

The Society for the Promotion of Kalmyk Culture

1539 NORTH 6th STREET

Philadelphia 22, Pa.

24 Aug 1966

The Hon Stuart F Hamil
President Judge
Maryland Court
Oakland, Maryland

Dear Sir:

I am writing as the President of our community organization in behalf of Lidscha Schowgurow.

This matter has been of great concern not only to his immediate family but also to the entire community of us in Philadelphia. We were concerned not only for Schowgurow, but also for his five children.

As we understand his crime this is a "crime of passion" He would never have committed it except for his state of mind, for he loved his wife very much. For her to have left him was a great embarrassment in our community. But he is a quiet and peaceful man. He would not be a threat to this community or any other. Beyond shame his injury is great because he loved his wife.

Since he has been in prison over two years his children have been helped by his brothers and sister. But they are young and in need not only of the person of their father but also of the support he could give them from working.

If your Honorable Court could take mercy on this man so he could care for his children we would be most grateful. As a community I know that we would find him a job. As the community from which Schowgurow comes and where he will come back we know that he is not a bad person who should be in prison.

I would not write a letter for Schowgurow if the community did not feel this way. The whole situation of his wife leaving and his killing her was painful for us. This is not only because it is against our ways of living but also because we are new Americans and this makes the whole community a bad name. But in this case we think we understand what happened and it is more important that the children should have their father. He is not a bad or violent person.

In the name of our Kalmuk Society I ask that you forgive him.

With deep respect,


George Zagadinow