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OA/ID Number: 13501
Folder ID Number: 13501-011

Folder Title:
Address to Students Re: Drugs 9/12/89 [2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	25	6	4	7

From: Bobbie Kilberg

This is a moving speech ~ my
kids liked it

89 SEP 7

F3:45

Bobbie

(Lange/Blessey)
September 7, 1989
3:20 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

[LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW] Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over. It's a time full of possibility. Everyone gets a new chance. Expectations ^{and hopes} are high.

[TO CAMERA] You know, Presidents don't talk directly to students very often. But what's been on my mind lately is very important. You may have heard my address to the nation last week. But I wanted this message to go straight to you.

[LEANS ON EDGE OF DESK] When I was thinking about what I wanted to say to you today about drugs, I tried to put myself in your place. To look at it from your perspective. But you know, the harder I tried, the harder it got.

You live in complicated times. You deal with pressures that people like me -- people like your mom or dad -- never had to face.

Some say my generation came of age in a simpler time. A time when doing lines meant reciting poems. When Coke only came in bottles. Rock only came on the radio. Hash only came in cans. And the idea of smoking "ice" would have been a little confusing.

89 SEP 8 10:24

good!

Simpler times? Maybe. And if you think your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- you may be right.

Need to But it's up to you to care enough to talk to them, ^{because they} ~~and make~~ ^{really understand} them understand what it is you're dealing with, every day. Whether they want to or not. Whether you think they deserve it or not.

[PICKS UP GLOVE] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- on and off the field. Friends who showed me what it's like to be counted on.

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you surround yourself with can either give you strength -- or take it away; ^{they can help you or they can hurt you}

Somehow, some people just make you find the best in yourself. They can help make you a better person -- help you discover more of who you are.

[PUTS DOWN GLOVE] But there are others, who may **seem** like friends, who will offer you a one-way ticket to nowhere -- every time they offer you drugs.

You're at a point in your life when the doors should all be opening to you. And with each step, with a thousand small decisions, you're shaping your future. It ought to be bright with potential. But for some, who are letting drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut.

my SON, age 14, ~~did~~ NOT
clear as to what "casual" use meant.

3

We know that now. Attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed.

Cocaine use has dropped by about a third among high school seniors. Overall drug use is at the lowest levels in ten years. We now understand that "casual" drug use is a myth. DRUG USE IS DRUG USE - it's all the same.

But even if you don't use drugs, you ought to be angry about them. Because you're being cheated by those who do.

Add it all up, and drug use costs this country well over \$60 billion a year. If every student entering junior and senior high school this fall had to pay that bill, it would cost each of you more than \$3000. Every year.

But of course, we're all paying for it. Every day. Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even just looks the other way, they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives. Because "casual" drug use is responsible for the casualties of the drug war.

Each of you has a choice to make -- and dozens of chances to make it. At a party, in a locker room, in the school parking lot. And parents, preachers, politicians -- you know that none of them make it for you. It's ^{YOUR DECISION.} yours! I won't tell you how to make it. But I will tell you what it means.

Every dollar that goes to drugs fuels the killing. As long as there are Americans willing to buy drugs, there will be people willing to sell drugs -- and people willing to kill as a cost of doing business.

So even casual users -- dabblers in drugs -- have blood on their hands. And unlike those of you entering school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never get a second chance.

Drugs are an equal opportunity destroyer. They have no conscience. They don't care where the money comes from. They just murder people. Young and old, good and bad -- it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- trying to protect a witness, so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

Eddie Byrne had three brothers. A girlfriend he'd known for four years. He loved football -- was a running back at Plain Edge High School. *A lot of hope and a promising future ahead of him.* He had a lot of friends in his neighborhood. But in the early hours of a cold February morning, sitting in a cruiser, Eddie Byrne was blown away at point-blank range.

To me this badge is a constant reminder -- that the killing must and **will stop**. It's a promise, that Eddie Byrne's life was not given in vain. That **the slavery of drugs must end -- and will end**. [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

From where you're sitting right now -- in school -- you're in a position to begin to make your dreams come true. But out on the streets, a nightmare for America is happening, right now.

Somewhere a teenage girl who ought to be in school is giving birth to a baby already addicted to cocaine. That baby is coming

into this world shaking and twitching from withdrawal -- so sensitive to the touch that it can't be held or fed properly.

