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*J. Letters*

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TO: Robert Hirschfeld, M.D.  
FROM: Max Fink, M.D. *M.F.*  
Subject: Ted Hutchinson's memorandum 14 July 94

Ted is a lay-person who was advised that his son needed ECT in California, and he came up against the community prejudice and legal devices to frustrate its use. He succeeded in getting treatment which was most helpful. Since then, he has read widely in ECT, developed a unique knowledge of the legal issues, especially those affecting the FDA, and the role of the anti-psychiatry movement in the U.S. His 'alerts' to members of the ECT community are respected.

He was instrumental in getting D. P. Devanand, Tom Bolwig, and Harold Sackeim to compile the data in the recent review of the pathology of ECT, the review appeared in the recent number of the *Am. J. Psychiatry*. [He is a co-author].

I take his advice seriously and respect his knowledge.

The APA Task Force on ECT, headed by Richard Weiner, was established in response to requests for advice by the FDA in 1981 or 1982. It is still responding to the FDA, and you may wish to get his advice, to correlate your responses. [Tel: 919-681 8742].