

Karen Pierce

Dear Honorable Judge Hudson:

I was Michael Vick's 7th grade English and Reading teacher and hope you will take this letter into consideration prior to sentencing him on December 10th.

I am a middle aged widow with 3 children, and I am currently living and teaching in Suffolk, Virginia. I am a Christian and an avid dog lover who has adopted 3 dogs and 2 cats over the past 15 years from the SPCA. I am against dog fighting and abhor any violence toward animals.

I have known Michael since he was 12 years old, and I am on the Board of Directors for **The Vick Foundation** in a volunteer capacity, meaning I am not and never have been a paid employee of his. I run the **MVP Club** (Michael Vick's People) at Huntington Middle School which is geared toward keeping at-risk boys in school and out of trouble.

The Michael Vick whom I've known for years is shy and quiet around people he doesn't know well. He is uncomfortable speaking in front of large groups or at press conferences. He helps many children and adults in need when their plight is brought to his attention, yet he rarely lets any of these deeds known to anyone beyond his assistant or mother. Mike has a strong desire to help others and has trouble saying no when anyone asks something of him. Sometimes this can be a good thing but other times this can be a fault.

His huge popularity and the demands it placed on him once he entered the NFL at such a young age was very hard on Mike. I know it's easy to be cynical and think how can one feel sorry for someone with fame and money? However, it truly caused Mike to cling to his past and his old friends because it felt safe to him. The Michael Vick whom I've known for over half of his lifetime really is a good person. He is loyal to a fault to people from his past who probably should not have been a part of his life anymore. He may be a leader on the football field but not among his friends. They take advantage of him because he doesn't say no to anyone. He is happiest when fishing out on the water or hanging out quietly with one or two people, especially his siblings, children, or his mother.

A few years ago, Michael asked me if I would serve on the board of a foundation that he was setting up so that he could help as many at-risk kids as possible. I was very excited about this vision because I love working with children, but I

asked, "Why me?" I am a white, middle aged female who appears to have very little in common with Mike. There were plenty of other people who would have been happy to serve on the board. Mike's answer was because he needed people he could trust on the board since what we were going to do would be so important to so many children. We decided to focus on middle school kids at Michael's request and we had just gotten through our first full year of work when the Surry property that Mike owned was searched.

This brings me to my main concern. Michael and **The Vick Foundation** can do so much good if he is able to work. So far, we have operated only on money donated by Michael and money raised through a single golf tournament in 2006. For this foundation to be able to continue operating and helping at-risk middle school kids through after school programming and grants, we need Mike to be able to play in the NFL and attend charity events.

Wouldn't it be much more beneficial for Michael to make some kind of financial penance to the Humane Societies in Virginia and perform community service than for him to spend more time in jail? He could speak to teenagers, especially those athletes who may make it into the college and professional level. He would be able to share with them firsthand how difficult it is to separate one's new life from those people from your past who make you feel as if you owe it to them to support them. He can tell these teenagers that even if your dad, uncle, brother, or best friend is doing something illegal, that you must be man enough to say you won't get involved. Mike isn't comfortable speaking to groups, but I believe he could make a big difference by speaking to groups of kids who are faced every day with choices about what kind of people they will become. Let him ask others to learn from his mistakes.

Mike is not the person being depicted by the media nor is he a dangerous criminal. He is a good person who has made some mistakes and who took awhile to grow up, but I believe he has been truly remorseful these past six months. He does so much for people in the community that you never hear about. Please give him the opportunity to pay for his crime in a way that enables him to continue his career and continue the work of **The Vick Foundation**. You can send a message that dog fighting is wrong but still punish him in a way that won't hurt the kids that we can be reaching if Mike were free to work.

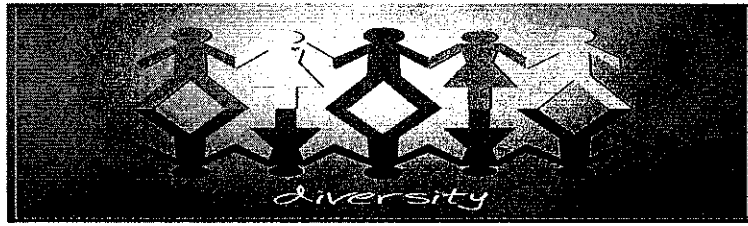
Thank you, your Honor, for taking the time to read my letter. I will be in court on December 10th should you have any questions for me.

Sincerely,



Karen L. Pierce

Brotherhood, Inc.



