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Commentary

The Lower Rooms (1994)

Spring 2-17-1994

Letter from Bob and Diana Gross to Fr. John F. Cunningham, O.P., President

Bob Gross

Diana Gross

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February 17, 1994

John F. Cunningham, O.P.- President
Providence College
Providence, RI 02918

David

Dear Fr. Cunningham:

We are writing to respectfully disagree with your position on the production of "The Lower Rooms".

It is our feeling after experiencing this immensely moving and intense drama, that it in no way condoned immoral behavior, but rather showed the consequences of it. The characters, so ably portrayed by the student actors and actresses, were people who allied themselves with evil, rather than with good, thus becoming tormented and empty individuals. The use of four-letter words can be distressing, especially as they are used so freely by our young people today; however, the language included in "The Lower Rooms" was necessary and typical of the type of people portrayed. They viewed life with such a sense of futility and looked for fulfillment and happiness in all the wrong places.

The message was powerful; the ending gave the drama a redeeming quality and gave some hope/relief to the viewer. "The Lower Rooms" was truly heart-wrenching, even grueling at times, which attests to the talent involved.

We commend Ms. Farrell and the rest of the theatre arts department for bringing us such a powerfully important dramatic piece. We'll make the trip to P.C. whenever possible to support such quality work!

Thanks for listening...

Sincerely,

Bob and Diana Gross

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gross
50 Wynding Hills Road
East Granby, CT 06026

cc: Mary Farrell
Tara Gross