



CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION OF CANADA

PAUL PELLETIER
COMMISSIONER

Ottawa, September 6, 1960.

SECRET

D. F. Wall, Esq.,
Secretary of the Security Panel,
Privy Council Office,
Ottawa.

Dear Don,

In reply to your letter of August 18th with which you enclosed a draft memorandum entitled "Security Cases Involving Homosexuality", may I say that I have not only gone over your draft fairly carefully but have also discussed it with the Chairman.

Neither Mr. Hughes nor myself have much fault to find with the general terms of the draft memorandum and we would be prepared to subscribe to it virtually unchanged. I say this even though Mr. Hughes is perhaps inclined to feel that there is some slight danger of underestimating homosexuality as a security factor while I, on the other hand, am inclined to the view that the danger probably lies in the opposite direction - i.e. that there is a tendency to overestimate this factor as a security risk.

Any changes we would have to suggest to the draft memorandum would be in the area of semantics rather than of substance. For example, I would suggest that the word "deviation", which is found at the bottom of page 1 of your draft, might usefully be replaced by an expression such as "lack of social conformity". The purpose for this kind of change is, of course, simply not to make homosexuality, or indeed any other sexual so-called deviation any more monstrous than it really is - keeping in mind always that what we are concerned with exclusively is not morals but national security.

Yours sincerely,

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