## THE PEOPLE\*S ANSWER

234 East 53rd Street, New York, New York 10022 • (212) 838-6338

September 30, 1989

Robert Clancy Henry George Institute 121 East 30th Street New York, NY 10016

Dear Bob:

This is my seventh mailing to you (I'm John DeSantis, the Perennial Independent Mayoral Candidate), and to all the other folks on my mailing list. It concludes this year-long series of mailings. It completes my introduction, makes even clearer to you the many important planks of my platform, and informs you about the dynamic citywide public-action-phase of The People's Answer Project that is now beginning; and requests that you help it receive the public attention it so self-evidently deserves. Each of you are on my mailing list because you already have the attention of the public: through your work in the media, in government, in some other form of "serving the people". You each have the list. It is part and parcel of this series. This series highlights my struggle to inject, into the "public dialogue", ideas and solutions that address the problems that plague our city; and it will strategically be available to the public: by mail, and from my first booktable—my campaign headquarters, to be located on Fifth Avenue in front of Trump Tower.

This 4-page letter clearly lays out my "starting" actions for you, that I've named The People's Forum Network; which includes the "Nowhere to Run, Nowhere to Hide Project"—my proposal for a citywide plan of community action that will help us to win back all of our streets, and the subway system, from the horrors of crime and drugs; as well as bringing all the people of our city together—thus helping to heal our ethnic and racial problems; and much more.

This letter also makes crystal clear, the various ways that either you, or your group, your political party, your media network, your social-reform network, or your business may participate in publicly spotlighting and addressing the most important social issues of all time. You might say: How can he dare to proclaim this? And my answer is this: The issues I am bringing before our city, and before all of humanity, using New York City as a focus and a model, are the fundamental root causes, the most insidious ones, the underlying dynamic generators of all our citywide and worldwide social degradation—economical, educational, mental, moral, and ethical. And I am challenging our society, especially each of us who work in the media, in politics, in any of the many battlefields of social reform, to help put these issues on society's front burner. Our individual and combined responsibility is immense!—we do guide, mold, and control the flow of ideas.

We, society as a whole, are like the blind leading the blind. Who's to blame? Nobody in particular. Why? Because we've been operating wrong for thousands of years. But if We the People in a free society continue to permit it, by ignoring all the correct information at hand, then it is our fault. All of our social ideas and institutions need an education!—and need to be revamped!

My perennial social challenge: This is a call for an ongoing peaceful educational battle for the "public recognition" of what true social justice is all about, and what really would be a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people". A Land of Liberty truly founded on Justice—a bright beacon of light, and the "wisest example" for all nations to emulate. And once right ideas do win the day, "We the People", by our loud and clear voice and vote, will demand

the social justice we want, and see to it that all the changes are made—legally, educationally and economically. Standing very patiently, Lady Liberty is still out in New York City's harbor, silently and sadly waiting for we Americans to finally do the right thing by suffering humanity.

A public declaration!: I attack no one personally; but I do attack wrong ideas and actions. And that this definitely is the major leagues; the same old and "ongoing battle of the ages". I'm calling those who now preside over all social directions—all laws, rules, and regulations; all public flow of ideas and information; all educators, economists, experts, and authorities; in effect, all those who speak for the status quo of social policy, down onto the "public carpet". And in the "blaze of the public spotlight", I ask you to come and discuss the issues I advocate. I call you into The People\*s Forum Network—A "Movement for Humanity"; an ongoing and persistent Wisdom—a-Thon. And I'll meet you anytime, anyplace. You bring your very best "authorities" and "experts", from anywhere in the world, and I will reach out and bring in all those who speak for the ideas and solutions that my public platform advocates. I take this position: Have Wisdom—Will Travel! (Into any arena!) No one I bring forward endorses me as a candidate—I endorse them!

I call for a great "United" effort. I call for a truly loving and practical one—one that will, like a match thrown into a powder keg, ignite the people, wake them up, give them a vision, because: "Where there is no vision, the people perish"; but where there is both a vision, and a practical plan, the people will prevail. They will finally know that they can win the day—by building their grand and all—inclusive people's "United Neighborhoods Political. Social, and Economic Force"—their great social network, The People\*s Forum Network. It's an all-encompassing network of networks. We really need it. Why? Because never before in the history of our world have so many loving individuals, so many groups, and so many networks been struggling to serve their fellows and all of humanity, and still our world conditions worsen—nothing less will help!

