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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 9, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: STEPHEN M. STUDDERT
FROM: C. GREGG PETERSMEYER
SUBJECT: NATIONAL SERVICE PROPOSAL

I. ACTION FORCING EVENT

"A thousand points of light" has ignited a strong but amorphous nationwide community service movement. Expectations for historic action at the Presidential level have grown. Your own speeches since the New Orleans convention, especially your Inaugural Address, numerous newspaper and magazine articles, Admiral Watkins' testimony before the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee and the several Democrat bills introduced in Congress have helped to produce widespread interest in and support for national service initiatives, particularly ones involving young people. Unless you act now boldly to lead this movement, giving it the direction it now lacks, it will be overtaken by others who lack your own distinctive value system and lack the Presidency's ability to unite and move the nation.

II. ANALYSIS

Given the unprecedented confluence of circumstances, now is the time to seize the initiative on the issue of national service and to make it your own. The response so far to "a thousand points of light" suggests that the nation is eager to respond to a forceful, visionary presidential call to action, if only such a call is made.

You have raised national expectations to such a level that failure to act will be disillusioning. Moreover, as we prepare for the next century, I believe that establishing among all Americans the ethic of service to others can be a principal legacy of your Presidency.

III. RECOMMENDATION

We believe that you should begin the most ambitious peacetime service movement in American history, recommending that you go far beyond the use of the "bully pulpit" and make certain concrete decisions as outlined in the sections listed below.

I. YES TO AMERICA PROPOSAL

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I. YES TO AMERICA PROPOSAL

A. SUMMARY

YES to America is President Bush's call to all young people to lead a movement to help solve problems such as drugs, illiteracy, and homelessness, by engaging all Americans and all American institutions in community service.

To assist the youth in this effort, the President will call upon every adult and institution - businesses, churches and synagogues, media organizations, schools, unions, service and civic organizations, law, consulting, accounting and other service firms, foundations and hospitals to engage in the development of America's youth.

Toward these ends, President Bush is to chair (ex officio) a foundation, **The Points of Light Initiative**, which, under his leadership, would plan and coordinate the YES movement, in keeping with his pledge during the 1988 presidential campaign. The President would ask each governor to form a **state President's Points of Light Initiating Committee**. Each governor would then ask each mayor to form **local President's Points of Light Initiating Committees**.

The Foundation would seek an annual Congressional appropriation of 25 million dollars which would be matched by at least an equal contribution from the private sector.

The Foundation would initiate **ServNet**, a network consisting of some of the nation's most talented private sector leaders whose services would be donated by their institutions for a period of time who would, during that period, canvass the country challenging their peers and colleagues to devise community service and youth development programs for their own institutions and communities. **ServNet** participants would provide training, information about successful programs and how they might be replicated, fundraising counsel and other technical assistance.

The Foundation would also create **ServLink**, a hotline telephone number answered by existing volunteer agencies in one's own community, who would then direct those who wish to engage in service to opportunities in their own communities.

The Foundation would also:

- Direct the **President's National Service Youth Representatives** as they travel around their regions calling other young people to action, suggesting ways that they too might become involved in community service, assisting in local program development and

implementation and communicating examples of successful community programs;

- Convene national and regional President's National Youth Leadership Forums;
- Administer the President's National Service Youth Leadership Awards;
- Administer the President's Build a Community Awards program honoring organizations and individuals who have rebuilt or created successful communities by drawing together disparate individuals and institutions who have never worked together before and are unlikely to have done so, but for a common interest in responding to the needs of others.

By 1992, the Foundation would:

- Double the number of young people engaged in meaningful service to their communities;
- Double the number of adults and peer groups involved in youth mentoring projects;
- Triple the number of institutions, e.g. businesses, firms, unions, schools, colleges, churches, synagogues, civic groups and service organizations, formally engaged in youth development through community service.

In answering the President's call to service, not only will the nation's communities harness the energy, talent and ambition of America's young people to help solve pressing community problems, but also every young person will acquire an important lifelong ethic of service. The President aims to instill in all young people the recognition that from now on in America any definition of a successful life must include service to others.

B. INTRODUCTION

At a time when the United States is enjoying one of the longest periods of economic prosperity on record, poverty, disadvantage, and alienation beset large numbers of our people. Drug abuse and violent crime, homelessness, illiteracy, school dropouts, AIDS, teen pregnancies and suicide, the breakdown of communities and broken families, the indignities of life on welfare, loneliness and disconnection from society make America's prosperity incomplete. As regards young people in particular, the situation is especially frightening:

- 31% of the victims of violent crime are 19 or younger;

- 406 people died in Los Angeles alone in 1988 from teen-gang-related attacks
- the 3 leading causes of teen deaths are drug or alcohol-related accidents, suicide and murder;
- 3600 high school students drop out of school each day;
- 2740 teenagers run away from home each day;
- 1650 teenagers attempt suicide each day;
- more than 2700 teenagers get pregnant each day;
- 4 out of 10 high school graduates read at or below 8th grade level.

The difficulties our society faces today are significant, complex and deep-rooted, and cannot be remedied by Government alone. Unless we deal with these problems today, our prospects for the next century will be dimmer than they might be.

But Americans are unique among world peoples. When faced with great challenges, we have always risen to the occasion. When called to act for the common good, Americans have never failed to respond.

Drawing upon this rich tradition, the President should call all Americans and all institutions to dedicate themselves to making life better in their own communities by participating in existing service programs and initiatives and creating new ones. The simple fact is that it is only through the unified effort of every American community that the negative trends existing within certain segments of our society can be reversed.

The President should call each one of us, young and old, black and white, male and female, affluent and poor, and every institution such as corporations, law, consulting, accounting and other service firms, media organizations, hospitals, unions, churches, synagogues and mosques, civic and service organizations and federal, state, and local government employees, to exercise our rights and obligations of citizenship by taking responsibility for someone else who is left out of the mainstream.

YES to America is the first stage of the President's national service movement. YES is an initiative that calls all young Americans to lead the effort to attack critical challenges facing the nation through community service. A lifelong ethic of service will be instilled in the young when they are made aware

of their responsibility for their community's well-being. The President should challenge every adult and institution in society to make the development of America's youth part of their daily life and work.

C. PRINCIPLES

The President should lead a national service initiative that differs from each of the competing proposals introduced on Capitol Hill. Specifically, unlike any of the Democrat proposals, this initiative is not a federal government program. It is a movement that:

- Charges every American, particularly the young, and every American institution to engage in voluntary service to others.
- Appeals to people's better instincts rather than their baser ones in that it does not compensate people with federal dollars for what should be an obligation of citizenship.
- Is grass roots and locally-based rather than a bureaucracy created in and imposed from Washington;
- Weaves service into a young person's normal daily life and career pattern, developing in them a lifelong commitment to service, rather than a one to two year stint.

The President's initiative recognizes that it is critical to the nation's future and to the character of a young person to instill at an early age the notion that service to others is a necessary part of any definition of a successful life. For a fuller discussion of principles which concern: (i) the centrality of service; (ii) the scope of the challenge; (iii) the nature of community service; (iv) leadership and (v) the role of the government, see Attachment "A."

D. PURPOSES

To call every young person, adult, school, college, union, church, synagogue, mosque, business firm, association, civic group, service organization and other institution to devise and implement a program to engage themselves or their institutions in community service, especially programs that involve and directly affect young people. For a fuller statement of purposes see Attachment "B."

E. POINTS OF LIGHT INITIATIVE (THE FOUNDATION)

During the campaign you announced that you would establish a foundation devoted to national service and that you would chair it.

After significant discussion on the issue of the Foundation, the Office of National Service recommends that the Foundation house and launch numerous initiatives in addition to YES with the ultimate aim of involving all Americans (elderly, professionals, unions, etc.) in meaningful community service.

The Foundation's first initiative will be the YES initiative. We recommend that there be a Board of Directors with at least 19 voting members comprised of outstanding leaders drawn from the private sector, voluntary organizations and the government.

- The Foundation would be charged with coordinating the projection of the YES initiative into all communities so that all young people and all institutions hear your call to service and have the opportunity to respond.
- The Foundation would also provide "follow-up" and guidance to institutions answering your call to service.
- The Foundation would form a consultative and technical assistance network to enable institutions across the country to replicate community service programs successfully undertaken elsewhere by similar institutions (see ServNet).
- The Foundation would initiate the telephone hotline (see ServLink) answered by existing local volunteer agencies who can direct potential volunteers to community service programs in their own communities.
- The Foundation would work with the major television and radio networks, local broadcasters, newspapers, magazines and other media organizations to spotlight and promote community service and to recognize unique and extraordinary efforts.
- The Foundation would announce monthly the commendations made throughout the country by government and the private sector to young individuals and institutions, reaching out to youth who are doing noteworthy work in the field of community service.
- The Foundation would convene regional leadership forums and publicize the results of such forums.
- The Foundation would announce on a regular basis steps taken by various constituent and interest groups pursuant to the

YES initiative (update on schools and universities, religious institutions, professionals, accountants, consultants, manufacturers, investment bankers, farmers, grocers, etc.)

- The Foundation would distribute reports from existing service and civic organizations as to the response to the YES initiative (volunteers helping out with United Way or Boy Scouts increased by 10%, etc.).
- The Foundation would devise the means to measure the effect of this initiative on such chronic problems as homelessness, illiteracy, drop-outs, etc.
- The Foundation would report on the number of new initiatives undertaken as a result of the YES initiative.
- The Foundation would report on a regular basis activities and initiatives undertaken by the Cabinet, Congress, Governors and Mayors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. We recommend that the Foundation be named "Points of Light Initiative" to seize upon the fact that the phrase, "a thousand points of light", has captured the imagination of the American people beyond the Beltway and has already become implanted in the public mind as a metaphor for the kind of intense personal and institutional commitment to bettering the lives of others that should be the aim of the national service movement.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

2. We recommend that you be non-voting Chairman ex officio of the Foundation and the Director of the White House Office of National Service be non-voting Vice-Chairman ex officio.

Note: During the campaign, you stated that "...the YES to America Foundation will be directed by citizens through a volunteer board of directors. And guess who's going to be chairman? I am...." (Comstock Club, California 10/4/88).

OMB and Counsel's Office have no legal objections to this structure and have recommended this non-voting ex officio status as a compromise supported by legal precedents between the alternatives of your being active or honorary chairman.

DECISION:

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

3. We recommend that Congress be asked to authorize and appropriate \$25 million a year for four years to endow the Foundation. This would be matched by at least an equal annual contribution from the private sector.