—for the betterment of mankind—

The Honorable Judge Henry Hudson
Lewis F. Powell, Jr. U.S. Courthouse
1000 E. Main Street, Ste. 305
Richmond, VA 23219-3525

Dear Judge Hudson:

I am writing to provide a character reference for Michael Vick, and to support his court's sentence on December 10, 2007. In September of 2005, I had occasion to contact Michael in reference to ongoing leadership problems involving his position with the Atlanta Falcons. Last year, Mr. Vick successfully completed the pre-development program in good standing. The Brotherhood program is geared to athletes (professional and non-professional) who are seeking or working in leadership positions in their communities in Georgia. The requirements are rigorous instructions on organizational behavior and leadership development over two years which will serve as a model for teammates to follow. In addition, he has shown initiative, commitment to succeed in his position, and concern for the community. And in my observation of his work demeanor and ethics, he clearly indicated a sincere desire to be a great leader. Altogether, based on his work ethics and leadership capabilities, I believe Michael will be an asset to the community, if given the opportunity.

Of course, I am in agreement that Michael has obligations to your court that he must meet and feel it is permissible on his behalf to address them. Because I believe that he is making his best effort to do retribution for his illegal behavior, I hope the court will use its discretion to assist him to become a rehabilitated, productive and participatory member to the community again. Now, may I express some personal opinions and conclusions, for which I hope I will be pardoned. In 12 years of teaching in several grade level schools, running though the personal life of 1 child; I have serviced more than 12,000 children from all socio-economic levels. I have witnessed the change of morals, behaviors, and the development and improvement of our nation's education system, somewhat more extensively, I believe, than has the average educator. For the past five years, I have had occasion and opportunity to study, observe and mentor young adolescents, teenagers and young adults from American cultures that are less than tolerant for genocide. And in this field, I have certainly been afforded somewhat of an insight into family pathology. Then to, my insight made available the opportunity to qualify, if you please, as a counselor after battling against the chic world of ----drugs, teenage sex, violence, abuse and neglect, and gang involvement----- with its circles, trick lifestyles, and pleasures.

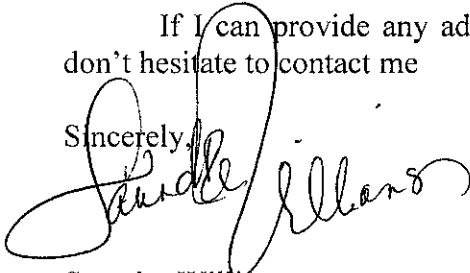
Against this background, I shall therefore presume to speak in reference to Michael. The self-destructive creature that Michael Vick became did not just spontaneously evolve into existence. He was reared as the oldest child in the low-life chic world of drugs, teenage sex,

gang violence and pandering by a single mother with other siblings. He had no male control figure in his world and most times, males were only allowed to exist for power and pleasure, not responsibility. Even coaches can fail to provide mentoring once they discovered that he was far more valuable to them than they were to him. And did he not raise VA Tech's reputation and money-making capabilities to the rafters so even the highest could have winked? Then PETA and SPCA had tried for three years to get the NFL to investigate Michael and "other players" for this atrocious, degrading sport[?], and was the NFL too, like the aforementioned forces. Now all too sadly, his career is gone, his money is gone and his name is a synonym for grotesque behavior.

As an educator, it seriously bemoans most teachers to witness death and destruction through family pathology, education systems and religious benefactors. By no means Sir, do I believe that Michael is not responsible for his bad choices as an adult. We all make mistakes. And with this understanding in context, please be open to mitigating issues, circumstances and damages that have certainly caused him much grief and remorse for such bad choices. Last, I'd like to tell you what I mean by brotherhood--- and the best way to say it is to tell you what I don't mean by brotherhood. "Brotherhood" to me means behaving by the simple rules of decency, regardless of how he parts his hair, the size of his bank account, the color of his skin, or the religious faith he follows. Brotherhood means appraising every student for what he or she is worth inside----as a teacher and as a friend. And when you boil that down, what does it mean to an educator except living by the American code that says, "The child counts ahead of everything else----No Child Should Be Left Behind."

If I can provide any additional information regarding Mr. Vick or our program, please don't hesitate to contact me

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandra Williams". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Sandra Williams
Program Director

file

November 6, 2007

The Honorable Henry E. Hudson
United States District Court for the
Eastern District of Virginia
Lewis F. Powell, Jr., U.S. Courthouse
1000 East Main Street, Suite 305
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Judge Hudson:

I am writing to you in my personal capacity as a friend and mentor of Michael Vick. Through this letter, I hope I can convey to you the type of person he is and the extraordinary good works he has done to support low-income and minority children and families in the Newport News area.

