

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF CHILD, FAMILY AND COMMUNITY STUDIES

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February 18, 1988

Ms. Gia Munguia
Psychological Examining Committee
1430 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Ms. Munguia:

It is a pleasure and a privilege for me to write this letter to you on behalf of Dr. Peter Ernest Haiman, in support of his request for a waiver of the need to take the licensing examination in order to become a licensed psychologist in the state of California.

I have known Dr. Haiman for almost two decades. He is one of the true pioneers in contributing to innovative and effective ways to design programs to serve low-income, low-education families and their very young children. He developed a unique programmatic format (which later became a prototype for inner city programs for infant development and family life education) at the Hough Parent and Child Center in Cleveland, Ohio. This Center became prominent as an example of what can be accomplished in a successful Parent and Child Center program. Dr. Haiman's physical energy, kindness, cheerful, considerate personality and considerable professional skills contributed significantly to the success of this pioneer effort.

Dr. Haiman's further contributions on a national basis to the welfare of minorities in this country lie in the work he did outstandingly in gathering and analysing data in Cleveland for the U.S. Civil Rights Commission's 1967 Report "Racial isolation in the public schools." This significant contribution to the field of psychology helped the ever accelerating process of the next decades toward increasing equality and integration of public school experiences.

On a more personal and practical level for the lives of minority families, I consider that the set of five child-rearing pamphlets developed by Dr. Haiman have been invaluable in programs that serve low-education minority families. One of the booklets is titled "Soul Mother." These easy-to-read, lovingly illustrated pamphlets made it possible for low literacy families to be served with important and critical information for improving child rearing skills. These pamphlets had national dissemination. We used them in our own pioneer intervention project, The Syracuse University Children's Center and Family Development Research Program in helping to enhance the lives and the parenting skills of the low-income adolescent mothers we served.

A further impressive contribution of Dr. Haiman's has been his work as Principal Investigator at the Far West Regional Laboratory in San Francisco, where Dr. Haiman initiated and conducted a study of participatory decision making in social service programs. This project described for the first time the process by which adult recipients of service acquire a sense of personal ownership, which can increase the effectiveness of a social service program in changing attitudes and behaviors of adult participants. This significant area of impact has too often been neglected in state and national projects that purport to serve disadvantaged persons.

Dr. Haiman has, over many many years, served as a consultant and trainer to many projects serving children and families - including Head Start and U.S. Coast Guard programs. He has trained trainers for these projects as well.

The work that Dr. Haiman has accomplished in empowering low socioeconomic families, and enhancing the lives of parents and young children in special model projects as well as the contributions described above make it clear that he has already made several significant contributions on a nation-wide basis to the field of psychology. I hope you will consider favorably, therefore, his request for an examination waiver.

Very sincerely yours,

Alice S. Honig, Ph.D.
Professor of Child Development
Child, Family & Community Studies

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