Note: \$25 million is the amount stated in the President's budget and published in the Building a Better America book which accompanied your State of the Union address.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

4. We recommend that you authorize the preparation of an Executive Order that would establish a President's Advisory Committee on National Service. The Committee would lead your national service effort until legislation is enacted to establish your Foundation. This Advisory Committee may or may not become the Foundation's Board of Directors.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

F. STATE AND LOCAL CHALLENGE

- State and community-based organizations and a wide variety of other institutions will be the nuclei of this initiative and will be responsible for activating it in local communities.
- The President should challenge every adult, young person, business firm, association, civic group, union, religious institution, service organization, school, college, Governor, Mayor and government employee to devise and implement a plan to commit themselves and their institutions to youth development and community service.
- Thousands of leaders in communities across the country will become seriously engaged in community service and will demonstrate their commitment to others. The lives of an entire generation of Americans will be changed.

i. Institutional Challenge

- In coordination with Governors, Mayors and Members of Congress, the President should call every institution in America formally to engage in the development of youth.
- From now on, every institution in society must see part of its role as serving the needs of young people and providing a means for young people to serve others in their communities.
- In answer to your call, through training and thoughtful preparation, many organizations and institutions will need to expand their capacity and sophistication to utilize volunteers in meaningful service.
- Employers will be urged to consider community service as a criterion in hiring, compensation, and promotion.
- Old and new community-based institutions, groups and individuals should be challenged by the President to, among other things:
 - Identify community needs and match those needs with the talents and energy of the young people affiliated with such organizations;
 - Direct young people and adults to groups and projects which are in need of service and provide them with a meaningful challenge;

- Encourage young people to devise their own programs and projects to suit their own unique needs and capabilities;
- Arrange meals and transportation where necessary;
- Train volunteers, mentors and team leaders where appropriate;
- Attract members of the adult community as mentors, co-workers and team leaders;
- Create and support new ideas for youth service;
- Evaluate service projects to assure that young people have a meaningful service experience;
- Ensure that young people make a significant contribution to their community;
- Encourage all community entities to recognize and publicly honor the most outstanding efforts of youth of every age in their communities;
- Stimulate local fundraising efforts.

ii. The Challenge of Youth Not in School

- We recognize that many young people are not in school. Indeed, many of these youngsters are not "connected" with any positive groups or institutions in the community.
- Community leaders and every institution should be challenged by the President to make special, meaningful and creative efforts to reach out to these alienated young people.
- Community leaders and every institution will be encouraged to devise programs to engage dropouts in strenuous and structured community service as well as positive activities in locally-funded youth recreational and arts centers, eventually redirecting these young people toward a high school degree, job training and placement.
- Programs such as Pittsburgh's Oasis program that engage inner city school dropouts in community service in their neighborhoods, as a means of giving purpose and structure to their lives and to entice them away from gangs and street life should be encouraged.

- Successful programs recognize that much of the antisocial behavior of young people comes from an abundance of aggressive energy that can be channeled into a positive and constructive direction. Programs should be physically and mentally challenging, in order to engage the full attention of the young people involved.
- Media campaigns involving celebrities, entertainers, sports figures and local leaders will be launched to stress positive values of self-esteem, measurable accomplishments, service, lawfulness, work, and family, among others.
- Through ServNet the Foundation will help institutions replicate successful programs that address the needs of youth not in school.
- Programs and institutions involving youth not in school will be able to participate in the President's National Service Youth Awards. Participating programs will be able annually to select one young person to receive the President's National Service Youth Leadership Award.

RECOMMENDATION

5. We recommend that you ask the Governor of every state to form a state "President's Points of Light Initiating Committee" to ignite this movement at the state level. Governors would then be asked to request that mayors in their states form local President's Points of Light Initiating Committees.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

6. We recommend that you call upon all existing organizations and institutions throughout the nation such as businesses, unions, religious institutions, media organizations, civic organizations as well as all existing service organizations such as Boys Clubs, YWCA, Urban League, Rotary, Kiwanis, La Raza, to find creative ways to address community problems and to engage all young people in meaningful community service.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

7. We recommend that you call upon all individuals to work with their peers to invent and develop new initiatives to suit their own needs, abilities and interests, because existing service outlets are alone insufficient to absorb all would-be youth entrants into community service.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

8. We recommend that the President call upon employers to consider community service in hiring, compensation, and promotion decisions.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

iii. School Challenge

- Schools will be encouraged to weave community service and citizenship into existing curricula (K-12).
- Schools will be asked annually to select and award the National Service Youth Leadership Commendation to the student most outstanding in service to the community.

- Community service builds self-esteem, leadership and, when connected to classroom learning, increases student interest in classroom education and strengthens what is learned from service by providing for systematic reflection.
- The original mission of schools is to teach academic skills, citizenship and leadership. A premium should be placed on devising service programs that complement the learning of basic educational skills (e.g., 3rd graders reading to kindergarten students).
- School-based service can be a successful strategy to re-engage students in learning. Students become more interested in school when they are actively engaged in a meaningful project which brings classroom learning to life. This is especially relevant to young people re-entering school after dropping out or students lacking self-esteem, motivation or students on the verge of dropping out.
- The success of a school-based community service initiative is dependent upon the participation of parents, students, and education leaders. The principal, faculty champion(s) (member(s) of the faculty personally committed to the success of the project) as well as the remaining faculty and parents, are all imperative to a successful service experience for the student.
- The education leaders and parents must constantly evaluate and monitor programs to ensure that the programs adequately train the student for the community service experience. They must account for what is being taught to ensure that the community service project is meaningful to the community and the youth.
 - a. Kindergarten - 6th Grade
 - Activities of elementary school children will be organized through their local schools. Elementary school teachers will be asked to design activities appropriate for each age level, such that each grade level participates regularly in some community service, from drawing pictures to be sent to children's hospitals to asking 4th graders to read to kindergartners.
 - Through education materials such as the widely read Weekly Reader, you will communicate directly with young people and suggest ways that they can

help their neighbor and how they can become involved in YES.

b. 7th - 12th Grade

- Junior high and high school students will focus their activities in existing community organizations and develop their own programs. Such students will be expected to involve themselves in these organizations or, alternatively, to create new programs specifically tailored to their individual interests, aptitudes and community needs.

c. The YES Summer Initiative (Summer between 8th and 9th grade).

- During the summer between 8th and 9th grade, young people will be given an opportunity to work in a program jointly designed by students, local governmental leaders and civic leaders to harness the enthusiasm, creativity and energy of young people and focus them on specific local problems.
- The aim of this summer initiative is to expose young people to critical local needs and challenge them to find creative ways of addressing them as a rite of passage to young adulthood, a shared experience that would create an esprit de corps among the young, as well as go a long way toward alleviating pressing community problems. From this point forward, the student will focus community service activities beyond the school and into the community.
- It will be the responsibility of every community to devise a summer program for its young people.
- The Foundation will provide communities with possible models of a YES Summer Initiative and will publicize creative initiatives.
- The Foundation will determine such issues as costs, liability concerns and transportation.

d. High School - Age 25

- Young people in this age group will be challenged to be mentors to other members of the community, particularly younger ones, to serve in existing college or community-based programs, or create new programs to suit their individual needs and gifts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. We recommend that you call to action each Board of Education to weave community service into existing school curricula (kindergarten through 12th grade) in a manner that complements the learning of basic education skills and where possible involves students in community service outside of school hours. Also, each Board of Education should consider a minimum number of hours of community service as a prerequisite to graduation. To the extent possible and desirable, service initiatives after school and on weekends should be encouraged.

DECISION:

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

10. We recommend that you call on all Colleges and Universities to grant degree credit for community service and include it in their curricula. In addition, admissions departments should be asked to weigh community service in determining admissability of applicants.

DECISION:

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

G. SERVNET

- ServNet will be led by some of the most talented citizens in the country whose services would be "donated" to the foundation by their institutions.
- ServNet participants would travel across the country challenging their fellow lawyers, investment bankers, consultants, advertisers, union leaders, ministers, educators, etc. to devise community service programs for their own institutions and employers.
- ServNet will serve as an information sharing program and facilitating resource. It will provide for individuals and institutions who wish to learn of programs and initiatives

that are working, devise new programs and initiatives or make existing ones more effective.

- ServNet will attempt to facilitate and promote cooperation and "networking" among programs in communities that are addressing the same or similar problems so that the efforts of these programs are complementary rather than conflicting.
- ServNet will provide analyses of "successful" programs and offer advice as to what makes for a "successful" program and what pitfalls to avoid.
- ServNet will provide community service organizations, private institutions and individuals with technical assistance by linking them up with institutions experienced in areas such as fundraising and training (for both the organization and the volunteer).
- ServNet will attempt to cause people and institutions to see social problems as interconnected to each other and as problems to be addressed comprehensively.
- Issues such as cost, staffing and volume of inquiries and requests will be decided by the Foundation.

RECOMMENDATION

11. We recommend that ServNet become a part of the Foundation.

DECISION:

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

H. SERVLINK

- It is anticipated that most young people and adults will look to their own schools, churches, civic clubs, businesses, firms, unions, etc. to provide them with service opportunities, or that they will create their own opportunities perhaps in partnership with their peers.
- There should, however, be a service information source of last resort for people unable to identify or create service opportunities on their own.
- ServLink is a hotline number for those who want to engage in community service. A person in any given community could call a hotline number and have his or her own call

automatically routed back to his or her locality. The call would be answered by a staff member of an existing local organization who would then direct the caller to appropriate service programs and initiatives in his or her own community based on the caller's articulated preferences, capabilities and needs. There would be a 1-800 ServLink number in every telephone directory in the country.

- To create ServLink, we propose a partnership among select existing service organizations with specific strengths and expertise. Vital characteristics of ServLink include: an infrastructure which reaches into every community, an experienced clearinghouse, an established hotline and a sophisticated data base.
- The issue of managing the volume of anticipated inquiries will be determined by the Foundation which may decide to phase in ServLink incrementally over time.

RECOMMENDATION

12. We recommend that ServLink become part of the Foundation.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

I. THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SERVICE YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

- We recommend that you annually select two college-aged young people from each state. These outstanding young people would have a demonstrated record of extraordinary achievement in the field of community service.
- Governors can make recommendations to you from among the past recipients of the National Service Youth Leadership Commendation - see Section K.
- Members of Congress can make recommendations from among the past recipients of the Gold Congressional Award.
- The mission of the President's National Service Youth Representatives will be to spend one full year before, during or after college, calling their peers and younger Americans in their respective regions to action, suggesting ways that they too might become involved in community service and offering examples of successful community programs that might be replicated.

