

10 DOWNING STREET

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THE PRIME MINISTER

21 November, 1983.

My dear Kirth.

I have, as you know, seen copies of your correspondence with Caroline Cox and John Marks about their research.

Like you, I deeply regret the fact that they should have been the victims of unauthorised disclosures of internal papers. For this reason alone, we owe it to them to seek a resolution of the differences with your Department over research methods. I hope that you will pursue this urgently, and that you will then reconsider their application for public funding. It seems to me that the work of the National Council for Educational Standards promises to be of considerable value, given parental concern about standards in secondary schools.

1 am very concerned about this

Yours even

against

The Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Joseph, Bt., M.P.