

Rock Island, Illinois,  
May 12, 1922.

To the Board of Pardons,  
Utah State Penitentiary,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Gentlemen:

It is with a great deal of interest that I have been watching the case of Arthur O. Frank who is an inmate of the above institution and since your decision one month ago, I feel it my duty as a woman and as mother of his two little children to plead to you for leniency towards their father for their sakes.

I can understand how a letter such as you received from California would cause your adverse decision concerning his parole, but after giving it further thought, won't you agree that "truth shot from the arrow of hate is a deadly weapon" and is, without doubt, highly colored with prejudice and revenge? I know that California letter has brought desired results to the writer, but it seems to me there is something better in life than revenge and satisfaction in seeing a young man spend his time in a penitentiary in order to part their daughter and him and cause her to return to their home. Would they be merciful when that was their aim? Of all persons, I could also be revengeful, should I so desire, but your Board is composed of just men and when I, the former wife of Arthur Frank and mother of his two dear little children can petition you to be lenient, I believe you will feel my statements to be unbiased and, moreover, that it is better to honestly plead for mercy rather than to honestly desire and obtain revenge even tho we feel justified.

For a number of years after our marriage Arthur Frank was a good provider, providing honestly and working hard for a home. Before his marriage he worked hard in Rock Island, Illinois, where he was born. I say this because I know he is much more than a "good-for-nothing". What he has done since which has caused his sentence is no doubt true, but at heart I know him and after all hasn't that some worth? Conditions have greatly changed which have caused some men to do the things he did and were he to have his choice of honest work or theft, I know he would not choose the latter. Many men today have been unable to find work, or who have been out of work for a long time and have gotten so badly in debt they have done these things, and even honest men unable to find work are called "good-for-nothing" by some people.

Each day that has passed since I have known of this sentence I have honestly wished another opportunity might be given Arthur, because now he knows the seriousness of his acts and realizes more and more the stain he has placed and is prolonging on the lives of his little ones. Besides this, they are deprived of his support which they need. They are not old enough, being only three and six years, to understand, but the older child is wide awake and I feel if you