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## Letter from alumnus to Joel T. Smith regarding Black Student Union demands

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C. Henry



January 26, 1970

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KEY OFFICE  
L. D. FILE  
A. B. D. FILE

Joel T. Smith, Esquire  
President  
Denison University  
Granville, Ohio 43023

Dear President Smith:

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Recently I had occasion to read the outline of the Black Student Union Demands. It is my understanding that these demands have been signed by many faculty members, the presidents of the DCA, DCGA, nearly all of the presidents of the fraternities and sororities, and a great majority of the students.

You should be youthful enough to remember something of the "excesses of youth". Youth is inherently a period of rebellion against authority and of radicalism. This has been so through the generations but it seems to be more so today.

As a graduate of Denison and one who has given \$1,000 to the University during the last three years, I have some genuine interest in it. When I contemplate the future of the small private college I see no hope for its survival unless it can secure large policy support among its alumni, friends and through corporate giving, et cetera.

Perhaps these Black Student Union Demands should make Denison and its alumni and friends happy that Denison has not been neglected. It would seem that perhaps some pride should be taken in the fact that even Denison is in the mainstream of black demands.

I request of you and of Mr. Prine, to whom I am sending a copy of this letter, that I be kept informed of what you and the faculty decide to do about these demands.

If you and the faculty succumb to this "black blackmail" I will never give another dime to the University.

Very truly yours,



rrk:s

cc to Calvin K. Prine