IN LEVITTOWN

To date five original buyers have reluctantly sold their homes, due to job relocation or other personal reasons. Each of these homes has been re-sold at an average of $600 above the purchase price.

We believe that the fear of loss of value of homes, the fear of neighborhoods turning into unkept slums merely because of the race of the homeowners is groundless.

Many of us have young children. We expect to raise our children here and feel quite strongly that they will grow up healthy, normal Americans just because they have lived and played among members of many races and religions.

We believe that our own experience so close to your own homes may be of value to you in deciding what to do about the first Negro family to move into Levittown.

We believe on the basis of our own experience that there is only one thing to do and that is to welcome this family as you would any other family, and especially to refrain from action which underlines the good and democratic name of your community.

CONCORD PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM A GROUP OF RESIDENTS OF CONCORD PARK.)

STATEMENT CONCERNING FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES

LOWER BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Christian Church has always held as part of its basic belief that all men are God's creatures, made in His image and likeness, that Christ died for all men, and, therefore, that “there is neither Jew nor Greek, . . . bond nor free, . . . male nor female,” for we are “all one in Christ Jesus.”

The Christian Church has also maintained that its articles of belief have little or no value if they are not carried out in the life of each and every person who calls himself Christian.

Therefore, we, the Lower Bucks County Council of Churches, believe that every individual of any race, creed, or color should have equal opportunities of housing, schooling, and employment. We also believe that no Christian can tolerate a situation in which his equality of opportunity is denied to any person because of his race, creed, or color.

We believe, therefore, that every person should do his utmost to welcome all new people into our area and do everything in his power to make all newcomers feel accepted into our several communities in every way.

We of the Lower Bucks County Council of Churches will do all we can to bring it about that our communities and our churches reflect the highest ideals of Christian fellowship and democratic living, and will welcome into our midst—wherever they may choose to live and worship—all who come to us of any nationality, racial or religious group. As Christians we believe that we can do nothing less.
Appendix J: Richard W. Reichard to Governor George M. Leader, August 19, 1957.

2139 Allen Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania
August 19, 1957

Governor George M. Leader
Governor of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

My dear Governor:

I want to congratulate you for having taken prompt action in helping to stop the disgraceful action of mobs against the citizen who wanted to move into his home in Levittown. Pennsylvania has a noble history in this respect, as a center for the Underground Railway, as the home of Thaddeus Stevens and it is shameful that a handful of people are attempting to mar it. I urge you to take the strongest action possible against those who would stir up racial antagonisms in this way.

Sincerely yours,

Richard W. Reichard

Richard W. Reichard