

# MARTIN GARBUS: DEFENDER OF THE DAMNED

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## ABSTRACT

Martin Garbus is a superbright boy from Brooklyn who has grown up to be a big-time lawyer with a fancy office on 57th Street in New York City. He's also acquired three fancy best friends who have, from time to time, needed his help-- Philip Roth, Elliot Gould, and Daniel Ellsberg.

## FULL TEXT

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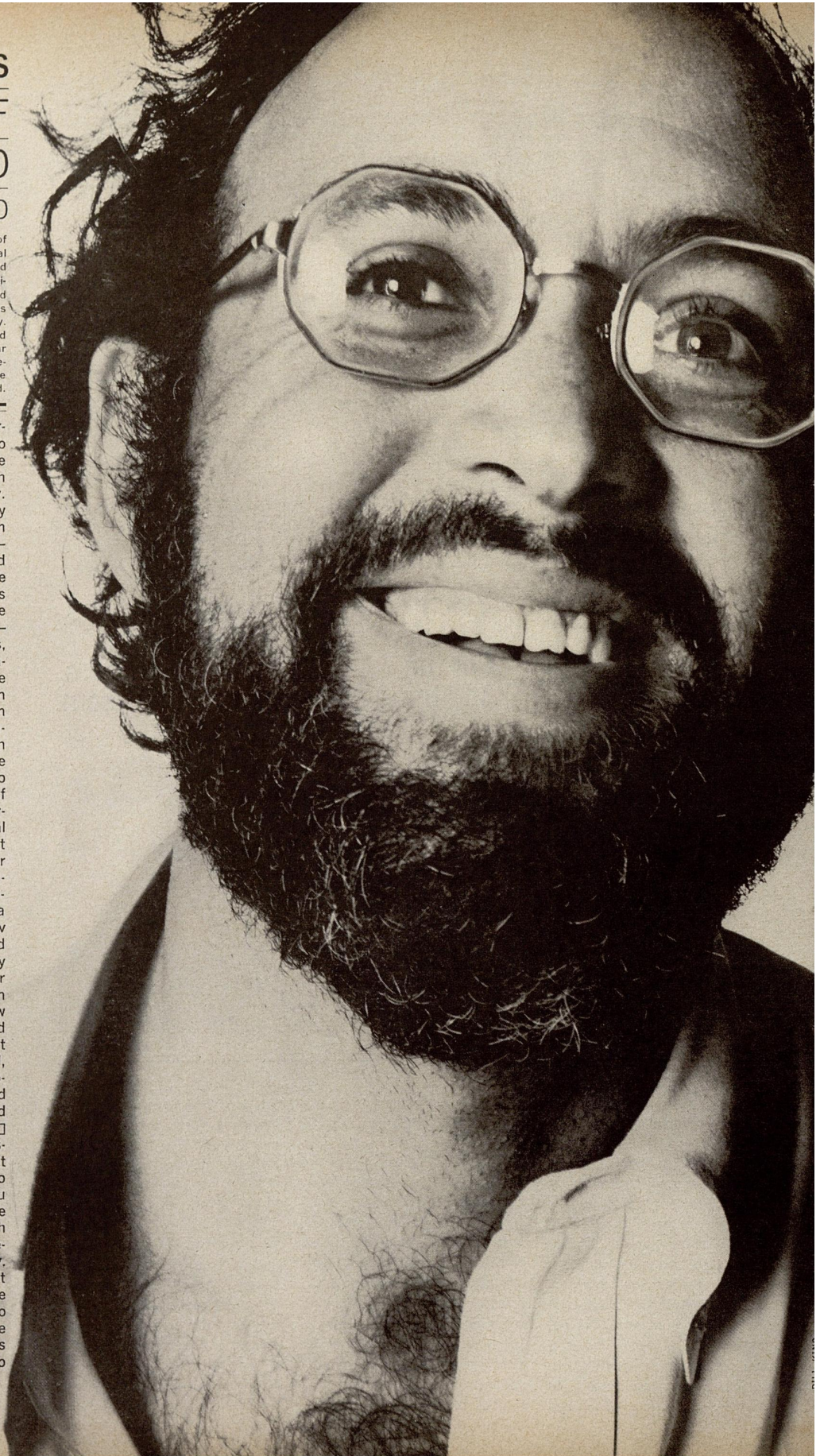
# MARTIN GARBUS DEFENDER OF THE DAMNED

BY BETSY L. FREUND

Martin Garbus is considered one of the country's most brilliant young trial lawyers. Born in Brooklyn, he received his law degree from New York University. Much of his energy is devoted to upholding the rights and liberties of the underdogs in American society. Among those he has worked with and defended are Lenny Bruce and Cesar Chavez. His book, *Ready For The Defense*, is a fascinating account of some of the amazing cases he has handled.

Martin Garbus is a super-bright boy from Brooklyn who has grown up to be a big-time lawyer with a fancy office on 57th Street in New York City. He's also acquired three fancy best friends who have, from time to time, needed his help—Philip Roth, Elliot Gould, and Daniel Ellsberg. □ Garbus, age 31, tends to choose the losers—society's fallen angels. The depressed and repressed—blacks, chicanos, students, prisoners—all have been championed by Martin Garbus. He doesn't believe in revolution "unless by revolution you mean a total change in the distribution of power and money—in that case, yes!" To assist the depressed "you're going to have to form a constituency of these people in order to operate effectively through political channels. They'll have to get their own candidates from their own people. To give these people the vote now is just allowing them to participate in a fraudulent process. Khrushchev once remarked on the so-called freedom of our elections by asking how we could consider our elections really free when the choice in a place like New York is between Rockefeller and Harriman? So maybe the best thing to do, if one were radical, would be to say 'don't give people the vote.' Then you'd build up frustration and there would be some kind of change." □ Garbus is involved in social issues and causes because it gives him the opportunity to "get close to people who you see getting screwed. If you've been to Attica or to the South or to Delano, you begin to develop an enormous sympathy. I don't know anything else that is as meaningful as one-to-one contact with these people who are getting the short end of the stick. You have various options open in the way you choose to

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