

18th March, 1958.

My dear Professor,

In view of the fact that the first data obtainable on the question of the influence of genotype on smoking habits should have been so remarkably informative, I am inclined to give a preliminary notice of this material in a letter to Nature, and I should be very happy if the enclosed draft met so far with your approval that you would be willing to join me in signing it.

The assumption that the association between lung cancer and cigarette-smoking was a matter of direct causation of the disease by the habit. has been so forcibly propagandized and so confidently held that I have no doubt some resentment will be caused among those who find this ill-founded opinion questioned on grounds which they have not even considered. However, I fear this is an inevitable consequence of trying to prevent false opinion from prevailing universally and unquestioned.

Sincerely yours,

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