



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS**

**SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES**

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November 17, 1982

Dr. Joshua Lederberg, President
The Rockefeller University
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg;

I've just returned from a month in China to find your note about the newspaper article in the Dallas paper on the Environmental Health Center. I must admit that I did not see the original of the article that you referred to but I have spoken to two people that I consider knowledgeable in this area. Both commented very strongly in the negative when I asked their opinion. The little that I learned is as follows:

The Environmental Health Service is a small freelance operation run by a Dr. William Rea, M.D. This is not listed in the phone book (at least I haven't found it). It is located in north-Dallas across the street from one of our major hospitals. Apparently Dr. Rea was a cardiovascular surgeon who has turned his attention to holistic medicine and now proposes that all allergies are the consequence of exposure to toxic chemicals, i.e. diet, living or working environments etc. He has subjected individuals to rather unique (bizarre ?) modes of treatment which my colleagues seriously question (the word sham came up in both conversations).

From the little I have learned I would be very skeptical about the quality of science used as the basis for decision-making for the treatment of an individual. If you have a special interest in this activity I will try and dig deeper.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron".

Ronald W. Estabrook

