54/08/21 Not Objective, Teacher Says

Cleveland Press

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Cleveland Press, "54/08/21 Not Objective, Teacher Says" (1954). All Articles. 475.
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Not Objective, Teacher Says

I write this letter without malice and not in anger, but with sincerity and the humility of an every-day citizen.

I am a school teacher in the public school system and it is my daily duty to teach my little charges about democracy and to impregnate their minds with the ideals of our country and the responsibilities of its various freedoms.

I have been appalled at some of the headlines and tabloids which have been covering the pages of The Press in the past few weeks. I am speaking of The Press' coverage of the Sheppard murder trial.

I am offended by the fervor which this newspaper has displayed in deciding upon the defendant's guilt before he has been proven guilty in a court of law.

I realize that newspapers are not infallible and that the presentation of news items and editorials are tempered and shaped by the men who write them, but I am surprised and shocked at the sensational and emotive-reasoning used by this newspaper in its crusade to indict and prosecute Dr. Sheppard!

I always thought that freedom of the press is an inalienable and inviolate right which is to be used always to preserve and protect the dignity of mankind, not to destroy it.

No one saw Dr. Sheppard kill his wife. He has not been proven guilty by trial and jury in a court of law. I see no point in exposing his personal conflicts and affairs and using the headlines to proclaim his alleged infidelities.

Perhaps I am audacious in writing this letter, but this is straight from the heart of a member of the younger generation. I want very much to believe in all of the freedoms of our Constitution. If I do not sincerely believe in them, I cannot teach and convince others.

ANNE TAYLOR, 2307 E. 87th St.
Cleveland Press, Saturday, August 21, 1954