[PICKS UP VIAL] **How can something so small cause so much pain?** How can it force brothers to kill brothers, mothers to abandon children? And behind all of the senseless violence, the needless tragedy, what haunts me is the question -- **why?**

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I have one answer. Drugs are still a problem, because too many of us are still looking the other way. And that's why I wanted to talk to you today.

I'm asking you **not** to look the other way. Maybe you're in trouble -- or on the edge of trouble. Maybe you know someone who is.

You know -- **all** of you know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** help. And help them. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is.

We all need to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

Saying "no" won't make you a nerd. It won't make you a geek. It won't make you a loser, or a dweeb... It will only show strength. And it will make you more friends than drugs ever will. ~~It will make you more friends than drugs ever will.~~

Good!

I think of Gary -- a very street-tough drug user from Denver, who was part of a panel answering questions from students about drugs. In the middle of the session, Gary broke down and cried, saying that he did drugs because no one who wasn't doing drugs would like him. When the students in the audience were asked who would be Gary's friend, there was a sea of hands all around the room.

You are in control of your life. **With knowledge and education, you will succeed. You can not be denied.**

If you're thinking about dropping out, think again. If you know somebody who's thinking about dropping out, talk to them about it. If you have friends who have already dropped out, find them. Talk to them. Find a way to bring them back.

How can such a small step make any difference? Well, last winter, after I was sworn in as President, I said that any definition of a successful life must include serving others. And I think we all sense that.

A friend of mine tells a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As the boy walked along the beach he picked up each starfish he passed, and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and ~~there~~^{there} are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

GREAT
STORY!

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference -- for yourself, and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance. And make the days mean something.

I've got a lot of faith in you. But even more important, maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- they're looking up to you. And your future -- well, that's **completely** up to you.

Make it a good one.

Have a good year. And God bless you.

###

Terrific ending

MARK,

Somewhere in here POTUS may want to acknowledge that he's preaching at them a little ~ but for a reason ~ because the needless suffering must stop and their futures must be protected.

Sara DeCamp's comments



S.D.

Pencil are Ciceoni comments

(Lange/Blessey)
September 7, 1989
3:20 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

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[TO CAMERA] You know, Presidents don't talk directly to students very often. But what's been on my mind lately is very important. You may have heard my address to the nation last week. But I wanted this message to go straight to you.

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Some say my generation came of age in a simpler time. A time when doing lines meant reciting poems. When Coke only came in bottles. Rock only came on the radio. Hash only came in cans. And the idea of smoking "ice" would have been a little confusing.

hoky sort of hoky, used before

89 SEP 8 10:37

Simpler times? Maybe. And if you think your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- you may be right.

But it's up to you to care enough to talk to them, and make them understand what it is you're dealing with, every day. Whether they want to or not. Whether you think they deserve it or not.

[PICKS UP GLOVE] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- on and off the field. Friends who showed me what it's like to be counted on.

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you surround yourself with can either give you strength -- or take it away.

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*casual
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But of course, we're all paying for it. Every day. Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even just looks the other way, they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives. Because "casual" drug use is responsible for the casualties of the drug war.

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Goal

So even casual users -- dabblers in drugs -- have blood on their hands. And unlike those of you entering school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never get a second chance.

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[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- trying to protect a witness, so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

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You know -- **all** of you know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** help. And help them. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is.

We all need to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

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"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

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FILE

(Lange/Blessey)
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"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

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I've got a lot of faith in you. But even more important, maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- they're looking up to you. And your future -- well, that's **completely** up to you.

Make it a good one.

Have a good year. And God bless you.

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FINAL

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THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

(9/12)
(9:00 AM)

You know

SOMEHOW THE FALL ALWAYS FEELS LIKE A TIME TO START OVER. IT'S A TIME FULL OF POSSIBILITY. EVERYONE GETS A NEW CHANCE.

NOW, I KNOW THERE ARE AMERICANS OF EVERY AGE WATCHING. AND TO THOSE AT HOME OR AT WORK, I ASK YOU TO TALK WITH YOUR FAMILIES AND CO-WORKERS ABOUT DRUG ABUSE. BUT PRESIDENT'S DON'T OFTEN GET THE CHANCE TO TALK DIRECTLY TO STUDENTS. SO TODAY, FOR EACH OF YOU SITTING IN A CLASSROOM OR ASSEMBLY HALL... THIS MESSAGE GOES STRAIGHT TO YOU.

