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To whom it may concern:

As an undergraduate student, I attended the State University of New York at Oneonta, N.Y., from 1965 to 1969. I decided to become a secondary education teacher and concentrated my studies on obtaining a teaching credential and taking every opportunity to work with children. It was during the time of my student teaching I began to realize the discrepancies between college education courses and the experience in the schools and classrooms.

In 1969 I received my Bachelor degree and New York State teaching certificate and in 1970 I began my first teaching job. I also continued with my personal studies in graduate schools. I attended the University

of San Diego and the State University  
also in San Diego, California

I became discouraged because I saw  
that my professors and fellow teachers  
could only go ~~so~~ so far in their teaching  
abilities. I felt something was missing  
and could not quite put my finger on it.  
I did not discover the missing factor  
until 1979 when a friend gave me a  
book by Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. His  
written words expressed what I had been  
feeling for years but had a difficult time  
communicating.

By that time I had worked with hundreds  
of children in many different situations, from  
the extremely gifted to the mentally retarded:  
and I realized one thing; that the educational  
system practically ignored the individual  
child. There was no interest in the  
children achieving their highest potential.

I found Bhagwan's entire approach to be exactly opposite of the system's approach. His approach stems from a deep understanding of life and people. His idea of education goes far beyond the accumulation of knowledge. It includes meditation, religion and personal insight. I would like to present a quote: "Education is a trust in yourself and in existence, allowing whatsoever is hidden in your unfoldment, to bring out whatsoever is in." But that is not true of the so-called education that goes on in the world. Rather than bring it out, it forces things in. It simply pours in information. Ordinarily whatsoever is available in the name of education is nothing but stuffing your mind with knowledge... "If education is right it will teach you how to unfold, it will not go on simply throwing information into your head. It will help you to come out of your being, to flower, to grow, to expand."

after reading many of Bhagwan's books, which far surpassed anything I ever learned in school, I was compelled to meet him personally. What I experienced while being in his presence was a cool, calm understanding. He cares, He is loving and deeply concerned with the human condition.

I have just attended the 2nd Annual World Celebration and am very inspired by Bhagwan. His presence creates an atmosphere of love, cooperation, creativity and self-expansion. Everything being done around him, including the farming, the building, the cooking and caring for people is being done with the highest quality. He is an extraordinary teacher and so much more; he is an inspiration for each to become his total potential.

I feel he is an asset to the state of Oregon and the U.S.A. He is an asset to any individual who cares to delve into his own personal condition. His meditations, his therapies and his insights are bringing people from all over the world.

I urge you to grant Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh a permanent visa status. Sincerely,

Dw. Mursharan