

March , 1991

Harris L. Present, Esq.  
2 Pennsylvania Plaza  
New York, NY 10001

Dear Harris:

Enclosed are photocopies of correspondence exchanged between Stanley M. Sapiro and Dr. Ronald Smith of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Mr. Sapiro is an attorney and has for many years been interested in the work of the Henry George School and the promotion of the philosophy of Henry George.

As you will see from this material, Mr. Sapiro is investigating the possible illegal change in purpose of the Lincoln Foundation, an Arizona foundation endowed by John C. Lincoln to support the teaching of Henry George's socio-political philosophy. At some point, individuals associated with the Foundation established the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy as the primary organ for researching issues related to land use.

For a number of years, the Henry George School was the recipient of a sizable annual grant from the Lincoln Foundation. Information extracted from the minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Henry George School indicate that the Lincoln Institute was given responsibility for administering these grants and that they were eventually discontinued.

Mr. Sapiro feels strongly that the trustees of the Lincoln Foundation acted illegally in the creation of the Lincoln Institute, which has never acted to promote the ideas of Henry George and in more recent years its key staff members have voiced opposition to the land-related teachings of George. Up to this time, Mr. Sapiro has been acting on his own but has requested permission by the School's trustees to act on the School's behalf. He is also endeavoring to bring into this action the Robert Schalkenbach and Henry George Foundations.

As I understand the circumstances, Mr. Sapiro will soon present this matter before the Attorney General of the State of Arizona for consideration. What we need to know is whether there is merit to Mr. Sapiro's position that the trustees of the Lincoln Foundation acted illegally. After you have reviewed the enclosed information, we would appreciate you telephoning Mr. Sapiro for a more complete analysis of the legal issues involved.

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I would like to provide the Board of Trustees with your input at our April 11th meeting, if at all possible.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Dodson, President  
Board of Trustees