WHEN I WAS THINKING ABOUT WHAT I WANTED TO SAY TO YOU TODAY ABOUT DRUGS, I TRIED TO PUT MYSELF IN YOUR PLACE. TO LOOK AT IT FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE. BUT YOU KNOW, THE HARDER I TRIED, THE HARDER IT GOT.

IT MAY SEEM TO YOU THAT YOUR PARENTS AND YOUR TEACHERS GREW UP IN SIMPLER TIMES. BUT MOST OF THEM LIVED THROUGH THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLES. SOME OF YOUR FATHERS FOUGHT IN VIETNAM. AND FOR MANY OF YOU, YOUR PARENTS AND TEACHERS WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO FACE DRUGS.

\\/\

IF YOU CARE ENOUGH TO TALK TO THEM, YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED AT HOW MUCH THEY DO UNDERSTAND. \\
\\

[PICKS UP BASEBALL] I USED TO PLAY BASEBALL. KNEW I'D NEVER MAKE THE BIG LEAGUES -- BUT I MADE A LOT OF FRIENDS. FRIENDS I LEARNED TO COUNT ON -- BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

WE TRUSTED EACH OTHER TO COME THROUGH -- NO MATTER HOW TOUGH IT GOT. AND I LEARNED FROM THAT. I LEARNED THAT THE KIND OF PEOPLE YOU MAKE YOUR FRIENDS CAN EITHER GIVE YOU STRENGTH -- OR TAKE IT AWAY.

I'M NOT SURE WHY IT IS, BUT SOME PEOPLE JUST MAKE YOU FIND THE BEST IN YOURSELF. THEY CAN HELP YOU BECOME A BETTER PERSON -- HELP YOU DISCOVER MORE OF WHO YOU ARE.

[PUTS DOWN BASEBALL] THERE ARE OTHERS, WHO MAY SEEM LIKE FRIENDS, BUT THEY'RE NOT -- AND THEY PROVE IT -- EVERY TIME THEY OFFER YOU DRUGS.\\

EVERY DAY, WITH A THOUSAND SMALL DECISIONS, YOU'RE SHAPING YOUR FUTURE. IT'S A FUTURE THAT OUGHT TO BE BRIGHT WITH POTENTIAL. AND MOST OF YOU ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING. \\ BUT FOR THOSE WHO LET DRUGS MAKE THEIR DECISIONS FOR THEM, YOU CAN ALMOST HEAR THE DOORS SLAMMING SHUT.

IT ISN'T WORTH IT. WE KNOW THAT NOW. ATTITUDES THAT ONCE ENCOURAGED OR EXCUSED DRUG USE HAVE CHANGED. AMONG HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS COCAINE USE HAS DROPPED BY ABOUT A FIFTH, AND OVERALL DRUG USE IS AT THE LOWEST LEVELS IN TEN YEARS.

BUT EVEN IF YOU DON'T USE DRUGS, YOU OUGHT TO BE ANGRY ABOUT THEM. BECAUSE YOU'RE BEING CHEATED \ \ BY THOSE WHO DO.

ADD IT ALL UP: DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COSTS THIS COUNTRY BILLIONS OF DOLLARS A YEAR \ \ AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO QUANTIFY THE HUMAN SUFFERING DRUGS CAUSE, BUT I DO KNOW WE'RE ALL PAYING FOR IT. WE'RE ALL FEELING IT. EVERY DAY.

EVERY TIME SOMEONE DOES DRUGS; OR SELLS DRUGS; OR EVEN "JUST LOOKS THE OTHER WAY," THEY'RE SUPPORTING AN INDUSTRY THAT COSTS MORE THAN MONEY. IT COSTS LIVES.

EACH OF YOU HAS A DECISION TO MAKE -- AND DOZENS OF CHANCES TO MAKE IT: AT A PARTY, ON THE STREET, IN THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT. / \ \ AND PARENTS, TEACHERS, COACHES, POLITICIANS, PRESIDENTS -- NO ONE ELSE MAKES THAT DECISION FOR YOU. \ \ BUT IF YOU TALK TO SOMEONE YOU TRUST, THEY MAY REMIND YOU OF WHAT'S AT STAKE.

YES, IT'S YOUR DECISION. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW TO MAKE IT. BUT I WILL TELL YOU WHAT IT MEANS. /\\ YOU ALL WATCH TV. YOU SEE THE NEWS -- THE CRIME -- THE DEVASTATION.

