

CROW HOLDINGS

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April 3, 2019

**David Oxtoby
President
American Academy of Arts and Sciences
136 Irving Street
Cambridge, MA 02138**

Dear David:

It was a privilege to meet you and welcome the Commission members to my home the other night, but I was distressed to hear from Caroline Brettell that someone or some persons were offended by some of the WWII –related stuff that they discovered in my library.

For forty of fifty years now, I have collected mostly books and manuscripts, but a few artifacts that relate to American history. It seems reasonably obvious to me that materials on American history would relate to the good and the bad of American history, so I do have books and manuscripts that relate to American slavery, Indian genocide, to people such Benedict Arnold or James Earl Ray, and I have things that relate to some American opponents such as Nazi Germany, Imperial Japan and the communist states, the Soviet Union, and the Republic of China, but none of these are presented in a way that would be easy or obvious for the public to see unless someone is opening cases or cabinets where we keep those materials.

I have actually found that in the African American community some scholars are very anxious to have access to these kinds of materials in pursuit of their scholarship.

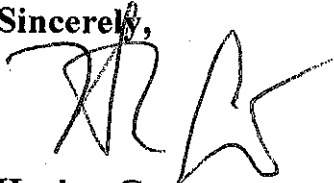
But, I understand that some people were offended by the presence of these materials, and I am sorry that anyone would be offended. Anyway, I suppose everyone has their own view on these materials.

I would very much hope it would be completely obvious that having anything that related to Nazis or slavery could not possibly be interpreted as support or glorification for those evils.

I enclose a couple of books, which were made a few years ago and represent some of the materials in the library.

I send them to you personally in the hope these might be interesting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'HARLAN CROW', written in a cursive style.

Harlan Crow

HC:md

cc Caroline Brettell