your advice.

Sincerely yours,

Frank S. Bayley, Jr.
Vice-President