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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Genetics

AUG 4 1969

Professor Joshua Lederberg

Dr. Victor W. Sidel
Chief, Community Medicine Unit
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

~~I would be grateful to you
for further information on:~~

Dear Dr. Sidel-

I ran into your atticle in the NEJM, 6/1/61, while continuing my follow-up reading for a series of articles on privacy (and computers).

Would you favor me with reprints of this, and references to or copies of your further writings on the subject.

I would also ask you to give me the benefit of the reference list you must have accumulated on other reactions to your articles, and to the Hoover editorial in 1950.

Did you see Snedeker in the 7/31 issue of NEJM? Its account of the judicial respect for mlaims of medical privilege based on ethical codes contra statutes is I think altogether too optimistic; a court is quite likely, in any case, to point to the divergences of codes, which you so beautifully point out, to defeat any such argument. I might hope that someone like yourself might puncture these delusions.

A propos world medical practice; do European courts in fact accept the broader definition of privileged communication? Do you know of any recent cases? I did not think English law had been revised very much (except possibly for psychiatrists).

Yours sincerely,

Thank you
Joshua Lederberg
Joshua Lederberg

My interest in this material relates in part to background for a weekly column on "Science and Man" which appears weekly in the Washington POST.

VICTOR SIDEL

Encs: