

## 2009 Virginia Women in History

### TRANSCRIPTION

Letter to Mr. Eisenhower, Drew Gilpin Faust, 9 February 1957 (misdated 1956),  
Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library

LAKEVILLE FARM  
BOYCE, VA.  
FEB. 12, 1956

DEAR MR. EISENHOWER,

I AM NINE YEARS OLD AND I AM WHITE BUT I HAVE MANY FEELINGS ABOUT  
SEGREGATION. WHY SHOULD PEOPLE FEEL THAT WAY BECAUSE THE COLOR OF THE SKIN? IF I  
PAINTED MY FACE BLACK I WOULDN'T BE LET IN ANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS etc. MY FEELINGS HAVEN'T  
CHANGED, JUST THE COLOR OF MY SKIN.

LONG AGO ON CHRISTMAS DAY JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN. AS YOU REMEMBER HE  
WAS BORN TO SAVE THE WORLD. NOT ONLY WHITE PEOPLE BUT BLACK YELLOW RED AND BROWN.

COLORED PEOPLE AREN'T GIVEN A CHANCE. "THEY DONT HAVE A GOOD  
EDUCATION," SAYS MANY PEOPLE. Is it their fault if THEIR FATHERS ARE SO POOR THEY Must be  
taken out at an early age TO FIND JOBS? ONLY ABOUT 2% of our prep SCHOOLS are for colored  
people.

SO WHAT IF THEIR SKIN IS BLACK? THEY STILL HAVE FEELINGS BUT MOST OF ALL  
ARE GOD'S PEOPLE!

PLEASE MR EISENHOWER, PLEASE TRY AND HAVE SCHOOLS and other THINGS  
ACCEPT COLORED PEOPLE.

Sincerly, [sic]

CATHERINE DREW GILPIN