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Mr. Larry Mariner
5001 East Apache Trail
Mesa, Arizona 85205

Dear Larry,

This letter, (identical except for the addressee) is being sent to 17 persons in Arizona known to have an interest in the Henry George movement. I have previously written to some of you on this subject and some of you I have known personally during my 45 years in that movement.

I am writing to you now because of a matter which I think is of enormous importance to everyone interested in achieving social justice in the United States and abroad through adoption of the principles of Henry George. **This is NOT an appeal for funds.** My services are gratis and my interest is in seeing that George's ideas, to which I have devoted much time, are brought to fruition.

John C. Lincoln, the head of the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland established an Arizona charitable foundation (The Lincoln Foundation) to promote the ideas of Henry George. He was a brilliant man who, during his lifetime, was a fervent and active supporter of these ideas. The articles of Incorporation of the Lincoln Foundation specifically state that all expenditures of funds by the Foundation must be made **"to teach and expound the ideas of Henry George as set forth in his book *Progress and Poverty.*"**

According to a letter written last year by David Lincoln, the founder's son and the current president of the Lincoln Foundation, **the assets of the Foundation now exceed one hundred million dollars (\$1,000,000,000).** It is evident that this sum of money, properly expended, is sufficient to bring about the adoption of the ideas of Henry George in many countries, including the United States.

Unfortunately, this enormous sum of money is now being spent **to oppose the ideas of Henry George** and to support views antagonistic to his philosophy!

Practically all of the funds of the Lincoln Foundation now go to an organization called the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, which has on its board a number of men with a background in land development and speculation. Last year, Mr. Chinitz, the then Director of the Lincoln Institute, wrote that it had long since ceased being an exponent of the ideas of Henry George. This year, Ronald Smith, the present Director of the Lincoln Institute, wrote me that "It is true that LILP's curriculum and related research activities **do not (and legally cannot)** propagate or advocate the principles of Henry George's land policy."

In short, the Lincoln Foundation pays its monies to an organization which not only does not "teach and expound the ideas of Henry George," but which claims it cannot legally do so.

Furthermore, the Lincoln Institute conducts seminars, panels and conferences throughout this country and abroad in which its representatives actually speak derogatively about the ideas of Henry George. It publishes books and articles on land policy which either ignore the ideas of Henry George or oppose them. For example, a recent book published by the Lincoln Institute, is advertised as a book showing how "Escalating Land Values Create Jobs and Wealth in Developing Countries." In fact, the experience of these developing countries, as well as the USA, shows that escalating land values **destroy, rather than create, jobs and wealth.**

If only a few thousand dollars were involved, this illegal perversion of the purposes of the Lincoln Foundation could be ignored. But, we have here a charitable foundation with over one hundred million dollars in assets and powerful contacts with governmental, business and academic entities, which is **not** using its monies to spread the ideas of Henry George, as legally required, but is actually disparaging them.

I was personally present at conferences put on by the Lincoln Institute in which Henry George's principles were attacked. Professor Steve Cord, Ted Gwartney, Harry Pollard, and Dick Noyes have had similar experiences. The nadir of this miserable campaign took place at a hearing before a legislative committee in New Hampshire. There a representative of the Lincoln Institute actually argued against a proposal that the State adopt land value taxation. Instead, he urged that a sales tax be adopted in its place.

I am now in the process of informing the Lincoln Foundation that, unless its policies are immediately changed to conform with legal requirements that it support the teaching of Henry George principles, a request will be made to the Attorney General of the State of Arizona to take action against it. Under the law relative to charitable foundations, the Attorney General has the obligation to require that such foundations act according to their legal obligations. Only if they refuse can citizens of the State proceed to act.


I have enclosed a letter sent to David Lincoln on this matter. I hope that he will see the light.

Some of you have already informed me that I may use your names, as residents of the State of Arizona. I now request that the rest of you allow me to use your names in supporting the demand that the Lincoln Foundation act properly. **You will be under NO legal obligation to pay any money or to proceed to litigation and will have the right to withdraw at any time.**

In that over one hundred million dollars, is involved, a sum sufficient to move the entire world to a recognition of the way to achieve social justice, I cannot let this illegal and disgraceful subversion of Henry George's principles continue or go unchallenged.

Please let me hear from you, whether by letter or phone (I will accept the charge), as to your thoughts on this matter and whether your name can be added to those making this request of the Lincoln Foundation that it comply with its legal obligations.

Sincerely,



Stanley M. Sapiro