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*Norm Cousins*

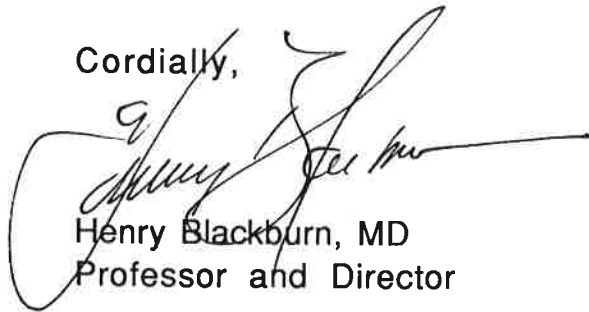
June 15, 1990

*16/15*  
Norman Cousins  
UCLA  
School of Medicine  
Dean's Office  
10833 LeCont Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1722

Dear Mr. Cousins:

I have long admired your work from afar. It is basically such a positive and useful and valid message. But it is a bit distressing when, as in your June 18 Time essay, you unnecessarily claim that "Life expectancy need not be curtailed" and ignore the obvious evidence that in probabilities it is indeed curtailed. It's even more distressing when you claim that a positive HIV diagnosis "does not necessarily mean that the illness will move into the active stage." The point is that you need not exaggerate or distort facts in your promotion of such a positive, healing message.

Cordially,



Henry Blackburn, MD  
Professor and Director

*Norman Cousins*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

June 21, 1990


DEAN'S OFFICE  
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Henry Blackburn, M.D.  
University of Minnesota  
Division of Epidemiology  
School of Public Health  
1-210 Moos Tower  
515 Delaware Street S.E.  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Dear Dr. Blackburn:

Thank you for a well-deserved rap on the knuckles.

Sincerely,

  
Norman Cousins  
NC/ai

*Note.  
Corresp.*

*Re his claims such as  
HIV infection doesn't  
necessarily lead to AIDS,  
etc.*