As a lifetime resident of the Newport News/Hampton area, for the last 39 years, I have worked at the local Boys & Girls Clubs helping youth in our distressed community. Throughout this time, I had the experience of losing many of our young men and women to gangs, drugs, prison and violence. It has been one of my goals in life to do everything I can to stop this trend.

I met Michael Vick when he was 9-years-old and a member of the Newport News Boys & Girls Club. I realized immediately that he was a unique child — one eager to learn, who listened and also had special athletic talent. He played football and basketball for our Club at an early age and was committed to sports. I mentored him and guided him through his junior high and high school careers. I pride myself on helping to keep him on the “straight and narrow” during this time period despite the many obstacles present in his community. He lived in one of the most difficult housing projects in our area and had a loving mother, grandmother, and family. I, along with some of his other coaches, became his “father-figures”. I went to all his high school football games and served as one of his mentors, by visiting his schools, talking to his teachers, and offering my help as much as I could.

After Mike accepted the scholarship from Virginia Tech, he became a person that the other children in the Club looked up to. When he came home during his college years, he would regularly volunteer at the Club, talking with the youth, helping them with their homework and assisting their coaches. We remained his “home” and “family.”

When Mike decided to pursue a professional football career and enter the draft, it was a tribute to us that he made the announcement at our Boys & Girls Club. It showed me, our children and the community we serve that we were an important part of his life and sent a strong message about our work. Upon signing an NFL contract with the Atlanta Falcons, he never forgot us. His generosity became legendary in our community, not only for the money he donated, but for the personal time he continued to spend with our kids. For a number of summers, he would sponsor hundreds of kids to his week-long football camp in Atlanta. In other years, he sponsored buses and paid for "field trips" for up to 50 of our kids to attend Falcons games. He brought us to Atlanta, paid for our hotel, showed us around the facilities and treated all the youth as if they were his own. When he signed his contract, he immediately donated \$25,000 to our Club to supplement operating expenses and to buy new football uniforms.

While Mike was generous with his money, he was even more generous with the time he spent with our kids and our community. On Thanksgivings he would serve dinner to the homeless at our Club. At Easter, he sponsored and participated in an Easter egg hunt for the children in our community. During Christmas-times, he would also give a lot of gifts to our disadvantaged youth; all in an effort to ease some of their pains that was a part of their lives. He routinely spent time speaking and mentoring our young men and women.

I have spent time with Mike since he was charged and pled guilty in this case. I can personally attest to his remorse, his embarrassment and his atonement. At the age of 26, he has learned a life's lesson about the people he needs to associate with and the illegality of what had become accepted behavior while he was growing up. In Denzel Washington's book *The Hands That Guide Me*, Mike stated that I was one of the most significant people who guided him in his life. My single biggest regret in my years as his mentor is that I did not pay close enough attention to him when he moved to Atlanta and became a professional football player. We tend to hold athletes like him on a pedestal, thinking that they are immune to life's everyday pressures and temptations. We know now that they are not.

Your Honor, thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I am confident that if you give Mike a second chance that he will never disappoint you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James ("Poo") Johnson

Law Offices
Jonathan David Bachrach, P.C.
Attorneys At Law
44 Wall Street - 14th Floor
New York, NY 10005
(212) 977-2400 / Fax: (212) 425-7703

November 28, 2007

Hon. Judge Henry E. Hudson
U.S. Courthouse
1000 E. Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Sentencing of Michael Vick

To this Honorable Court,

This letter is in support of a fair and just sentence for Michael Vick.

I am not a big sports fan and I have never met Michael Vick nor even seen him on T.V. I don't know anyone associated with the case. I have never attended a dog fight and don't expect to.

I love in dogs. I have had several throughout my life and I loved them very much. However, it should be kept in perspective that dogs are dogs, not people.

As a lawyer, I have a special concern for justice.

Michael Vick's crimes were serious and he deserves to be punished.

However, I respectfully request the Court to consider that Mr. Vick has lost at least \$200,000,000.00 on account of his cruelty to dogs. True, people are calling for his head and wish him to be imprisoned for several lifetimes.

Yet, Mr. Vick is now quite clear on the wrongfulness of his acts and is unlikely to commit these acts again. We should look to have the punishment fit the crime - dogs are simply not being human beings.

At the very worst, Michael Vick should not receive a harsher sentence than some other person who was not a celebrity, whose case did not make the papers and who was not a zillionaire.

I respectfully submit that six months in jail would certainly be *plenty*. Anything over 18 months would certainly be a grave injustice in my view.