- The President's National Service Youth Representatives can also go into communities to assist in program development and implementation where needed.
- The representatives will serve as liaisons to the Foundation.
- The Foundation will pay the living and travel expenses of the representatives during their year of service.
- The Foundation will determine the specific role of each representative and how and by whom each one is to be supervised.

RECOMMENDATION

13. We recommend that you approve the President's National Service Youth Representatives.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

J. THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SERVICE YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUMS

- Because we believe that the development of young community leaders is critically important, a series of regional forums should be convened, to be called the President's National Service Youth Leadership Forums, bringing together young people, educators, community activists and other interested parties to examine the issue of creating a new generation of community leaders.
- Through the forums, the President should challenge existing institutions and concerned individuals to devise ways to inspire young people to pursue a career in community leadership and to help them develop the skills and training necessary successfully to do so.
- The Foundation would ask forum participants to return to their communities to brief and coach other young leaders unable to attend the forums.
- The Foundation will follow-up with the participants in these forums to track their longer-range community impact and to

continue to challenge participants to apply what they have learned.

- The Foundation will determine such issues as the suggested level of Presidential involvement, participants and costs.

RECOMMENDATION

14. We recommend that you approve the President's National Service Youth Leadership Forums.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

K. THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SERVICE YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS

- Dynamic and promising young community service leaders performing outstanding work should be honored and encouraged.
- The President should annually recognize up to 1000 outstanding youth community leaders through the National Service Youth Leadership Awards.
- Award nominees should be reviewed and selected by the Foundation and White House Office of National Service from submissions received from state and local President's Points of Light Initiative Committees.
- The presentation of up to 1000 President's National Service Youth Leadership Awards should be made by the President with appropriate ceremonies.
- All schools (elementary through post-secondary) and selected youth organizations would be encouraged to participate in the awards program. The foundation will make a "National Service Youth Leadership Commendation" available to all participating schools and organizations. Each school and organization would present the commendation and a lapel pin to the youth most outstanding in community service. The presentation is to be made at a graduation ceremony or other appropriate time. All recipients would be nominated for the President's National Service Youth Leadership Award through their local President's Points of Light Initiative Committee.

- Governors will have the opportunity to nominate two of the President's National Service Youth Leadership Award recipients (17 to 24 years of age) to the President to be considered for the President's National Service Youth Representatives.
- The Foundation will introduce all of President's National Service Youth Leadership Award winners to their respective Senators and Representatives, local officials, and local media for additional recognition.

RECOMMENDATION

15. We recommend that you approve the President's National Service Youth Leadership Awards.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

L. THE PRESIDENT'S "BUILD A COMMUNITY" AWARDS

- The destruction of the family and the disintegration of communities lie at the heart of many of the social woes facing the nation. Many young people have the sense that no one, not peers, not parents, teachers, pastors or civic group leaders, cares about them or has a stake in their future. Somehow a caring, committed community must be developed in the place of non-existent families and communities.
- The aim of helping young people or devising means of involving young people in helping others can serve as a magnet to draw together disparate individuals and institutions who have never worked together before and are unlikely to have done so, but for a common interest in responding to the needs of youth.
- We must inspire and encourage the creation of such "communities." One way to do so is to reward those who have already "rebuilt" or "created" successful communities. Through the foundation, the names of worthy award recipients would be solicited and received from all across the country. These awards would be presented either at the White House or in the locality, depending upon the circumstances.
- Examples of programs that might be recipients of such awards include Atlanta's Emmaus House, a program begun by an Episcopal minister and involving community volunteers

which picks up babies born of school-age mothers, feeds and teaches them during the day while their mothers work and provides instruction, shelter, job training and placement for some mothers.

- Another example is that of the One to One (Uno a Uno) Movement, a program bringing together Warner Communications, Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America and C.O.O.L. (a student volunteer organization on campuses across the country), that aims to match every young person from a fractured family with an adult male or female positive role model.
- The Foundation will determine the process for selecting recipients and presenting the awards.

RECOMMENDATION

16. We recommend that the Foundation initiate the President's "Build a Community" Awards.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

M. INTERNATIONAL ASPECT

The National Security Council has recommended that the national service initiative be applied to the international context.

- USIA should publicize the national service initiative internationally.
- Talented community service leaders in the United States and other countries should exchange visits and information about successful programs.
- The input and representation of the American military should be solicited in implementing this initiative.
- A link should be established to our overseas bases and embassies, so the thousands of Americans and their family members serving overseas are part of your initiative.

RECOMMENDATION

17. We recommend that the suggestions of the National Security Council be approved.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

N. GOVERNMENT SPACE

To demonstrate the central importance that you place on national service, we propose that government space near the White House (preferably a Jackson Place location) be made available to accommodate the Foundation with a staff of approximately 50.

RECOMMENDATION

18. We propose that a government space, as described above, be dedicated to the Foundation.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

O. FOUNDATION FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION

19. We recommend the following preliminary notional Foundation budget:

- Funding for the Foundation's work will be approximately allocated in the areas listed below between the youth initiatives and all other initiatives on a 70 - 30 ratio (other initiatives include elderly initiatives, professionals initiatives, etc.).
- This budget assumes \$25 million in government funding and \$25 million in private funding per Building a Better America.

Budget

1.	Training and Technical Assistance (educational materials, fundraising counsel, curriculum supplements).	\$ 14 million
2.	ServNet, ServLink	\$ 14 million
3.	Communications (television and radio spots, newspaper and magazine features, pamphlets, posters, etc.).	\$ 10 million
4.	Recognition of Outstanding Initiatives and Individuals, and Communication of their Achievements through Media and Awards and the President's National Youth Service Award (Commendations and Lapel Pins).	\$ 5 million
5.	Regional Leadership Forums	\$ 3 million
6.	Youth Representatives (living and traveling expenses only).	\$ 2 million
7.	Administrative Costs (e.g. staff salaries, equipment costs, building rent, stationery, printing, postage).	\$ 2 million
TOTAL		\$50 million

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

II. ELEMENTS OF PROPOSED EXECUTIVE ORDER

We believe that it would be disingenuous for the President to call upon the nation at large to engage in service without calling on the Executive Branch which you lead to set an example for others to follow.

RECOMMENDATION

20. We recommend that you sign an executive order calling upon the heads of all federal departments and agencies themselves to engage in community service to the extent practicable, devise programs and identify opportunities to engage all of their employees in community service and recognize and award employees and others outside the department or agency who do so.

DECISION

_____ Approve

_____ Disapprove

_____ Approve as Amended

_____ No Action

PRINCIPLES OF YES TO AMERICA

i. Centrality of Service

- While you do not endorse compulsory community service, what is needed in America today is systemic change in thinking which leads to the expectation that every young person will engage in community service - and that service becomes the norm of our society.
- The principle of unselfish giving to others is best internalized through life experiences starting at one's earliest years.
- Programs devised pursuant to the YES initiative should demonstrate and instill the notion that service to others is the highest calling of human life.
- Lack of self-esteem is at the very heart of many of the problems of youth. Learning to help others effectively builds self-esteem.

ii. Scope of Challenge

- The President should challenge every individual and institution in society (e.g., corporations, law, consulting, accounting and other service firms, media, hospitals, unions, churches, synagogues and mosques, civic and service organizations and federal, state, and local government employees) to devise and implement their own program to improve the quality of life for young people and to involve young people in meaningful community service.
- Each young person has gifts to give and the nation is now in need of these gifts.
- "YES to America" should provide a framework around which the young people in America will feel united in a collective effort to improve the quality of life in their respective communities and, thereby, in the nation as a whole.
- All people, and particularly, those between the ages of kindergarten to 25 (students, dropouts, poor, affluent, disabled and delinquent) should work together and with older Americans and engage themselves in community service.

iii. Nature of Community Service

- The federal government should not mandate service or do so indirectly by, for example, making federal student financial aid dependent on service. However, other institutions in society may, if they choose to do so, create incentives and offer inducements (e.g., school districts may require service for promotion; colleges and universities may consider service for admission and graduation; employers may use service as a hiring and promotion criterion).
- The principal motivation for service should be a sense of civic obligation rather than the promise of remuneration. Through YES, service will be acknowledged and encouraged by awards, commendations and other forms of recognition to be given by all levels of government and every significant private institution in the community.
- Service opportunities, informational materials and educational programs should be sensitive to the unique needs and differing perspectives of diverse groups and peoples.
- Programs and activities will be specifically designed to maximize the particular skills and capabilities of discrete age groups.
- It is essential that a young person's service experiences be incremental in nature, beginning at an early age, with progressively more sophisticated opportunities and learning experiences as he or she grows older.
- YES should encourage existing programs and new programs organized in and by local communities rather than create a supernational program. The strengths, capabilities and experience of existing community youth programs should be utilized and expanded. Not only will this avoid "reinventing the wheel," but also it will be cost-efficient, limiting start-up costs for new programs.
- Training, for both the service provider and the service organization, is a vital component of a successful service experience. The potential volunteer must be trained with the particular skills necessary for the individual service endeavor and the community service organization needs to be trained on how to engage

volunteers, particularly young volunteers, in a meaningful service experience.

- Service opportunities are most fruitful for both the provider and recipient of service if the experience is devised on an individualistic basis, taking into account the convictions, motivations, interests and commitments of the provider and recipient. Such goals are best fostered by diverse, small programs devised, implemented and managed by numerous agencies and non-profit organizations accountable to and supported by local communities.
- YES initiatives should meet real community needs. Such programs must be meaningful and purposeful, meeting real needs identified by the communities themselves, not artificial or theoretical ones.
- Programs should be developed in such a way as to provide maximum protection for young people from danger, abuse and chicanery.
- While there should be an emphasis on individual agency efforts, such efforts should be developed as part of local community-wide planning which involves existing service agencies, new agencies and organizations created in communities by communities, schools, churches, unions, adults and young people themselves. Programs should stress collaboration and linkages among schools, human service and youth service organizations, businesses and other community leaders.
- Citizenship is an integral part of a good education. The nation's educational goals and the notion of community service are complementary. Efforts will be made to "weave" the notion of community service into existing curricula.
- To the maximum extent possible, young people and adults will be encouraged to work in teams, out of the belief that teamwork teaches young people positive values of cooperation, collaboration, esprit de corps and mutual understanding and appreciation and that a team approach to problem solving is most likely to be effective.
- Among young people, peer pressure can be a positive or negative influence. We encourage young people to work with their peers in community service activities in order to channel peer pressure in a positive direction.
- Collaboration among disparate individuals and institutions within a community to address the social

ills of that community will be encouraged, in the hope that the concept of youth service will serve as a magnet drawing together people and entities who would otherwise continue to be isolated from each other.

iv. Leadership

- Young people have the ability to evaluate their own community needs and to devise and implement strategies to meet those needs.
- YES to America should identify, develop and enable a new generation of community leaders who will see service as one of the most rewarding and exciting vocations or avocations.
- Ultimately, the bulk of youth service work should be devised and implemented by young people themselves through existing or new institutions or wholly outside institutions through individual initiatives.

v. Role of Government

- While there is a role for government spending to play, the principal hope for solutions to our major social problems lies at the community level.
- The President should call upon all federal departments and agencies to set an example by: calling on them to develop department or agency community service initiatives; recognizing and awarding employees engaged in outstanding community service; and highlighting and honoring outstanding community initiatives and outstanding volunteers in the nation.
- The President should call all Governors and Mayors to action to develop statewide community service initiatives and to recognize and honor outstanding community service programs and volunteers.
- Governors and Mayors will work with other elected officials such as State Legislators, County and City Councils to assist the President in carrying out the YES initiative.
- The President should ask every member of the House of Representatives to lead an effort in his or her district and every Senator to spur statewide efforts working with Governors.