I claim that we are doing almost everything wrong as a society; that we will never even come close to solving our problems until we find out the truth of how social systems should function. Right ideas and real solutions have always been ignored. Why? Because of the innocent-ignorance, or outright greed, of our leaders. Either way, we suffer! The ten topics listed below are planks on my platform—for starters. From this moment on, I extend a perennial invitation (365-days-a-year, every year) to the media and to every group in our city: I am at your service. This will become clear as you read on. Where applicable, audience participation is a major part of this. To the media I say this: Consider all this as your official source material for your own self-devised news releases, interviews, news conferences, news articles, TV and radio shows, debates—whatever! For or against! OK, here are the "ten topics" the world needs to know and learn about:

Justice and injustice: Learn what the most "just" way to operate a social system is. Learn which social institutions and laws always lead to all forms of "injustice" and social degradation—even in a democracy. Learn the social laws that are naturally-demanded by the high ideals of Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, Freedom, and Equal Opportunity. Learn what a "just" free enterprise capitalistic system is really all about!—and how ours is a very unjust special privilege system. The bottom line: Once we clearly understand all this, then we will know what to do!

The People\*s Forum Network—A "Movement for Humanity": See my book of the same title, along with its companion, a transcript of the: "120 Posters...Spouting the Incredibly Voluminous Credo of The People\*s Answer Project..." (Quoted from the New York Daily News—I have enclosed a photocopy of the article; and a copy of a poster I will display.) From these two books we learn how to be "United", and begin "networking our city into "The Best Public Enterprise Team in the World"." There is also a third book, entitled: The Thirteen-Year Evolution of The People\*s Answer Project.

Land use: Learn why permitting land monopoly and land speculation is not the way to operate

a society. Learn the lesson of the ages--the "injustice" of it and the degrading social effects.

Taxes: Learn why we should end all taxation as now collected; how we should raise the public fund; the "justice" of the way proposed; the "injustice" of the way we now do it; how land monopoly and land speculation force it on us; and how the new and "just" way would raise all we need.

"Free" public transportation: Learn how we can accomplish this-and why justice demands it.

Way-out-of-control crime and drugs: Learn about "The Nowhere to Run, Nowhere to Hide Project"—how we can organize our entire city and skillfully win back our streets and subway system, working with the police and government. Learn how it all came to be—with injustice at its root.

Public treasuries city, state, federal: Learn why we never have enough public funds. Learn the right way to raise public funds. State and national referendums are needed; we must organize!

Housing and homelessness: Learn how we can solve this injustice. Learn the cause and remedy.

Jobs: Learn how we can have wages tend to the maximum, not to the barest minimum; open natural opportunities for everyone; how we can end unemployment and man-made cyclical recurrences of industrial and business depressions and recessions. Learn why all this is not now the case.

The sacred "rights of property": Learn what "justly" belongs to the fruits of labor and capital; what "justly" belongs to the community treasury (all unearned increments; gained by government awarded monopoly privileges and special privileges to some of our citizens). Learn about the degrading social effects of land monopoly and land speculation—and the great injustice of it.

Groups that should contact The People\*s Forum Network: Every single one! Civic, think tanks, political, UN, congress, senate, youth, senior citizen, religious, business, community, community boards, block associations, developers, home owners, advocacy, ethnic, schools, colleges, etc.

Ground rules for forums, debates, lectures, conferences, meetings: Your group: (1) selects the subject matter to be dealt with (after the first session and you have a basic understanding of the above ten interrelated subjects); (2) chooses the amount of time—1, 2, 3, 4 hours, or longer; (3) calls in the economists, experts, authorities, and politicians who you would like to have exchange views with all those people that I bring in—like a "point-counterpoint" or like a "cross-fire" (the point is to publicly spotlight all social ignorance, error, injustice, and to formulate solutions); (4) supplies the meeting place, the audience, microphones—if needed, etc.; (5) can even formulate the questions and define the topics and the parameters that both sides must address. If you cannot find anyone with the "courage" to come and face, in public discussion, all those people that I will bring forward, no problem, my side will always be there to inform, guide, assist, discuss, and address the hard and tough questions that your group wants to inquire into; and (6) can tape and/or film; can even invite the media and their cameras in.

