

29 August 1968

The Honorable Richard Jackson
The Mayor's Office
Atlantic City, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

This is to respectfully request a City Permit for a demonstration in Atlantic City on Saturday, September 7, 1968.

The sponsor of the demonstration is Women's Liberation; the advisory sponsor is Florynce Kennedy's Media Workshop. (There will be participants, as well, from National Organization for Women, The Jeanette Rankin Brigade, and the American Civil Liberties Union.)

Although it is always difficult, if not impossible, to estimate in advance the number of demonstrators expected, we anticipate about two hundred people (including some press who will be traveling with the New York contingent); we have already contracted for one bus, and we know that some people will be coming in private cars.

We will be assembling at approximately 1:00 P.M., on the Boardwalk in front of the Convention Hall. We plan an orderly demonstration: a picket line, leafleting, no public address system or rally. We plan to continue demonstrating in a quiet, orderly fashion until shortly after midnight, at which time, I believe, Miss America is crowned. Our bus contract stipulates departure from Atlantic City at 1:00 A.M. Sunday.

The purpose of the demonstration is to protest the Miss America Pageant, which projects an image of women that many American women find unfortunate: the emphasis being on body rather than brains, on youth rather than maturity, and on commercialism rather than humanity. At this time of crisis in the world and in our nation, we feel we must miss no opportunity to call attention to the basic issues that concern us all--problems which must be looked at and worked on if humanity is to survive.

The demonstrators will all be women, of all ages, races, and walks of life. Women doctors and lawyers, as well as housewives and students, will be with us. (In fact, men are barred from this particular demonstration.) Again, let me say that we plan a dignified, orderly demonstration, and we look forward to the cooperation of your office and of the Atlantic City police.

We apologize for requesting the Permit on such short notice--the demonstration was conceived only a very short while ago. We earnestly request your attention to this matter, and hope that official permission will be forthcoming. We will be in Atlantic City on September 7 in any event, but we would prefer to do so with the knowledge and cooperation of city officials.

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