PURPOSES OF YES TO AMERICA

- To instill in young people the sense that the nation is theirs to inherit and that it is therefore in their interest to improve the lot of their fellow citizens.
- To expand the capacity of existing service organizations to absorb new volunteers into meaningful service opportunities with special emphasis on the young.
- To promote community service through the means of existing and new programs and initiatives in every community.
- To improve the quality of life in America by attacking the most fundamental socio-economic problems in the country at their source: the disintegration of communities and families and the resulting sense of loss of self-esteem among young people.
- In the context of community service, each young person should be made to feel a part of the "social compact," with an obligation to do his or her part to better the lives of other people, particularly other young people, in his or her community.
- To ennoble young Americans and improve their lives by instilling in them a lifelong sense of concern, compassion and obligation to others.
- To remove barriers to service including the high cost of liability insurance (tort reform).

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. Report	National Service Proposal. (1 pp.)	n.d.	P-5	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File, Backup
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: Youth Engaged in Service (YES) Event 6/21/89 [3]

Open on Expiration of PRA
(Document Follows)
By SN (NLGB) on 4/5/2005

Date Closed: 10/1/2004	OA/ID Number: 06345
FOIA/SYS Case #:	
Re-review Case #: 2004-2265-S	
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	
MR Case #:	Appeal Case #:
MR Disposition:	Appeal Disposition:
Disposition Date:	Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

(b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
(b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
(b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
(b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
(b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
(b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
(b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
(b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

III. DISSENTING COMMENTS

Of all of the commentators on this memorandum, only Jim Pinkerton of OPD and Tom Lewis of OMB had dissenting comments.

A. COMMENTS OF JIM PINKERTON

Jim Pinkerton recommends that you give a speech on the importance of moral virtue and periodically visit and present awards to outstanding community service leaders and projects. He believes that the Foundation and its activities would be unnecessary and would represent unnecessary government involvement.

B. COMMENTS OF TOM LEWIS

Tom Lewis recommends that the foundation be named "The National Service Foundation" and that the ServLink proposal be rejected.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date:

TO:

FROM: GRETCHEN PAGEL
Office of National Service
x6266

Children in Need

CED

Community for Econ
Develop't

Dept of Education

UNITED WAY,

June 6, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR GREGG PETERSMEYER

FROM: JOHN GALLETTA

SUBJECT: RESULTS OF FACT CHECK ON CRIME STATISTICS

YOUNG VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIME

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, of the 5,660,570 total victims of violent crime in the U.S. in 1987, 1,728,100 of them, or 31%, were between 12 and 19 years of age.

5,661,000 total victims of violent crime in the U.S. in 1988.

Victims of Violent Crimes by Age

736,410 12-15 years old
+ 991,690 16-19 years old

1,728,100 total victims of violent crime, 12-19 years old

$1,728,100 \div 5,660,570 = .305+ \approx 31\%$

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics

=====

GANG VIOLENCE

There are two sets of statistics on the number of persons killed in gang-related violence. One, from the California Department of Justice, states that 406 people died in gang-related violence in Los Angeles County during 1988.

The other set is from the Los Angeles Police Department Office of Justice Statistics. The LAPD reports that 257 people were killed by gangs in 1988 in the City of Los Angeles.

How to make up for the discrepancy? One possible reason is that the LAPD figures represent only those crimes that took place in the City of Los Angeles, while the state figures cover all of Los Angeles County. A more likely explanation is that the state statistics cover those killed in gang-related violence, while the LAPD statistics specifically refer to those killed by gangs. In any event, a UPI story dated September 26, 1988 reports the figure at 387. It seems more likely, therefore, that the higher figure is both correct and supportable.

###

Table 2. Personal and household crimes, 1987:
Victimisation rates,
by sector and type of crime

Sector and type of crime	Number	Rate
Personal sector (Rate per 1,000 population age 12 and over)		
All personal crimes	19,004,360	96.1
Crimes of violence	3,660,370	28.6
Completed	2,085,950	10.5
Attempted	3,574,620	18.1
Rape	140,900	0.7
Completed	64,800	0.3
Attempted	76,090	0.4
Robbery	1,030,460	5.2
Completed	678,190	3.4
With injury	275,630	1.4
From serious assault	130,050	0.7
From minor assault	145,610	0.7
Without injury	402,490	2.0
Attempted	352,310	1.8
With injury	97,090	0.5
From serious assault	44,730	0.2
From minor assault	52,370	0.3
Without injury	255,220	1.3
Assault	4,489,220	22.7
Aggravated assault	1,543,130	7.8
Completed with injury	480,800	2.4
Attempted with weapon	1,062,350	5.4
Simple assault	2,946,070	14.9
Completed with injury	862,200	4.4
Attempted without weapon	2,083,860	10.3
Crimes of theft	13,343,980	67.5
Completed	12,509,770	63.3
Attempted	834,210	4.2
Personal larceny with contact	308,690	2.6
Purse snatching	184,940	0.9
Completed	121,910	0.6
Attempted	63,030	0.3
Pocket picking	323,760	1.6
Personal larceny without contact	12,835,290	64.9
Completed	12,064,110	61.0
Less than \$50	3,317,430	26.9
\$50 or more	6,162,780	31.2
Amount not available	355,880	3.0
Attempted	771,180	3.9
Household sector (Rate per 1,000 households)		
All household crimes	15,726,260	171.4
Completed	13,263,270	144.3
Attempted	2,462,990	26.8
Burglary	3,623,160	61.3
Completed	4,276,620	46.6
Forcible entry	1,963,280	21.4
Unlawful entry without force	2,313,330	25.2
Attempted forcible entry	1,346,340	14.7
Household larceny	8,624,360	94.0
Completed	8,017,840	87.4
Less than \$50	3,438,890	37.7
\$50 or more	4,080,310	44.3
Amount not available	478,830	5.2
Attempted	606,520	6.6
Motor vehicle theft	1,478,730	16.1
Completed	968,820	10.6
Attempted	509,930	5.6

← Total

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown
because of rounding.

Source 11000, 41000

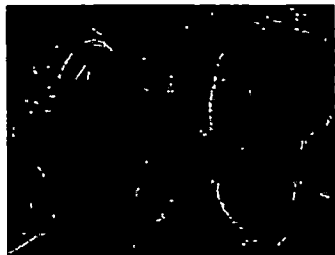
Table 4. Personal crimes, 1987:
Victimization rates for persons age 12 and over,
by type of crime and age of victim
(Rate per 1,000 population in each age group)

Type of crime	12-15		16-19		20-24		25-34		35-49		50-64		65 and over	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Crimes of violence	736,410	33.6	991,690	67.5	1,190,300	82.5	1,438,390	33.5	867,890	18.3	280,600	8.6	194,930	5.5
Completed	323,450	24.4	350,910	23.9	390,960	26.9	561,750	13.1	268,430	5.7	110,920	3.4	71,500	2.5
Attempted	412,960	31.2	640,780	43.6	791,540	61.5	876,640	20.4	599,460	12.6	169,680	5.2	123,430	3.9
Rape	17,010	1.3	30,960	2.1	29,310	1.5	54,760	1.3	7,530	0.2	0	0.0	1,770	0.1
Robbery	96,420	7.3	131,130	8.9	187,470	9.8	326,830	7.6	157,490	3.4	81,350	2.5	51,770	1.8
Completed	55,400	4.2	83,770	5.7	113,330	5.9	219,520	5.1	96,860	2.1	65,440	2.0	43,820	1.5
With injury	14,050	1.1	32,980	2.2	49,770	2.6	86,630	2.0	41,080	0.9	24,870	0.8	28,270	1.0
From serious assault	4,430	0.3	13,950	1.0	28,460	1.5	36,100	0.8	27,780	0.6	7,010	0.2	12,310	0.4
From minor assault	9,620	0.7	19,030	1.3	21,310	1.1	48,530	1.1	13,300	0.3	17,860	0.5	15,960	0.6
Without injury	41,360	3.1	50,790	3.5	63,560	3.3	134,890	3.1	55,780	1.2	40,570	1.2	15,530	0.5
Attempted	41,010	3.1	47,360	3.2	74,140	3.9	105,320	2.5	60,630	1.3	15,910	0.5	7,950	0.3
With injury	13,020	1.0	6,800	0.5	27,810	1.5	16,140	0.4	23,290	0.5	6,090	0.2	3,930	0.1
From serious assault	3,070	0.2	0	0.0	19,270	1.0	8,010	0.2	8,280	0.2	6,090	0.2	0	0.0
From minor assault	9,950	0.8	6,800	0.5	8,540	0.4	9,130	0.2	15,010	0.3	0	0.0	3,930	0.1
Without injury	27,990	2.1	40,560	2.8	46,330	2.4	89,180	2.1	37,340	0.8	9,820	0.3	4,010	0.1
Assault	622,980	47.0	830,020	56.5	973,720	51.1	1,059,020	24.7	702,840	15.0	199,750	6.1	101,390	3.6
Aggravated	169,120	12.8	310,190	21.8	311,190	16.3	363,170	8.5	262,130	5.6	80,680	2.5	36,670	1.3
Completed with injury	76,510	5.8	87,790	6.0	76,920	3.9	120,070	2.8	78,010	1.7	29,100	0.9	14,400	0.5
Attempted with weapon	92,610	7.0	232,400	15.8	236,270	12.4	243,110	5.7	184,120	3.9	51,560	1.6	22,270	0.8
Simple assault	453,860	34.2	509,830	34.7	662,540	34.8	695,850	16.2	440,710	9.4	118,570	3.6	64,710	2.3
Completed with injury	178,600	13.5	164,230	11.2	199,090	10.5	200,010	4.7	89,780	1.9	16,410	0.5	13,280	0.5
Attempted without weapon	275,270	20.8	345,600	23.5	462,650	24.3	495,840	11.6	350,930	7.5	102,150	3.1	51,440	1.8
Crimes of theft	1,432,010	108.1	1,783,730	121.5	2,070,430	108.7	3,359,390	78.3	2,945,350	63.3	1,204,850	36.8	528,230	18.6
Completed	1,389,300	104.8	1,701,890	115.9	1,910,900	100.3	3,122,320	72.8	2,772,470	59.1	1,117,440	34.1	495,550	17.5
Attempted	44,700	3.2	81,840	5.6	159,530	8.4	237,070	5.5	192,870	4.1	87,410	2.7	32,700	1.2
Personal larceny with contact	38,000	2.9	52,690	3.6	86,180	4.5	94,020	2.2	100,030	2.2	59,800	1.8	77,180	2.7
Purse snatching	7,180	0.5	16,640	1.1	29,720	1.6	48,170	1.1	27,110	0.6	25,180	0.8	30,930	1.1
Pocket picking	30,820	2.3	36,050	2.5	56,450	3.0	45,850	1.1	73,720	1.6	34,620	1.1	46,240	1.6
Personal larceny without contact	1,394,010	105.2	1,731,040	117.9	1,964,240	104.1	3,265,370	76.4	2,864,310	61.2	1,145,050	35.0	451,070	15.9
Completed	1,356,240	102.3	1,651,410	112.5	1,844,170	96.8	3,049,740	71.1	2,677,280	57.2	1,065,390	32.5	421,880	14.9
Less than \$50	995,520	75.1	881,090	60.0	672,470	35.3	1,159,740	27.0	998,230	21.3	431,410	13.2	178,790	6.3
\$50 or more	271,910	20.5	721,890	49.2	1,117,000	58.6	1,749,580	40.8	1,544,060	33.0	556,150	16.9	203,410	7.2
Amount not available	88,400	6.7	64,430	3.3	54,700	2.9	160,620	3.3	134,190	2.9	77,650	2.4	39,670	1.4
Attempted	37,770	2.9	79,620	5.4	140,070	7.4	215,630	5.0	187,230	4.0	81,610	2.5	29,280	1.0

