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Catherine L. Smith
W. 524 7th Ave., #403
Spokane, WA 99204

9:25 PM January 18, 1990

Dear Ms. Smith,

I was most upset to read your letter about how you have been victimized by credit fraud. Yes, the sad fact is that you have very little recourse. At the heart of the problem is the fact that our society believes that a single number can be used for both identification and enumeration. And things are getting worse, not better.

In my article in *Whole Earth Review* I had a short side-bar about *The Privacy Journal*, which I often write for. In terms of consumer advocates, Robert Smith, the *Journal's* publisher, is the closest thing that there is. I wanted to call you to find out if it was okay for me to send a copy of your letter to him but, since you didn't give me your phone number (which I discovered is unlisted), I went ahead and sent what you had written to me. (I assumed this was okay since you have already contacted a local newspaper.)

Could you please send me a copy of the articles that were published about your case? And may I use you as an example when I write a similar article in the future? Also, could I please have your phone number so I could ask you a few more questions? I might be able to be of some assistance in your plight.

Thank you very much. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Simson L. Garfinkel

cc: Robert Smith
Privacy Journal
POB 28577
Providence, RI 02908
401-274-7861