



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Dr. Charles Steele Jr Rev. Bernard LaFayette Jr
Founding President *President/CEO* *Chairman of the Board*

February 27, 2019

John Stankey
Warner Media
One Time Warner Center
New York, NY 10019

Richard Plepler
Home Box Office, Inc.
1100 Avenue of the
Americas
15th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Randall L. Stephenson
AT&T Corporate
Headquarters
208 South Akard Street
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Sirs,

As national President/CEO of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, I find the posthumous lynching, *Leaving Neverland*, to be both unfair and unacceptable.

It troubles me that HBO/AT&T/Warner Media would lodge allegations against someone who is deceased and not able to defend himself. These same allegations, when raised in trial in a court of law during Michael Jackson's lifetime, affirmed his innocence.

Furthermore, the subjects of the documentary have given numerous conflicting stories and have been widely discredited. Additionally, the documentary is admittedly one-sided, offering no chance for rebuttal.

To try Michael now in the court of public opinion is an affront to his legacy, a smear to his reputation, and incongruent with the principles of justice and reconciliation which our founding president, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. professed in his nonviolence philosophy.

I am voicing these concerns at the behest of the loyal supporters of the Jackson Family. As a human and civil rights leader, I find the concept of the documentary offensive. In the spirit of Dr. King and his nonviolence philosophy, we ask that you reconsider your decision to air this documentary. We are available to meet or discuss this important and sensitive issue at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Steele
President/CEO
National SCLC