NOTE: Detail may not add to total shown because of rounding.
Numbers in parentheses refer to population in the group.

Source: ICOD

Some Reasons for 'Wilding'



We're sending a message to our kids that brutality is OK

BY SUSAN BAKER AND TIPPER GORE

Wilding." It's a new word in the vocabulary of teenage violence. The crime that made it the stuff of headlines is so heinous, the details so lurid as to make them almost beyond the understanding of any sane human being.

When it was over, a 28-year-old woman, an investment banker out for a jog, was left brutally beaten, knifed and raped by teenagers. She was found near an isolated road in New York's Central Park, covered with mud, almost

dead from brain damage, loss of blood and exposure.

"It was fun," one of her suspected teenage attackers, all between 14 and 17 years old, told the Manhattan district attorney's office. In the lockup, they were nonchalantly whistling at a policewoman and singing a high-on-the-charts rap song about casual sex: "Wild Thing."

Maybe it's the savagery, the remorseless brutality that brought the national attention to this crime. We all heard about this one, either directly or from a friend or family member who would end the story with an "I can't believe it."

Believe it. Because it's happening elsewhere too.

In 1987, in Brooklyn, N.Y., three teenagers methodically set fire to a homeless couple. When at first rubbing alcohol wouldn't ignite the couple, they went to a local service station for gasoline. It worked.

In 1988, in rural Missouri, three teenagers killed a friend—partly out of curiosity! They just wanted to know what it would feel like to kill someone. One of the teenagers claimed the fascination with death began with heavy-metal music. When the victim asked "Why?" over and over as his friends brutally attacked with baseball bats, the answer was "Because it's fun."

In 1988 a record 406 people died in the county of Los Angeles alone in teen-gang-related attacks. One victim who survived was a pregnant woman who was shot, allegedly by a 16-year-old as a gang initiation rite.

This is truly a "generation at risk." Indeed, the statistics reflect its pain and confusion:

- The three leading causes of death among adolescents are drug- and alcohol-related accidents, suicide and homicide.
- Every year 1 million teenagers run away from home.
- Every year 1 million teenagers get pregnant.

■ Every year over half a million—600,000 teenagers—attempt suicide; 5,000 succeed.

■ Alcohol and drug abuse are so prevalent among the young that a *Weekly Readers* survey recently reported that 10-year-olds often feel pressure to try alcohol and crack.

■ According to the Department of Education, 81 percent of the victims of violent crime are preteens and teenagers, 19 or younger. For the first time, teenagers have topped adults in the percentages of serious crimes committed per capita.

There are many complex reasons for this sad litany. Divorce and working parents strain the family's ability to cope. Latchkey kids are the rule more than the exception. Our schools and neighborhoods have become open-air drug markets. But it is not enough to excuse these children as products of a bad environment.

As a society, we must take full responsibility. Our music, movies and television are filled with images of sexual violence and killing. The message to our kids is: it's OK to enjoy brutality and suffering: "It's fun."

The American Academy of Pediatrics released a national policy statement on the impact of rock lyrics and music videos on adolescents last November. In it, they noted that some lyrics communicate potentially harmful health messages in a culture beset with drug abuse, teenage pregnancy, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The No. 2 album in the country this week is "GN'R Lies" from the very popular group, Guns N' Roses. This band is a favorite of sixth through 12th graders. It contains the following lyrics: "I used to love her but I had to kill her, I had to put her six feet under, and I can still hear her complain."

Teen "slasher" films, featuring scenes of graphic, sadistic violence against women are so popular that characters like

Jason from "Friday the 13th" and Freddie from "Nightmare on Elm Street" are considered cult heroes, and now there are spinoff television shows.

As parents, it is our responsibility to teach our children to make wise decisions. This responsibility is not only to feed and clothe their bodies, but also to feed and nurture their spirits, their minds, their values. The moral crisis facing our nation's youth requires that we all share the responsibility, parents and the entertainment industry.

Too often, those who produce this violence evade any discussion of their own responsibility by pretending the entire debate begins and ends with the First Amendment. We are strong advocates of its protections of free speech and free expression. We do not and have not advocated or supported restrictions on those rights; we have never proposed government action. What we are advocating, and what we have worked hard to encourage, is responsibility.

For example, producers and songwriters don't consider putting out songs, movies or videos that would portray racism in a positive way. They could. The First Amendment provides that freedom. But they don't. In part, perhaps it's because they think those products wouldn't sell. But in part, they recognize it would be irresponsible. Why is there no similar reticence when the issue is glorifying violence, generally against women?

The same sense of responsibility should be brought to a marketplace so saturated with violence that it legitimizes it for our children. It's time to stop the spilling of blood both as "entertainment" and in real life.

Susan Baker and Tipper Gore are the cofounders of Parents' Music Resource Center, located in Arlington, Va.

Mc. Dickson / NCS
537-6355

81% of violent crime victims $\geq$
19 or younger

Youth Indicators: Trends in
the Well-Being of Am Youth

Office of ~~the~~ Research & Improvement

DOE p. 112

Nelson Smith

357-6164

Childrens Defense Fund 628.8787

2700 terns become preg. daily.

Sharon Adams Taylor - "good estimate
info from 1985 + 1986 (most recent)
indicates 2,800

she will send copy of Page from briefing
book

_____ terns New survey for breeding.

hisa Mihaly - x218

Dr. Charlotte Ross -

Natl Ch. Youth Suicide - ~~429-2016~~
in Calif - 415-347-3961

Natl - Ch. Health Statistics

Robert Weininger - 436-6155
Weininger.

teens try to take own lives daily

mortality - 1986 - 15-24 yrs. 5,120

3rd leading cause of death

6th leading cause 1986 5-14 yrs 255.

2nd 1986 15-19 1,896

Kathy Santini - Pub. Affair

Nat Inst Mental Health - 301-

Rockville 443-4513

Dr. Eve Moscicki 443-3774

Asst Chief of Epidemiology +
Psychopathology Research

McGroarty/Dooley
June 19, 1989
10:30 pm
Draft 4

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: YOUTH ENGAGED IN SERVICE EVENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
JUNE 21, 1989

[Introductory remarks/acknowledgements....] Carissa, Dale and Michael, Ron Brooks: thank you for sharing your remarkable stories with us....

You know, with 5 children of my own and 11 grandchildren, I've spent a lot of summer days out in the backyard with the kids -- but never in this backyard, and never with so many kids....

This is a wonderful sight, looking out over the South Lawn at so many young faces -- looking out on the future of America.

And making sure ours is a future full of promise is what I want to talk about today. But before I begin, I want you to look back with me for a moment -- to a small-town tradition America can't afford to forget. A time when -- whenever there was trouble, whenever someone in the community needed help and couldn't wait -- every town had a way to send that message out to all the townspeople. Someone went up to the top of the town hall, or the church steeple -- and rang a bell.

When people heard that bell, they didn't stop to ask why it was ringing. They just came -- as fast as they could, ready to help.

I've asked you here today because I need your help -- because America needs your help.

I know Presidents have called on the young people of this country before. In times of trouble, our young have always rushed to answer that call -- to fight and die for our freedoms, if necessary.

Today, we're fortunate. There's no need for a call to arms. We live in a time of peace -- a time of great and growing prosperity.

But it's a time for a call to action. It's a time of need - - for millions of Americans. Millions who are less fortunate, who are disadvantaged and doing without. Many who face the worst kind of deprivation of all: a life alone, and without hope.

Today, I call on you to commit yourselves -- to make it your mission to make a difference in someone else's life.

I don't have to tell you that youth gets blamed for its share -- and more -- of society's problems. Pick up the

newspaper, turn on the television: there's another story about youth gone wrong.

You don't hear often enough about the good you do. I know better. So do you. Youth service is a chance to show **everyone** you're not part of the problem -- you're part of the solution.