EVERY DOLLAR THAT GOES TO DRUGS FUELS THE KILLING. \\ AS LONG AS THERE ARE AMERICANS WILLING TO BUY DRUGS, THERE WILL BE PEOPLE WILLING TO SELL DRUGS - - AND PEOPLE WILLING TO KILL AS A COST OF DOING BUSINESS. THERE IS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SUPPLIERS AND EVEN "OCCASIONAL" OR "WEEKEND" USERS \\ THAT CAN NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

CASUAL DRUG USE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CASUALTIES OF THE DRUG WAR. FROM THE CITY STREETS OF AMERICA TO THE STREET BOMBINGS OF COLOMBIA, EVEN DABBLERS IN DRUGS BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BLOOD BEING SPILLED. AND UNLIKE THOSE OF YOU IN SCHOOL THIS FALL, THOSE KILLED BY THE DRUG TRADE NEVER DO GET A SECOND CHANCE.

DRUGS ARE RIGHTLY CALLED AN "EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DESTROYER." THEY HAVE NO CONSCIENCE. THEY DON'T CARE WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM. THEY JUST MURDER PEOPLE. YOUNG AND OLD, GOOD AND BAD, INNOCENT AND GUILTY -- IT DOESN'T MATTER. FOR TOO MANY, DRUGS MEAN DEATH. \\\

[PICKS UP BADGE] I KEEP THIS BADGE IN A DRAWER IN MY DESK, TO REMIND ME OF THAT. IT WAS WORN BY A YOUNG ROOKIE COP NAMED EDDIE BYRNE. TWENTY-TWO YEARS OLD -- NOT MUCH OLDER THAN SOME OF YOU. HE WAS OUT TRYING TO STOP THE DRUG TRADE -- PROTECTING A WITNESS, SO THAT A DEALER COULD BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

EDDIE BYRNE HAD THREE BROTHERS. A GIRLFRIEND HE'D KNOWN FOR FOUR YEARS. HE LOVED FISHING AND FOOTBALL -- WAS A RUNNING BACK AT PLAIN EDGE HIGH SCHOOL IN NEW YORK. HE HAD A LOT OF FRIENDS IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD. AND EDDIE BYRNE HAD DREAMS.

BUT IN THE EARLY HOURS OF A COLD FEBRUARY MORNING, SITTING IN A POLICE CRUISER, EDDIE WAS BLOWN AWAY AT POINT-BLANK RANGE -- KILLED ON THE ORDERS OF A DRUG KINGPIN. COLD AND CALCULATED.

I'VE HEARD SOME SAY, "IF YOU DO DRUGS NOW AND THEN, YOU'RE NOT HURTING ANYBODY. IT'S NO BIG DEAL." WELL, THE NEXT TIME YOU THINK ABOUT USING DRUGS, I WANT YOU TO THINK OF EDDIE BYRNE -- AND I WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT THE FAMILY THAT LOST HIM.

TO ME THIS BADGE IS A CONSTANT REMINDER -- THAT EDDIE BYRNE'S LIFE WAS NOT GIVEN IN VAIN. THIS IS A PROMISE: THE KILLING MUST AND WILL STOP. [PUTS BADGE DOWN]

WHERE YOU'RE SITTING RIGHT NOW -- IN SCHOOL -- I KNOW YOU'VE GOT YOUR DREAMS. EVERYONE DOES. BUT OUT ON THE STREETS, A NIGHTMARE FOR AMERICA IS HAPPENING, EVERY DAY. EVERY NIGHT.

SOMEWHERE A TEENAGE GIRL WHO OUGHT TO BE IN SCHOOL IS GIVING BIRTH TO A BABY ALREADY ADDICTED TO COCAINE. THAT BABY IS COMING INTO THIS WORLD SHAKING AND TWITCHING FROM WITHDRAWAL -- SO SENSITIVE TO THE TOUCH THAT IT CAN'T BE HELD OR FED PROPERLY.

HOW CAN DRUGS CAUSE SO MUCH PAIN? HOW CAN THEY LEAD BROTHERS TO KILL BROTHERS, MOTHERS TO ABANDON CHILDREN? AND BEHIND ALL OF THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE, THE NEEDLESS TRAGEDY, WHAT HAUNTS ME IS THE QUESTION -- WHY?

I HAVE ONE ANSWER. DRUGS ARE STILL A PROBLEM, BECAUSE TOO MANY OF US ARE STILL LOOKING THE OTHER WAY. AND THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU TODAY.

