

August 7, 2014

The Honorable Richard Berman  
U.S. District Court  
Southern District of New York  
40 Foley Square  
New York NY 10007

Dear Judge Berman:

I am writing on behalf of Dinesh J. D'Souza, whose case and sentencing are on your docket.

First, a little bit about myself--I am a former law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Supreme Court of the United States.; former litigator at Skadden, Arps et al., and now an author and television and radio commentator. I am a single mother, the adoptive mother of three small children, and live in Washington, DC.

I have known Dinesh since 1982, when we were both students at Dartmouth College. Almost immediately upon meeting him, I was struck by his unpretentious and diligent approach to life as an undergraduate. When other students partied at frats, Dinesh worked as a stringer for a Catholic newspaper to make a few dollars. Having come to the U.S. as a 17-year-old exchange student from India, Dinesh didn't have "spending money." He made it all himself. Classmates teased him because he possessed exactly one pair of shoes (with huge holes in the soles!) I didn't care—Dinesh was teaching me how to write a news story, edit copy, track down sources and most importantly, to stay firm in my principles.

Of course it is true that Dinesh went on to become a successful writer, lecturer and filmmaker—but his most important contribution and achievement has been raising his smart, delightful, sweet daughter Danielle. She is just about to enter her first year at her dad's alma mater, and would be devastated not to have him actively present as she navigates her new life.

Dinesh is simply one of the finest human beings I have ever met. His generosity of spirit, philanthropy, keen sense of compassion, and devotion to country are what I hope my own children exhibit when they mature into adults. Until this recent unfortunate chapter, his life had been the quintessential immigrant success story.

I understand the facts of his case and that the court takes his plea very seriously. I simply urge, during this sentencing phase, that you to consider his life in its totality—his contributions, humility, and compassion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Laura Ingraham  
5058 Sedgwick St NW  
Washington DC 20016