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Animal Behavior  
Teaching the Mentally retarded

Big brochure

January 17, 1973

Dr. Kenneth E. Clark  
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University of Rochester  
River Campus Station  
Rochester, New York 14627

Dear Ken:

So good to hear from you again. I have lost track of many of the Minnesota group, although I still hear regularly from the Howard Hunts, the Rothes, the Norm Guttman, Mary Lou Clark, Bill and Kay Estes, and until recently the Meehls (I didn't hear from them this Christmas).

We have been very busy; we do a fair amount of government research on problems of animal behavior, sensory and motor capacities, and the like. We directed the Navy dolphin program in Key West, Florida for two years and before and since that were involved in consulting positions on this program, the Hawaii and San Diego programs, and have also done a lot with various birds for a number of programs. We have just this past year opened our own park in Hot Springs with dolphins, trained birds, petting zoo, aviary, etc. This is our second Hot Springs tourist attraction--the I. Q. Zoo has been perking along since 1956.

I'll be most interested to hear from Mrs. Kyburg. The horse is a different sort of animal (as indeed are they all) and it seems that some approximation to something like negative reinforcement may be necessary to get the animals fully under control, but most horse trainers seem to overdo it. Actually the horse is a sensitive animal and, once tamed down, will respond to very small flicks on the skin, taps on the leg, minute hand signals, and similar very reduced cues. But there apparently is a dominance relationship, and in colloquial terms, the horse needs to find out who the boss is. It's a subject that would be interesting to discuss in more detail.

I would certainly enjoy coming to Rochester---yes, I do a great deal of traveling. While I haven't been in the East much last year or this, it would certainly be possible. I was in Rochester

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about two years ago at the annual meeting of the American Humane Association, and I plan to be in Pittsburgh this spring briefly. I've done a fair amount of consulting in connection with behavior modification in humans, both children and adults, token economy setups, for example. And lectures, workshops, and that sort of thing.

Under separate cover I'm sending a copy of our ANIMAL BEHAVIOR book we did for Macmillan a few years back. Currently I'm writing a review on avian vision which may appear in the PSYCH BULLETIN if I ever get it done.

Again, thanks for writing and I hope we will get to see each other before long. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Marian Breland  
President

MB:bev