



FRANK TATE HOUSE
373 Dandenong Rd ¹¹⁶
ARMADALE SE3
Melbourne
Victoria
AUSTRALIA
5/7/59

Dear Sir,

Please forgive me the intrusion of writing thus to you, but I have just read for the first time, your moving story "Cry, the Beloved Country", and I am writing to ask you a question. I am deeply interested in the problem of Black-White relations, and, though I know ~~the~~ very little of the laws governing the situation, I am willing to get to understand the problem more fully if I can find some way in which I myself can help to wipe it out. In Australia we have a similar problem in the White Australia Policy, and also in the problem of our uneducated, but by no means unable to be educated aborigines. I am training to be a teacher, and may possibly have a chance to do a little more for their schooling, but I could do very little there, and only in a small area.

I realize, however that the situation cannot be changed overnight, and, since you have such a wide, mature view of the subject, and have already succeeded in making many people understand and feel compassion for the natives, I write to ask you, what can be done to help them? What can I do?

I hope you will bear with my writing thus to you, as I have for some time been interested in this problem, trying to find a solution to it.

I remain
Yours in anticipation
Pamela Cherry

23 Lynton Road,
KLOOF,
Natal, South Africa.

7th December, 1959.

Dear Miss Cherry,

I was turning out a basket of letters when I came across yours of July 5, and I apologise for not having replied to it.

I am not quite sure what particular natives you wish to help, whether those of Australia or of other parts. I am not quite sure whether you are primarily concerned with the problems of Australia or of Africa. If you would enlighten me on this point I would try to make some suggestions to you. You might be interested to know that the black indigenous African does not like the use of the word "native" which he regards of course as a relic of colonialism. He would maintain, for example, that you are a native of Australia. Perhaps you do not have this problem in this country, but I thought you would be interested to know what is the opinion of Africans. They like to be called Africans. Many white people in Africa still call themselves Europeans, but in fact many of them have ceased to be Europeans for two or three centuries.

Again many apologies.

Yours sincerely,

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