

24, ROSSLYN HILL,
HAMPSTEAD, N.W. 3.
TELEPHONE, HAMPSTEAD 5016.

AY/2095

March 21st., 1934

Dear Mrs Roberts,

I read the enclosed typescript with intense interest. I am convinced that there is much in what you have set down, though I confess I am rather astonished to learn that it is apparently quite a common psychological state for a man to think himself superior to a woman (and a woman to think herself inferior to a man) because the woman has no penis. When I was a child I was one of rather a crowd of children, my own family being large and several other families playing with us a great deal, and we constantly saw each other naked and I can't remember that any of us ever gave the matter a thought! On the other hand, I do remember one of my married sisters complaining that her fool of a nurse had told one of my nephews, who showed some inclination to masturbate, that if he sinned again his penis would be cut off: and later on that he saw a little girl naked (he had no sisters and this was the first time) and exclaimed with awe that this terrible fate actually had overtaken her! What incredible idiots are some of those who have the care of young children!

Very many thanks for allowing me to see the enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

A. M. Royden.