Respectfully submitted,

JONATHAN DAVID BACHRACH
JDB:tt

Seeking Aid Personally

November 9, 2007

Attention: Honorable Judge Presiding in the Case for **Michael Vick**

To: The **Honorable Judge**

Your Honorable Judge, I Robin Whitehead submit this letter on behalf of Michael Vick. I am his Sister in Christ and I would appreciate if you would take just a few minutes to hear my plea. This letter is of my own doing and no one has coerced or influenced me to write it, it is done of my own free will and that what God has led me to do.

I know in my heart that Michael has been tested and his faith is now on the line. I do not wish to justify his past actions however, mistakes occur in all men lives. I pray you weigh the burdens of judgment that is placed against him, because you are in the position to show God's mercy and grace.

You can help so many others by allowing Michael the chance to speak to the many or mass individual's who are still conducting unlawful acts within the dog fighting trade. I'm sure he does not stand alone and I know he can be a positive example for the many still involved in that activity. Incarceration in my opinion will only "fail" any attempts at gratification for animal activist, children, and society as a whole.

The judicial system is for rehabilitation of individuals and what better way to help Michael Vick then to let him remain free, and provide awareness to the public. For the Lord said "Vengeance is mine saith the Lord" I believe the suffering that this man endured could never surmount to the death of any animal, nor the material wealth that was stripped away from him. I say this because I believe Michael is a man of integrity, honesty, and he will have self-perseverance. For who are we that we must condemn a person to the point of personal self bias? I trust in my Lord with all my heart and I don't know you but I trust that you will pray, the Day of Judgment and act accordingly.

As for me, I am the founder of *Seeking Aid Personally* (SAP) a non-profit support group for the Empowerment of All People. I also have a crisis hot line available for women in distress; however I work with males on different occasions. I provide individual and group counseling and I feel that Michael would benefit in supportive community development organizations. We need to educate our youth and young males so that this type of situation never occurs, regardless of class or status. I ask you not to look at his position but look at the disposition. I know you may not agree because of his past negative drug test, however the devil is a liar! At some point temptation comes in to soothe the pain, and as humans we tend to be weak. He fell short because he suffered, but I can say now that Jesus has touched and changed this mans life, out look on life, and the redirection of his life. All glory to be God, for he has given Michael a gift that will soothe all his sorrows and pains, for now he know where his help cometh from - "Jesus".

Pg 2.

In addressing one more issue I would like to inform you that I believe you are an admirable person to your own kind; family, friends, and associates. Please take into consideration that Michael Vick is an admirable person to many as well. In my professional opinion Michael has a personality, character that triumphs in the face of many adversities. I am willing to provide free counseling, referrals to PETA, and support in any way that I can. I have witnessed personal growth and share the painful experiences regarding his life. Fortunately as he faces these trials he continues to emerge with a new confidence.

Michael has demonstrated perseverance, determination, courage, and faithfulness at Psalms Ministry. He has since been a good role model to the children and now need the opportunity to prove that he is a good person, who made errors.

In closing this letter, I Robin Whitehead take pride in giving this statement on behalf of Michael Vick. My goal is to aid others in need of employment, counseling, education, and helping to improve their quality of life. I submit this letter to Your Honorable Judge as an advocator and I am willing to appear in person. I ask you to be people conscience, professional, and a man of integrity one who may go above and beyond what is asked of him and puts the individuals first. I trust that God will guide you as you go forth with the task that is bestowed upon you - "Justice".

I thank you for your time and consideration and I pray that God will continue to bless you and all that you do. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or write the address below. You have a good day!

Sincerely,



Robin R. Whitehead
CEO, *SAP*

RW/jjb

Cc; HJ, MVick,

To whom God has intended this letter:

I have known Michael Vick and his lovely family for a short while, but in this time they have become family like that of my own. I have had the opportunity to see the side of Michael Vick that the media does not exploit. While the media ranted about his minor mistakes, Michael Vick was being a role model to those who have idolized him by displaying honesty and humility. While society and the superficially impressionable masses were cursing Michael, he was seeking spiritual redemption and breaking away from negative strongholds in his life. While the social order publicly attempted to destroy his foundation, Michael was dedicating a church to those who have dedicated their lives to the Most High.

Through all these events, Michael's character has prevailed victorious. In the eyes of many, unpublicized, he has continued to be a positive force and a role model. It would be a great injustice to remove Michael from the lives of those he enriches everyday. I ask, in the name of many, that you consider these things in your adjudication and not utilize justice for a few to create an injustice for many.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nakeia B. Ervin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Nakeia B. Ervin