You **can** make a difference. Don't listen to anyone who tells you that illiteracy, drug abuse, homelessness are the government's problems -- or business' problems -- or problems for your parents to solve. **They're problems you're going to inherit -- they're problems you can help us solve.**

Take a look at what's happening today -- what's happening to kids like you. One-third of all victims of violent crime are 19 years old or younger. The three leading causes of death for teenagers are drug and alcohol related accidents, suicide and murder. On a tragically typical day, 3600 high school students drop out. 2700 teenagers run away from home, 2700 become pregnant. 1600 try to take their own lives.

These aren't just statistics. Some of them are kids in your school, kids who live on your street -- some of them are your friends.

We've got to reach out -- give them the one thing they need to start making their way back: a sense that someone cares. You heard Michael Johnson and his Big Brother Dale Long. You heard Carissa and Ron. You heard their message: how much it means to know that someone cares.

That's a message I want you to carry across this country -- from the inner city out to farm country, and every community in between.

Tomorrow, I'm going up to New York to announce the creation of a foundation for national service -- the Points of Light Foundation -- to encourage volunteers of all ages, all backgrounds and abilities.

But today, I asked you here because the spirit I want to see depends on you.

I've talked to hundreds of kids over the years -- to my own kids growing up. I've asked them: What is it you're looking for? What is it you want from life?

So many times, I hear the same answer. It isn't money. It isn't how you look -- what kind of car you drive. You've all thought about it. You know that's not what it's all about.

When it comes down to it, what you want -- what all of us want out of life -- are two things: meaning and adventure. A sense of purpose in life -- to be a part of something that matters.

And adventure -- excitement -- matters too. There are lots of ways to find adventure. Some are terribly self-destructive. Some bring a sense of self-enrichment and satisfaction beyond belief. The choice is in your hands.

I'm telling you today: you can find what you're looking for in community service. If you walk this path with me, I can guarantee you a life full of meaning and adventure.

That's why I've asked you here -- that's why I'm asking you to be a part of an initiative I call Youth Engaged in Service to America -- YES to America.

YES isn't just another government program. Another bureaucracy is the last thing we need. Youth Engaged in Service is a movement -- a way of looking at life.

Let me tell you what YES is all about -- who it's for.

It's for youth young people of all ages -- from 5 to 25. You've seen xxx. She's proof that even the youngest of us have

gifts to give. Let me ask you today: Don't worry whether it's a lot or a little. Do what you can. Get in the habit of helping others -- and that's one habit you'll never break.

And all of you have gifts to give. Kids from tough neighborhoods, kids from broken homes, kids who have grown up on food stamps and hand-me downs -- maybe you think you've got nothing to offer. You're wrong. The gifts I'm talking about are gifts of the spirit. If you've got the will to help -- you've got all you need.

YES is voluntary -- truly voluntary. You don't need to be bribed with incentives -- or threatened with penalties -- to get engaged in community service. That's not what the idea of service is all about. Service is its own reward -- satisfaction guaranteed.

Serving others shouldn't be a detour on your career path. It's not something you do when you're young, and outgrow when you're older. Service is a way of life: something you start when you're young, and stick with all life long.

And YES means getting involved where you know you can make a difference -- in your own community. I want service organizations in the cities and towns where you live to open their doors -- to make room for people your age to contribute.

Some of you may be saying, Mr. President, I'm ready. What can I do -- how can I get involved?

The fact is, you don't have to go far to find people who need your help. They're right there in your own community.

There's an elderly man -- facing nothing but empty days and isolation. He needs you.

There's a man who can't read, living behind the locked door of illiteracy. He needs you.

There's a family with no home, no place to sleep. That family needs you.

There's a boy or girl less fortunate than you, without family, without a friend -- without hope in the future. They need you.

There's a woman in a hospital bed, battling hard against her illness. She needs you.

There are millions of people -- people in the cities and towns where you live -- just like them. America needs you.

Maybe you've never been asked before. Well, I'm asking you now -- say YES to America.

Are you ready to make a commitment?

Are you ready to reach out a hand to people in need?

Are you ready to build a better future for yourselves -- a better future for America?

America hears you, loud and clear. Now, I ask you: listen to America. Listen for the sound of the bell. You can hear the bell ringing -- tens of thousands of bells across this country -- ringing in the inner city, out in farm country, in every community in between. I ask each of you -- all young people in America: Answer the call. From now on, make it your mission to serve others in need.

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

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McGroarty/Dooley
June 14, 1989 18
~~6:30 pm~~
Draft 1

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: YES FOUNDATION CEREMONY
THE WHITE HOUSE
JUNE 21, 1989

[Introductory remarks/acknowledgements....] Good afternoon,
and welcome to the White House.

((You know, with 5 children of my own and 11 grandchildren,
I've spent a lot of summer days out in the backyard with the kids
-- but never in this backyard, and never with so many kids....))

This is a wonderful sight, looking out over the South Lawn
at so many young faces -- looking out on the future of America.

x I've asked you here today to talk ~~to you~~ about that future -
- and about the critical role all of you can play now in shaping
it. ...To ask you to join me in a citizen's crusade -- a new era
? of national service -- and as citizens of tomorrow, to ask you to
lead the way.

Presidents have called on our nation's young people before.
In times of trouble, our young men and women have rushed to
answer that call. More than once in our history, young Americans
fought to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

Today, we're fortunate. There's no need for a call to arms. We live in a time of peace -- a time of great and growing prosperity.

But it's still a time of need -- for millions of Americans. Millions who are less fortunate, who are disadvantaged and doing without. Many who face the worst kind of deprivation of all: a life alone, and without hope.

Today, I call on you to commit yourselves -- to make it your mission to make a difference in someone else's life.

I don't have to tell you that youth gets blamed for its share -- and more -- of society's problems. Pick up the newspaper, turn on the television: there's another story about youth gone wrong.

You don't hear often enough about the good you do. I know better -- you know better. Youth service is a chance to show everyone you're not part of the problem -- you're part of the solution.

And you can make a difference. Don't listen to anyone who tells you that illiteracy, drug abuse, homelessness are the government's problems -- or business' problems -- or problems for your parents to solve. There's a great deal you can do to shape the world that's going to be yours to live in.

Dept Ed.
Dept. Just.

And changing that world for the better is in your interest. Take a look at what's happening to our youth today. One-third of all victims of violent crime are 19 years old or younger. The three leading causes of death for teenagers are drug and alcohol related accidents, suicide and murder. On a tragically typical day, 3600 high school students drop out. 2700 teenagers run away from home, 2700 become pregnant. 1600 try to take their own lives.

These aren't just statistics. Some of them are kids in your school, kids who live on your street -- ~~kids that you know.~~ *some of them are your friends*

We've got to reach out -- give them the one thing they need to start making their way back: a sense that someone cares.

And knowing that someone cares is something we all need -- young or old. Let me tell you a story about an older couple, living in a place called White Fish Bay, Wisconsin. You may know someone like them on your street: no children of their own -- but grandparents to every boy and girl who live in the neighborhood.

The kids appreciated all that love and attention -- and they did what they could to pay it back. They have tough winters up in that part of the country -- plenty of snow. The minute that first snowflake hit the ground, kids grabbed their shovels and

came racing from all directions to the house where those old people lived. It didn't matter how much snow fell -- that driveway was clean all winter long.

Sounds like a small thing -- but it's not. That spirit is what I'm talking about today. It's the spirit that turns the person next door into a neighbor -- that turns a group of individuals into a community.

It's that spirit that you have in abundance. That's why today, I'm announcing Youth Engaged in Service to America -- YES to America -- a national effort to tap the boundless energy of youth.

Let me tell you the four guiding principles that shape this YES to America effort.

First, youth service should involve young people of all ages -- from 5 to 25. We've got a lot of kindergarteners out here on the lawn today.

[Example: children in attendance, the younger the better, involved in even the smallest kind of service.... Nursing home visits.]

Even the youngest of us have gifts to give. Let me ask you today: Don't worry whether it's a lot or a little. Do what you

can. Get in the habit of helping others -- and that's one habit you'll never break.

Second, youth service should be truly voluntary. I don't believe we have to bribe you with incentives -- or threaten you with penalties -- to get you engaged in community service.

X There's something about the idea of mandating volunteerism that just isn't in the spirit of service. I'm talking about something many of you know already: Service is its own reward. Satisfaction's guaranteed.

Third, service shouldn't interrupt your lives -- it should be a part of life. Spending time in service to others shouldn't be a detour on your career path. It's something we should all make a life-time occupation.

Take the time to get involved -- in school, in your neighborhood, with your church or temple, at work or on your own. You'll find there's always time to help. And you'll find out something more: you'll make the time to help.

Fourth, youth service should be community-based, community-devised and community-directed. And service organizations should make room for young people in their operations.

Some of you may be saying, Mr. President, I'm ready. What can I do -- how can I get involved?

The fact is, you don't have to go far to find people who need your help. They're right there in your own community.

There's an elderly man -- facing nothing but empty days and isolation. He needs you.

There's a man who can't read, living behind the locked door of illiteracy. He needs you.

There's a family with no home, no place to sleep. That family needs you.

There's a boy or girl less fortunate than you, without family, without a friend -- without hope in the future. They need you.

There's a woman in a hospital bed, battling hard against her illness. She needs you.

There are millions of people -- people in the cities and towns where you live -- just like them. America needs you. I ask you today: reach out, get involved.

YES isn't just another government program -- it's an American youth movement. And the strength of this new movement is in each of you.

Thank you for coming. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

McGroarty/Dooley
June 16, 1989
5:30 pm
Draft 2

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: YOUTH ENGAGED IN SERVICE EVENT
THE WHITE HOUSE
JUNE 21, 1989

[Introductory remarks/acknowledgements....] Good afternoon,
and welcome to the White House.

((You know, with 5 children of my own and 11 grandchildren,
I've spent a lot of summer days out in the backyard with the kids
-- but never in this backyard, and never with so many kids....))

This is a wonderful sight, looking out over the South Lawn
at so many young faces -- looking out on the future of America.

I've asked you here today to talk to you about that future -
- and about the critical role all of you can play now in shaping
it. ...To ask you to join me in a citizen's crusade -- a new era
of national service -- and as citizens of tomorrow, to ask you to
lead the way.

Presidents have called on our nation's young people before.
In times of trouble, our young men and women have rushed to
answer that call. More than once in our history, young Americans
fought to preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

Today, we're fortunate. There's no need for a call to arms. We live in a time of peace -- a time of great and growing prosperity.

But it's still a time of need -- for millions of Americans. Millions who are less fortunate, who are disadvantaged and doing without. Many who face the worst kind of deprivation of all: a life alone, and without hope.

Today, I call on you to commit yourselves -- to make it your mission to make a difference in someone else's life.

