C O N F I D E N T I A L

June 25, 1941

Dear Dr. Warren:

I sent you a hurried note yesterday saying that I should be glad to be counted as one of your Lincoln Foundation Advisory Group if I was not expected to be a dummy. You see I am a bit revolutionary when it comes to boards of directors who do nothing but allow their names to be used. I belong to a generation which fought the rubber stamps which we found, or at least believed, allowed their names to be used by more or less predatory business leaders never knowing what was being done. Two or three times I have been caught, not by business enterprises but by philanthropic enterprises. I have made it a rule not to go on an advisory board unless I was sure that I knew in a general way at least what I was standing for. I am sure you understand. I am particularly jealous in Lincoln matters, I think, and between you and me, dear Dr. Warren, I feel that your Foundation should lean backwards, if necessary, to escape any suspicion of using serious Lincoln students in a purpose which at bottom is, of course, commercial. You will render a real service to the business organization which so generously and ably supports the Lincoln Foundation if you make your advisory committee a working body.

Please don't think for a minute that I mean to throw suspicion on anybody. I am only looking out for what I believe to be your true interests.

This letter, of course, is confidential.

You may count me on your Council then if you are to give me a chance to advise.

How about it?

Faithfully yours,

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

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