I'M ASKING YOU NOT TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY. MAYBE YOU'RE IN TROUBLE -- OR ON THE EDGE OF TROUBLE. MAYBE YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS. MAYBE YOU'VE GOT YOUNGER BROTHERS OR SISTERS -- YOU KNOW THEY'RE LOOKING UP TO YOU. DON'T RISK YOUR LIFE -- OR THEIRS.

AND IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH THE KIND OF PROBLEM THAT CAN TRULY BE THE TOUGHEST -- IF YOU HAVE PARENTS WHO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH DRUGS OR ALCOHOL -- FIND SOMEONE YOU CAN TRUST. TALK TO THEM ABOUT IT.

YOU KNOW -- ALL OF YOU IN A CLASSROOM KNOW -- WHO'S GOT A PROBLEM. TODAY I'M NOT JUST ASKING YOU TO GET HELP. I'M ASKING YOU TO FIND SOMEONE WHO NEEDS YOU. AND OFFER TO HELP. I'LL SAY IT AGAIN: IF YOU'RE NOT IN TROUBLE, HELP SOMEONE WHO IS.

WE ALL WANT TO SUCCEED. AND I'LL LET YOU IN ON A SECRET: WE ALL CAN SUCCEED. IF YOU DON'T USE DRUGS, YOU CAN BE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO BE. MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD MICHAEL JORDAN SAY "YOU'VE GOT AT LEAST 3/4 OF YOUR LIFE TO GO. THAT'S THREE MORE LIFETIMES TO YOU. SO DON'T BLOW IT." \\
\\

SAYING "NO" WON'T MAKE YOU A NERD. IT WON'T MAKE YOU A LOSER. IN FACT, IT WILL MAKE YOU MORE FRIENDS THAN DRUGS EVER WILL. REAL FRIENDS.

BUT IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH REASON, THERE'S ANOTHER SIDE: USING ILLEGAL DRUGS IS AGAINST THE LAW. \\
\\ AND IF YOU BREAK THE LAW, YOU PAY THE PRICE. \\
\\ BECAUSE THE RULES HAVE CHANGED.

IF YOU DO DRUGS, YOU WILL BE CAUGHT. AND WHEN YOU'RE CAUGHT, YOU WILL BE PUNISHED. YOU MIGHT LOSE YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE -- SOME STATES HAVE STARTED REVOKING USERS' DRIVING PRIVILEGES. OR YOU MIGHT LOSE THE COLLEGE LOAN YOU WANTED -- BECAUSE WE'RE NOT HELPING THOSE WHO BREAK THE LAW. THESE ARE PRIVILEGES, NOT RIGHTS. IF YOU RISK DOING DRUGS, YOU RISK EVERYTHING -- EVEN YOUR FREEDOM. BECAUSE YOU WILL BE PUNISHED. \ \

NOW, I CAN IMAGINE A FEW WHISPERS OUT THERE -- MAYBE YOU THINK WE'LL NEVER GET DRUGS UNDER CONTROL -- THAT IT'S TOO EASY FOR THE DEALERS TO GET BACK ON THE STREET. WELL, THOSE DAYS ARE OVER, TOO. THE REVOLVING DOOR... JUST JAMMED.

SOME THINK THERE WON'T BE ROOM FOR THEM IN JAIL. WE'LL MAKE ROOM... WE'RE ALMOST DOUBLING PRISON SPACE. SOME THINK THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PROSECUTORS. WE'LL HIRE THEM... WITH THE LARGEST INCREASE IN FEDERAL PROSECUTORS IN HISTORY. THE DAY OF THE DEALER IS DRAWING TO A CLOSE. [PAUSE]

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE -- OR HOW STRONG YOU ARE --
DRUGS TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE. BUT WITHOUT DRUGS,
YOU'RE IN CONTROL. YOU CAN DETERMINE YOUR FUTURE. AND
THAT MEANS STAYING IN SCHOOL.

IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT DROPPING OUT, THINK IT
THROUGH. MAYBE YOU KNOW SOMEBODY WHO WANTS TO QUIT
SCHOOL. TALK TO THEM ABOUT IT. IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS
WHO HAVE ALREADY DROPPED OUT, TALK TO THEM. FIND A WAY
TO BRING THEM BACK. \\\

TODAY I'VE ASKED YOU TO THINK ABOUT THE TERRIBLE
COST DRUGS ARE MAKING US ALL PAY, EVERY DAY. BUT EVEN
MORE IMPORTANT, I'M ASKING YOU TO THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO, TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR SOMEONE ELSE.

