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April 9, 1992

Mr. Joseph A. Haran, Jr. 6416 Northeast 35th Avenue Portland, Oregon 97211-7230

Dear Mr. Haran:

Thank you for your letter about Tonya Harding. She is a dear young lady and I like both her and her skating very much.

I simply cannot, however, actively come to her defense. I wouldn't know who to approach and I wouldn't even know what route to take.

I think the real problem is that Tonya has to recognize that when she does certain things that the press will interpret them in certain ways and will have a heyday doing it. That's all part of the business of: a) growing up and, b) becoming more sophisticated in this field.

Tonya is a very bright young lady and will learn this instinctively and very quickly herself.

She is wonderful and I'm glad you like her too. Should your path ever cross with hers, I hope you will give her my best. Thank you for writing.

Sincerely yours,

Dick Button

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