

June 22, 1983

Dear Beth,

It was an afternoon in late summer, you were a little girl, and we were near the apple tree at our house in New Rochelle.

I asked you who owned the apple that fell from one of the branches of the apple tree that overhung the Dreyfus property, and you said we did.

I then asked you if we were responsible if that apple, instead of falling to the ground, fell on Mr. Dreyfus' head and caused him to go to the hospital. You then quickly changed your answer to the first question.

So I asked you whether Mr. Dreyfus had the right to come onto our property, fertilize near the tree so that he could get better apples from the overhanging branches.

We went on and on for about a half hour and both of us had a very good time. Each time you wanted to know the answer and I tried to tell you that there was no hard and fast answers to some legal questions. The answer could be one way in one country and just as logically the opposite in another country.

I thought you learned from the experience: you must listen to all sides, examine the variations, and think, before you could come to any reasonable conclusion. That conclusion cannot be called right or wrong, only, at best, reasonable, unreasonable, logical or illogical.

We now do not have any overhanging apple tree branches and so can go to another subject which does not present a problem....

With love,

Your Father