I don't have to tell you that youth gets blamed for its share -- and more -- of society's problems. Pick up the newspaper, turn on the television: there's another story about youth gone wrong.

You don't hear often enough about the good you do. I know better -- you know better. Youth service is a chance to show everyone you're not part of the problem -- you're part of the solution.

And you can make a difference. Don't listen to anyone who tells you that illiteracy, drug abuse, homelessness are the government's problems -- or business' problems -- or problems for

your parents to solve. There's a great deal you can do to shape the world that's going to be yours to live in.

And changing that world for the better is in your interest. Take a look at what's happening to our youth today. One-third of all victims of violent crime are 19 years old or younger. The three leading causes of death for teenagers are drug and alcohol related accidents, suicide and murder. On a tragically typical day, 3600 high school students drop out. 2700 teenagers run away from home, 2700 become pregnant. 1600 try to take their own lives.

These aren't just statistics. Some of them are kids in your school, kids who live on your street -- some of them are your friends.

We've got to reach out -- give them the one thing they need to start making their way back: a sense that someone cares.

And knowing that someone cares is something we all need -- young or old. Let me tell you a story about an older couple, living in a place called Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin. You may know someone like them on your street: no children of their own -- but grandparents to every boy and girl who live in the neighborhood.

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Sounds like a small thing -- but it's not. That spirit is what I'm talking about today. It's the spirit that turns the person next door into a neighbor -- that turns a group of individuals into a community.

That's a spirit I want to see take hold across this country -- from the inner city out to farm country, and every community in between. Tomorrow, I'm going up to New York to announce the creation of a foundation for national service -- the Points of Light Foundation -- to encourage volunteers of all ages, all backgrounds and abilities.

But the spirit I want to see today depends on you. That's why I've asked you here -- and that's the idea behind Youth Engaged in Service to America -- YES to America -- a national effort to tap your boundless energy.

Let me tell you the four guiding principles that shape our YES initiative.

First, youth service should involve young people of all ages -- from 5 to 25. We've got some Peace Corps volunteers here today, ready to take the American volunteer ethic out into the world -- ready to change lives wherever they go. But there's plenty to do here at home -- and it's never too early to start.

[EXAMPLE: There are a few children here today right up in front, from the Jewish Community Center Day Care program here in Washington. Once a week, they visit a nursing home in their neighborhood.... They're three and four years old -- and they're making a difference....]

Even the youngest of us have gifts to give. Let me ask you today: Don't worry whether it's a lot or a little. Do what you can. Get in the habit of helping others -- and that's one habit you'll never break.

Second, youth service should be truly voluntary. I don't believe we have to bribe you with incentives -- or threaten you with penalties -- to get you engaged in community service.

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There's a boy or girl less fortunate than you, without family, without a friend -- without hope in the future. They need you.

There's a woman in a hospital bed, battling hard against her illness. She needs you.

There are millions of people -- people in the cities and towns where you live -- just like them. America needs you.

I want to ask you right now to say YES to America.

Are you ready to make a commitment?

Are you ready to reach out a hand to people in need?

Are you ready to build a better future for yourselves -- and for this nation?

America hears you, loud and clear. Let's make today the first day of a new American youth movement -- a movement committed heart and soul to community service.

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

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THE PRESIDENT'S YOUTH SPEECH

- As the father of five and grandfather of thirteen, I have spent many summer afternoons in backyards with young people, but never this many young people and never in this backyard!

89 JUN 15 P12:30

- I'm glad you're here and, on behalf of America, I want to welcome you to the nation's house.

- As I look at your faces, I see a picture of young America.

- You are many colors, sizes and ages; you come from many places; you find yourselves in many different circumstances; and your problems and possibilities are as diverse as the nation itself.

- When I think of America's youth, I think of you, all of you.

- I have asked you here today to talk with you about America's future, to outline where you and I know the nation needs to go and, perhaps surprisingly, to call on you to lead us there.

- Forty presidents before me in this house have been concerned about the young people of their time.

- But few presidents, and then, only in time of war, have called on young people to serve the nation.

- At critical points in our history, we as a nation have turned to our young people to save us.

- And the young have always answered the call when the nation needed them.

- Today, the nation needs you again, and you need one another, not because the storm clouds of war are gathering, as they have at other times in our history, but because you and I know that great storm clouds of another kind have gathered.

- We have problems that affect every part of America, not simply youth. At the heart of many of these problems are good people, young and old, who simply need the help of other people.

- Because these problems know no age limits and they are so massive that government alone cannot hope to solve them, I will tomorrow announce a major initiative to engage all Americans and all of the institutions of which we are a part in the lives of those who are in need.

- But because your engagement in this effort, as America's future leaders, is critical to its success, I wanted to meet

first with you and ask for your commitment to the work that must be done.

- A simple fact in America today is that too many people are free-falling through society with no one and nothing to stop their fall and bring them back.

- No one, young or old, should be permitted to go through life unclaimed.

- You must show us how to reclaim these lives and to make room for everyone in America's inn.

- And if you come along with me on this mission of engagement, you will discover the way to a meaningful and adventurous life.

- You and I want the same kind of America.

- We all want an America in which no elderly citizen wastes away, unloved, forgotten, alone.

- We all want an America in which no little boy or little girl grows up without a "Big Brother" or "Big Sister".

- We all want an America in which everyone knows how to read.

- We all want an America in which no teen is delinquent or suicidal and no student drops-out.

- We all want an America in which no one roams the streets at night, without a home, without family or friends, an America in which no one goes to sleep hungry.

- I know what some of you are probably thinking to yourselves right now. "Well that's fine, Mr. President, but what can we as young people really do about it? "

- That's why I have asked you here today, to suggest what you and I together can do about it.

- First, we must convince all Americans, even some of you, that young people are the solution.

- Regardless of the life that you are living, there is something special about every single one of you.

- Your gifts are all different. But every young person has a gift to give and the nation is in need of those gifts. And I am asking you to give them now.

- Many of you are not used to being told that you are essentially a good person. But you are. And you have something to give for your own sake and ours, whatever your circumstances and in whatever condition you find yourselves today.

- Second, certain problems must be made your problems, problems that your generation confronts "head-on".
- We all know the grim statistics.
- 3600 high school students drop out each day.
- ADD DAILY DRUG STATISTIC.
- 1650 teenagers attempt suicide each day.
- More than 2700 teenagers get pregnant each day.
- But few of us realize that these are not just figures printed in a thick government book or broadcast on the evening news.
- These numbers are your brothers, your sisters, your cousins, your friends, and maybe, even some of you.
- And, in a larger sense, unless you claim these problems as your own and rise up to act on them, they foreshadow a national inheritance for you that will be less prosperous and less peaceful than the one that I and my generation have known.
- The teenager who's tempted to try crack, the little boy who needs someone to catch the ball he wants to throw, the fifth grader who'd like to keep pace with her class in reading, all need someone to spend time with them, someone to care about them, someone to whom they matter.
- In short, these are lives that need you.
- And you, sitting before me today and the millions of other young people whom you represent, need to be needed.
- Take responsibility for one other life.
- Let the phrase, "one-to-one", symbolize all Americans' commitment to each other in a new era of mutual engagement.
- In this spirit, I want you to say YES to America.
- What do I mean by YES to America ?
- First, I mean that literally all young people, from kindergartners to 25 year olds, should be engaged in service to the nation.
- I am talking about good students, average students and those who have dropped-out, Boy Scouts and trouble-prone boys, average athletes and Special Olympics athletes, nonreaders and speedreaders, pregnant girls and determined young career women.

- Second, I believe that service is its own reward.
- I don't believe that we have to bribe you with incentives or threaten you with penalties to persuade you to respond to this call. The skills that you will develop through service are skills that the workplace will demand of you and that future employers will expect of you.
- Third, I believe that service should not interrupt your lives; service should be woven into every young person's normal life.
- Wherever you may be - in school, in the neighborhood, on the job, at church or temple, in college or out - make service to others part of your daily pattern of living.
- And fourth, youth service programs should be community-initiated, community-based and community-directed, devised and implemented as much as possible by young people themselves.
- YES to America calls upon all adults, and the institutions of which they are a part - schools, businesses, professionals, unions, religious bodies, service groups and civic organizations - to be about the business of youth development in America.
- In carrying out your own mission of service, some of you may wish to work one-to-one with another person, young or old, who needs your support.
- Others of you may wish to work with other young people in teams or with adults to make a difference in someone else's life.
- Still others will go to the institutions of which you are a part - your school, your college or university, your church or synagogue, your Boy Scout chapter, Girls Club or weekend basketball team - and find a service opportunity that has meaning for you.
- To bring about the change in thinking that is needed, I want all of you to challenge the system. Go to corporations, law firms, banks, brokerage firms, supermarkets, restaurants, newspaper publishers, hospitals and unions and persuade them to make the business of youth development through community service their own.
- This will require you as young people to dial telephone numbers you've never dialed before and to knock on doors you've never entered before.
- It will take an enormous faith in yourselves and an enormous faith in the rest of America's willingness to respond to you. I have that faith in you and in us.

- Tomorrow I will tell you how I plan to help you challenge the system and how I expect the system to respond.

- YES to America is not a government program; you will make this initiative an American movement, a crusade to build a better America.

- As one looks across the world stage today, wherever the eye is cast, from China to South Africa, Poland to Nicaragua, Russia to Afghanistan, young people are in the forefront of movements to change their nations for the better.

- You must be on the frontlines of change in America.

- And to those who say the job is too big for you, consider the lone student who faced down a battery of tanks in Tienanmen Square, a living metaphor, literally standing up for democracy, a rebel with a cause.

- Your challenge is different from theirs, but no less important. They face armies and attitudes; you face only attitudes. And attitudes, like seasons, change with time. Well, times have changed. America needs you now.

4 pm today

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH ON YES

- As the father of five and grandfather of thirteen, I have spent many summer afternoons in our backyard with young people, but never this many young people and never in this backyard!
- I'm glad you're here and, on behalf of America, I want to welcome you to the nation's house.
- As I look at your faces, I see that you are the picture of young America.
- You are many colors, sizes and ages; you come from many places; you find yourselves in many circumstances; and your problems and possibilities are as diverse as the nation itself.
- When I think of youth, I think of you, all of you.
- I have asked you here today to talk to you about America's future, to suggest where you and I know the nation needs to go and to call on you to lead us there.
- Forty presidents before me have worked here in the interest of the young people of their time.
- But few presidents, and then, only in time of war, have called on all young people to serve the nation.
- At critical points in our history, we as a nation have turned to our young people to save us.
- And the young have always answered the call when the nation needed them.
- Today, the nation needs you again, not because the storm clouds of war are gathering, as they have at other times in our history, but because you and I know that great storm clouds of another kind have gathered.
- Too many people are free-falling through society with no one and nothing to break their fall.
- With your leadership, we must somehow find a way to connect these people to the social system and to weave them into the fabric of society.
- But how?

