

LETTERS

Unpredictable

I bitterly resent the publication of Graeme Sutherland's latest letter (October *Mensa*) describing my "predictably hysterical" comments, particularly since the actual letter I wrote was abridged and rephrased. I resent also the insinuation that I "wish to indulge in more perverse (sic) debate" and should form a SIG.

The intent of my actual letter was to express the views, first, that parents are responsible for their children's reading, and, secondly, that people in general, let alone those of supposedly high intelligence, should be free to express their views to their peers.

I am completely unknown to Graeme Sutherland. I have never attended a Mensa gathering and he has no right, therefore, to describe my reaction as "predictably hysterical", lacking any acquaintance in which to base "predictions". Equally, he has no legal right to assume that I am interested in "perverse (sic) debate" and have his inference published.

Someone more succinct in expression said that he might object to every word someone else said, but would die defending that person's right to speak his views. That is what I feel about transvestites.

Mr Sutherland's second letter comprises almost 400 words. My first was cut to below 40. This is well below 300. I request its appearance in full if individual reputation is of "general interest".

Joy Gargett