



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Education

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Michael N. Rader, Esq.  
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600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02210-2206

Sarah R. Wunsch, Esq.  
ACLU of Massachusetts  
211 Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02110

Re: *Kohn et al. v. Barker et al.*, Civil Action No. MICV2001-05374

Dear Mr. Rader and Ms. Wunsch:

Guided by the declaratory judgment of the Superior Court, the Department of Education acknowledges that a former DOE official violated the First Amendment rights of Alfie Kohn to be heard and to communicate information, and of people to hear and receive information, at a conference in western Massachusetts in 2001. The DOE's position is that vigorous debate about education issues is healthy and welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rhoda E. Schneider".

Rhoda E. Schneider  
General Counsel