

July 30, 1963

Mayor Ivan Allen
Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia
68 Mitchell St. S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor Allen:

Just want you to know that I, along with many other Atlanta Citizens, disagree very strongly with the views which you expressed in Washington recently before the Senate Hearing Committee regarding the Civil Rights Issues. I certainly do not feel that your expressions represent the feelings of the majority of the citizens of Atlanta. I voted for you in the last election but after intergrating the Atlanta swimming pools and parks, instead of closing them, and after expressing the views which you did in Washington I don't feel that I could vote for you if you were running again today. As you know the views which you expressed are contrary to the views of several Atlanta organizations and among them being both the Senior and Junior Chambers of Commerce.

It seems inconceivable to me that anyone could feel that our Government Authorities should have the power to be able to tell me and other business people that they must accept as customers any who express a desire to do business with me. I have the right to determine which merchants I shall do business with and by the same token I feel that any businessman should have the privilege to decide who shall be his customers and who shall not be his customers.

Yours truly,

Rees M. Andrews

Rees M. Andrews, Jr.
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