

THE HENRY HAZLITT FOUNDATION

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Dear Dr. Sennholz:

Thank you very much for your blessing on using the Henry Hazlitt name. I'm confident that we will do it justice.

In your letter to me, you wrote "If The Freeman led you to the light, why did you abandon the guide?" I assume that by "the guide" you mean FEE and The Freeman, and I'd very much like to give you an answer.

I was a loyal Freeman reader for about two years during college. And I mean *loyal*. I probably read every article in every issue. It was an exciting time for me. I had never even considered most of the issues that The Freeman was bringing up. Reading it made me genuinely excited about ideas in a way that I had never been before. It was the single most important influence on my intellectual development.

I once wrote a letter to FEE, asking for advice on how I could contribute to the cause of liberty. I was an enthusiastic young college student – perhaps overly enthusiastic. Bettina gave me a personal response. It was one of the most meaningful little letters I'd ever received. She gave me Leonard Read's sage advice: the only person you can really change is yourself, and the best way to help the cause of liberty is to become a student of ideas.

Shortly thereafter, I transferred to NYU to study under Israel Kirzner and the other Austrians. And I always stayed involved with FEE. I arranged a visit up to Irvington for my college club, and Bettina herself gave us the tour. I was as touched by this as I was by her letter. I remember many other trips up to FEE as well, especially the memorial service for Henry Hazlitt.

I've always stayed in touch with FEE professionally too. Although it has never come up, I've always thought it would be nice to work for the organization. I did get to work with people like Bill Fox through my position as managing editor of Laissez Faire Books.

Internet projects now consume me professionally. And although I've come close to working with FEE in designing a Web site or partnering with free-market.com, that has never quite come to pass. I expect we'll have plenty of opportunities for this through the new Henry Hazlitt Foundation and free-market.net. (I've enclosed the executive summary of our business plan, in case you're interested.)