- You and I want the same kind of America.
- We both want an America in which no elderly citizen wastes away in a nursing home, unloved, forgotten, alone.
- We both want an America in which no little boy or little girl grows up without a "Big Brother" or "Big Sister".
- We both want an America in which everyone knows how to read.
- We both want an America in which no teen is pregnant, delinquent or suicidal and no student drops-out.
- We both want an America in which no one roams the streets at night, without family, without a home, and no one goes to sleep hungry.
- I know what some of you are probably thinking to yourselves right now. "Well that's fine, Mr. President. We'd like to see that America too, but what can we as young people really do about it?"
- That's why I have asked you here today.
- First, we must convince all Americans, even some of you, that young people are not part of the problem; you are the solution.
- I believe that all young people have gifts to give and the nation is now in need of those gifts.
- Some of you are not used to being told how good you are; but I am here to tell each of you today that you are good, whether you believe it or not.
- News reports these days are so full of stories about young people who have gone astray that many adults have lost faith in the basic goodness and decency of most young people, your limitless potential, whatever your circumstances.
- Second, you must come to understand why it's in your interest to do your part to bring about the world we both seek.
- 31% of the victims of violent crime are 19 or younger.
- 406 people died in Los Angeles alone last year from youth gang related attacks.
- The 3 leading causes of teen deaths are drug or alcohol-related accidents, suicide and murder.
- 3600 high school students drop out each day.
- 2740 teenagers run away from home each day.

- 1650 teenagers attempt suicide each day.
- More than 2700 teenagers get pregnant each day.
- 4 out of 10 high school graduates read at or below the 8th grade level.
- These are not just cold statistics published in a thick government book.
- Among these numbers are some of your brothers, your sisters, your cousins, your friends, and maybe, even some of you.
- And, in a larger sense, these problems foreshadow a national inheritance less prosperous and less peaceful than the one that I have known.
- Third, we must recognize that the solution to these problems is nothing less than your active engagement in the lives of those left out of the mainstream.
- What so many of these young people need is someone to love them, someone to care for them, someone to whom they matter.
- While most young Americans are connected to the life support system that they need, far too many are living empty, destructive and miserable lives.
- Too many young Americans go through life looking for meaning, looking for direction, looking for purpose, looking for something to live for, all in the wrong places.
- But my message today to all American young people is "Look no more".
- There is something to live for.
- You are wanted; you are needed.
- A lonely grandmother needs you.
- A dying AIDS patient needs you.
- A family without a place to sleep tonight needs you.
- A little boy who needs someone to look up to needs you.
- In short, America needs you, once again.
- All young people have gifts to give and the nation is now in need of those gifts.

- With this in mind, I today announce my Youth Engaged in Service to America or YES to America proposal.

- I call upon each young person in America to commit yourself to making a difference in someone else's life.

- Don't listen to those who tell you that illiteracy, drug abuse, homelessness and other problems are the government's problems or business' problems or your parents' problems.

- Don't rest, don't feel satisfied, don't think that you've accomplished anything in life until you have done what you can to make life better for someone left on the outside.

- From now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others.

- What principles underlie my YES proposal?

- First, I am calling for the involvement of literally all young people between kindergarten age and 25.

- I believe that whatever your circumstances, whatever deck of cards you've been dealt in life, you have something to contribute to someone else.

- In my America, there are no nobodies.

- Second, I believe that youth service should be truly voluntary.

- I don't believe that we have to bribe you with incentives or threaten you with penalties to persuade you to respond to this call.

- Third, I believe that service should not interrupt your lives; service should complement it.

- Service should be woven into every young person's normal life plan and career path.

- Wherever you may be - in school, in the neighborhood, on the job, at church or temple, in college or out - make service to others part of your daily pattern of living.

- Fourth, I believe that the young are as capable as any of us of identifying problems and devising solutions to them.

- Accordingly, youth service programs should be designed and implemented by young people themselves.

- Fifth, youth service programs should be community-based, community-devised and community-directed.

- Sixth, young people, adults, and the institutions of which they are a part - schools, businesses, professionals, unions, religious bodies, service groups and civic organizations - should work together in teams to devise and implement youth service programs, because teamwork teaches young people the positive values of cooperation, collaboration, mutual understanding and esprit de corps.-

- And I hope that this initiative will serve as a magnet drawing together disparate people and institutions, creating partnerships among ceo's, pastors, teachers and labor leaders, who would otherwise continue to be isolated from each other, walled off in their own secluded worlds.

- I want each young person to find your own way to make a difference in someone else's life.

- Some of you may wish to work one-to-one with another person, young or old, who needs your support.

- There isn't a street in America that doesn't have someone in need of the gift that only you can give.

- Others of you may wish to work with other young people in teams or with adults to make a difference in someone else's life.

- Still others will go to the institutions of which you are a part - your school, your college or university, your church or synagogue, your Boy Scout chapter, Girls Club or weekend basketball team - and organize a youth service program.

- Finally, I hope that some of you will call numbers you've never dialed before, and enter doors you've never knocked on before and challenge a corporation, law firm, accounting firm, consulting firm, commercial or investment bank, brokerage firm, supermarket, restaurant, hospital, or union to make the business of youth development through community service their own.

- The initiative that I propose today is truly radical.

- For once a President is not announcing a Washington program; he's igniting an American movement.

- The key to the success of this initiative is you.

- To the cynics who say it is tilting at windmills to expect the young to solve the problems which have eluded the bureaucrats, pundits and experts, I say the power of the young is formidable.

- Consider for a moment the brave young men and women of Tianamen Square.

- Think of the lone student who faced down a battery of tanks, literally standing firmly for democracy.
- Your challenge is different from theirs, but no less important.
- The nation needs you.

Good School NJ
 Englewood, NJ
 waiting letters to
 212/838-4715

June 23, 87
 Bureau Wide
 Mar 21, 88
 P. 15
 Black Enterprise
 Feb 88

Close-Up Foundation

332-4897
 Working Home
 362-3500
 332
 Activities
 Use Ave

Bates = prog.
 officer

6/20
 Citizen Bee
 1989 Pres. Scholars/
 J. Gibbs Youth Event

Volunteerism

6/14/89

4pm

THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH ON YES

- As the father of five and grandfather of thirteen, I have spent many summer afternoons in backyards with young people, but never this many young people and never in this backyard!
- I'm glad you're here and, on behalf of America, I want to welcome you to the nation's house.
- As I look at your faces, I see a picture of young America.
- You are many colors, sizes and ages; you come from many places; you find yourselves in many different circumstances; and your problems and possibilities are as diverse as the nation itself.
- When I think of America's youth, I think of you, all of you.
- I have asked you here today to talk with you about America's future, to outline where you and I know the nation needs to go and, perhaps surprisingly, to call on you to lead us there.
- Forty presidents before me have worked here in this white house in the interest of the young people of their time.
- But few presidents, and then, only in time of war, have called on young people to serve the nation.
- At critical points in our history, we as a nation have turned to our young people to save us.
- And the young have always answered the call when the nation needed them.
- Today, the nation needs you again, and you need one another, not because the storm clouds of war are gathering, as they have at other times in our history, but because you and I know that great storm clouds of another kind have gathered.
- We have problems that affect every part of America, not simply youth. At the heart of many of these problems are good people, young and old, who simply need the help of other people.
- Because these problems know no age limits and their solution demands a level of commitment from more of America than any president has ever summoned in time of peace, I will tomorrow announce a major initiative to engage all Americans and all of

the institutions of which we are a part in the lives of those who are in need.

- But because your engagement in this effort, as America's future leaders, is critical to its success, I wanted to meet first with you and ask for your commitment to the work that must be done.

-A simple fact in America today is that too many people are free-falling through society with no one and nothing to break their fall.

- No one, young or old, should be permitted to go through life unclaimed.

- With your leadership, we must somehow find a way to reclaim these lives and to make room for them in America's inn.

- And if you come along with me on this mission of commitment, you will discover the way to a meaningful and adventurous life.

- You and I want the same kind of America.

- We all want an America in which no elderly citizen wastes away, unloved, forgotten, alone.

- We all want an America in which no little boy or little girl grows up without a "Big Brother" or "Big Sister".

- We all want an America in which everyone knows how to read.

- We all want an America in which no teen is pregnant, or delinquent and no student drops-out.

stop - We all want an America in which no one roams the streets at night, without a family or friends, without a home, an America in which no one goes to sleep hungry.

- I know what some of you are probably thinking to yourselves right now. "Well that's fine, Mr. President. We'd like to see that America too, but what can we as young people really do about it?"

- That's why I have asked you here today, to suggest what you and I together can do about it.

- First, we must convince all Americans, even some of you, that young people are not part of the problem; you are the solution.

- I believe that every young person has a gift to give and the nation is in need of those gifts. And I am asking you to give them now.

- Too many young Americans go through life looking for meaning, looking for direction, looking for purpose, looking for something to live for, all in the wrong places.

- But my message today to all American young people is "Look no more".

- There is something to live for.

- You are wanted; you are needed.

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- I believe that whatever your circumstances, whatever deck of cards you've been dealt in life, you have something to contribute to someone else.

- In my America, there are no nobodies.

- Some of you are not used to being told that you are a good person; but I am here to tell each of you today that you are good, whether you believe it or not.

- News reports these days are so full of stories about young people who have gone astray that many adults have lost faith in the basic goodness and decency of most young people, your limitless potential and your boundless promise, whatever your circumstances and in whatever condition you find yourselves today.

- Second, beyond convincing everyone of your value, you must come to understand why it's in your interest to commit yourself to being part of the solution.

- 31% of the victims of violent crime are 19 or younger.

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- These are not just cold statistics published in a thick government book.

- Among these numbers are some of your brothers, your sisters, your cousins, your friends, and maybe, even some of you.

- And, in a larger sense, unless you claim these problems as your own, they foreshadow a national inheritance for you that will be less prosperous and less peaceful than the one that I and my generation have known.

- Given that you are part of the solution, what are you and I going to do about these problems?

- What so many of these young people need is someone to love them, someone to care for them, someone to whom they matter.

- While most young Americans are connected to the life support system that they need, far too many are living empty, destructive and miserable lives.

- Second, I believe that youth service should be truly voluntary.
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