To whom it may concern,

We are seeking your assistance to remove the word *midget* from **INSERT DETAILS.** The term midget is deemed offensive by people of short stature, within the Little People (LP) community Little People of America (LPA) is working to eradicate the word. The term dates to 1865, the height of the “freak show” era, and was generally supplied only to short statured persons who were displayed for public amusement. The word *midget* was never coined as the official term to identify people with dwarfism but was created as a label used to refer to people of short stature who were on public display for curiosity and sport. Today, the word *midget* is considered a derogatory slur that can often lead to acts of a derogatory nature towards Little People. Whether the intention of the user of the word is used to bully and to demean, or just as a synonym for small, our collective experience shows us that language has the power to cause permanent damage to one’s self-esteem and identity and can lead to acts of violence and harassment.

Little People of America is a non-profit organization and the world’s oldest and largest dwarfism support organization, and an international, membership-based organization for people with dwarfism and their families. LPA is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with dwarfism throughout their lives while celebrating with great pride Little People’s contribution to social diversity. LPA strives to bring solutions and global awareness to the prominent issues affecting individuals of short stature and their families such examples include advocating to eradicate the word *midget*.

LPA defines dwarfism as a medical or genetic condition that usually results in an adult height of 4'10" or shorter, among both men and women, although in some cases a person with a dwarfing condition may be slightly taller than that. Short stature is generally caused by one of more than 300 medical conditions known as dwarfism.

Removing the word *midget* from **INSERT DETAILS** is the next and proper step on to equality enlightenment. Doing this will create visibility to a type of discrimination that is too often overlooked, or in some cases, accepted as appropriate behavior. As we continue our journey towards equality enlightenment, we must be willing to face culturally accepted subjugation, such as shaming one for their size. Bringing about cultural change is never an easy task, and nothing worth fighting for is ever easy, so now more than ever we need to remain strong in our resolve to acquire equal rights for everyone.

Please support us and remove the term *midget* from **INSERT DETAILS.** For more information visit [www.lpaonline.org](http://www.lpaonline.org).

Sincerely,

NAME /SIGNATURE

CONTACT INFO