It's time to let the people choose for themselves—between truth and ignorance; between truth and dogma; and between truth and falsity. You know, society's condition at all times is a direct reflection of the quality of its overall knowledge, wisdom, and leadership; and this "leadership" must include all the people who guide politics, economics, education, social reform, media, journalism, business, communications, religion, philosophy and science.

"Ideas rule the world"—or should! Here's the bottom line to my current goals: I know that I can't possibly win—this time around; having no team, I haven't even pursued acquiring the required signatures. But the wisdom, knowledge, ideas, information, and solutions that I can

provide to all the important issues facing our great city, within the context of the "public dialogue" of this mayoral campaign, in these last five weeks of the race, are most important. That's my goal—to put practical solutions before all candidates who are running for mayor, or for any other political office of our city, to consider. As you all know, I've been struggling to get into the public dialogue with many issues—as my prior six mailings to you clearly indicated.

If we are ever going to solve our common social problems, citywide, nationwide, and worldwide, we need to give ourselves a real good cleansing-a wide-open and open-minded search for "truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth", no matter what particular institutions, ideas, pet economic theories, dogmas, long-standing political and economic procedures and social structures, or any other long-standing and cherished concepts that have to fall by the wayside under the very heavy "hammer" of truth and of the associated right thinking, right ideas, right doing, and right human relations. Does anyone think that anything less than a wide-open public education and dialogue, letting the chips fall where they may, on all subjects, will ever do any good? Does anyone have the gall to stand up in the blaze of the public spotlight and tell us that all is OK on the "Western Front"? -- and proclaim this as a "self-evident" fact: that truth, justice, liberty, equality, fraternity, freedom, equal opportunity for all, is the order of the day in the United States?--That we all benefit from those just, high, holy, and sacred social ground rules that would naturally free us, and really permit each of us to pursue, equally and fairly, our "inalienable" and most sacred right to "life, liberty, and happiness", as it was originally envisioned for America? Will he or she say that this actually is what's going on all around us within our so-called democratic political laws, rules, and regulations? Who will dare to proclaim this?--when tens of millions of our fellow citizens suffer in the thousand and one ways that the slime of special privilege for a few, and unjust and unequal opportunity for everyone else, leads to--ridiculously known in such tricky terms as the "status quo" and the "mainstream". Is degradation, across-the-board of our social life, what we here in America, the beacon of hope for our suffering humanity, actually want to permit to continue to be the mainstream of our social activity? Heaven forbids it to continue! Enough of us are awake now! All hands are needed on deck to rid us of all tyranny! All hands are needed to help change the rules-the laws! It is time for justice!

By the way, when I finally get into the mayor's office, I will take the whole People\*s Forum Network with me. By that time, it will have grown to become a great "network of networks"—The People\*s United-Neighborhoods Political, Social, and Economic Force. That's my vision, and that's my goal; and it won't even matter if I never get into office, because, this citywide network that we are going to build belongs to the people, and will be guiding and working very closely with the mayor's office (just as close as a hand in a glove), as well as with every other department of our city government, no matter who comes or goes, rises or falls, from these elected and appointed positions. We need real servants of "We the People"—not private clubs, gangs, or rulers!

In my 5th mailing, I said: I will "stump, barnstorm, and whistlestop around New York Cityday and night". Since I'm campaigning without a team, my declared open-invitation is my method. I now await all contact. Consider me in action—now! I will soon be taking the manuscripts to the copyshop. I will contact you upon their completion. Meanwhile, feel free to contact me for any reason. I'll call you back if I am not in. I also will let you know when the booktable display is complete, and I am ready to set up my headquarters on Fifth Avenue. I would like to say this to all of you who are advocates and social reformers: I ask no one to stop working on their particular part of the many social ills we suffer from. But I do ask all of you to also work on this most important root problem; keep it an issue!—this first cause of every social problem. (Actually, the real first cause is a spiritual one, but I wear another hat to discuss this.) If we all work on the land and tax problem we will each be truly working on any particular problem—no matter which one any of us is involved with. If you open-mindedly check this subject out, I promise you a whole new and clear look at our world.

I sent you many pamphlets ("ammunition") in my first six mailings. Here are two more: (1) The New Barbarians: The Continuing Relevance of Henry George; and (2) Land, People, Wealth in the 90°s. This one is the catalog. I suggest reading it as a book because it is quite an enlightening "overview".

Forever yours in Universal Brotherhood and all "United" action, John J. DeSantis Jr., Independent Candidate for Mayor of N.Y.C.

John J. De Santis Ji