3432 ASHLEY TERRACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20008

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D.C. BOARD OF ZONING
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Mr. Geoffrey Griffis
Board of Zoning Adjustmnet
441 W. 4th Street nw. #201
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re. Case 16970, Square 2072

My wife and I have lived at the above address, around the corner from the National Child Research Center, for more than thirty years. We raised three sons here, and we are now helping to raise our grandchildren. Throughout this period we have taken pleasure at being a neighbor of NCRC. Though NCRC was totally out of keeping with the residential nature of our neighborhood, and probably should never have been placed there in the first place, we never raised objections to its presence.

That has changed with the strong-armed effort of NCRC to dismiss the concerns of its neighbors in order to expand its size. It may be that there is a shortage of child-care facilities in Washington and that it is time for NCRC to expand. I am not concerned about property values, and I would even help financially if NCRC chose to move to another location, which seems a proper response to such needs.

NCRC is, after all, a commercial institution. Already an anomaly in our residential environment, it now proposes a leap which could transform Cleveland Park. It currently clogs Highland Place with the traffic of outsiders several times a day; its expansion would surely tip us into daily gridlock. We in the neighborhood have learned of an appalling plan to make Highland Place one-way to accommodate the added traffic. Not only is such a plan an outrageous inconvenience to current residents. In my judgment, by funneling cars from my own street into Highland Place, it would make the site much more dangerous for children, my own included, but ironically NCRC students as well.

I have until now largely stayed out of the dispute between the neighborhood and NCRC. But since my family will be directly affected by the one-way plan, I would like to register my profound opposition to any change other than NCRC's relocation.

Sincerely yours,

Milton Viorst

cc. Mr. Andrew Altman, Director, Office of Planning
Mayor Williams
Councilwoman Kathy Patterson

BZA
Case No. 16970
Exhibit No. 150

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Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16970
EXHIBIT NO.150