

*cc Don
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done
place*

file

516 Orange Street
Apt. 48
New Haven, Conn. 06511

November 10, 1979

Dear President Murphy:

In my letter to you of August 25, 1978 requesting a leave of absence to complete my book, I expressed some doubt that I would be able to return to Bennington because of my need to be near a major library for the purposes of research.

Hence it is for these reasons that I have concluded with great regret that I must resign from the college, effective this coming January 1.

I would like to thank you for the generously extended leaves of absence, without which I would not have been able to bring my book to its present stage. This project has exceeded all of my expectations of size and has taken far longer than I ever dreamed possible. After yet another year of exhausting labor, the completed portion of the manuscript exceeds 1500 pages in length. I am approaching the end of last-minute research at the Yale University library and plan to have the book in the publisher's hands by January.

A book of this length will be anywhere from one to two years in production, but once it is published, I hope that the publicity it generates will be of service to Bennington in demonstrating the college's present intellectual vitality. If the book is at all useful in stimulating contributions to the college from either private or public sources, I will be extremely happy.

I am very grateful to Bennington for its support of this project, through the money which was annually made available through the William C. Fels Faculty Facilities Fund and through the sabbatical and leaves of absence which made it possible to continue my research.

Yours truly,

Camille Paglia

Camille A. Paglia
Literature Division