LAST WINTER, AFTER I WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT, I
SAID THAT FROM NOW ON IN AMERICA, ANY DEFINITION OF A
SUCCESSFUL LIFE MUST INCLUDE SERVING OTHERS. HELPING
OTHERS. AND I HOPE YOU ALL BELIEVE THAT.

THERE'S A STORY ABOUT A YOUNG BOY AND AN OLD MAN WHO WERE WALKING ALONG A BEACH. AND AS THEY WALKED, THE BOY PICKED UP EACH STARFISH HE PASSED, AND THREW IT INTO THE SEA. THE OLD MAN ASKED HIM WHY.

"IF I LEFT THEM HERE," THE BOY SAID, "THEY WOULD DRY UP IN THE SUN AND DIE. I'M SAVING THEIR LIVES."

"BUT THE BEACH GOES ON FOR MILES AND THERE ARE MILLIONS OF STARFISH," THE OLD MAN SAID. "HOW CAN WHAT YOU'RE DOING MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE?"

THE BOY LOOKED AT THE STARFISH IN HIS HAND, THREW IT INTO THE OCEAN, AND ANSWERED, "IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO THIS ONE." [PAUSE]

V/V/

YOU'RE HERE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE -- FOR YOURSELF,
AND THOSE AROUND YOU. SO LEARN TO COUNT ON EACH OTHER.
TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER. GIVE SOMEONE ELSE ANOTHER
CHANCE.

AND MAKE THE DAYS MEAN SOMETHING.

HAVE A GOOD YEAR. AND GOD BLESS YOU.

#

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/9/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: --

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH - 12TH)
THE LIBRARY

SUBJECT: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989

(9/8 6:30 p.m draft)

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1989 SEP 11 9 11 AM

SEPTEMBER 8, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: MARK LANGE *ML*
SUBJECT: DRUG ADDRESS TO STUDENTS

Attached is a draft for your address to students, to be carried live by the three networks at 12:15 p.m., on Tuesday, September 12, 1989.

Your address -- which should be less than fifteen minutes long -- is an appeal to students: 1) not to do drugs, and 2) to help their peers who are doing drugs to stop.

While your overall audience will be mixed, your remarks are aimed primarily at junior- and senior-high school students, from 7th to 12th grade.

(Lange/Blessey)
September 8, 1989
6:30 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over. It's a time full of possibility. Everyone gets a new chance.

Presidents don't talk directly to students very often. But what's been on my mind lately is very important. You may have heard my address to the nation last week. But I wanted this message to go straight to students.

[LEANS BACK, ON EDGE OF DESK] When I was thinking about what I wanted to say to you today about drugs, I tried to put myself in your place. To look at it from your perspective. But you know, the harder I tried, the harder it got.

You live in complicated times. You deal with pressures that people like me -- people like your mom or dad -- never had to face.

Some say my generation came of age in a simpler time. A time when doing lines meant reciting poems. When Coke only came in bottles. Hash only came in cans, and you served it with eggs. And rocks were for skipping on ponds.

Simpler times? Maybe. So sometimes if it seems your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- try to be patient.

It's up to you to care enough to talk to them -- because they need to understand -- really understand -- what it is you're

dealing with, every day. Whether they want to or not. Whether you think they deserve it or not.

[PICKS UP GLOVE] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- on and off the field. Friends who showed me what it's like to be counted on.

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you make your friends can either give you strength -- or take it away.

Somehow, some people just make you find the best in yourself. They can help make you a better person -- help you discover more of who you are.

[PUTS DOWN GLOVE] But there are others, who may **seem** like friends, who will offer you a one-way ticket to nowhere -- every time they offer you drugs.

You're at a point in your life when the doors should all be opening to you. With each step, with a thousand small decisions, you're shaping your future. It ought to be bright with potential. And most of you **are** doing the right thing. But for those who let drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut.

It isn't worth it. We know that now. Attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed. Cocaine use has dropped by about a fifth among high school seniors. Overall drug use is at the lowest levels in ten years.

But even if you don't use drugs, you ought to be angry about them. Because you're being cheated by those who do.

Add it all up, and drug use costs this country well over \$60 billion a year. If every student entering junior and senior high school this fall had to pay that bill, it would cost each of you more than \$3000. Every year.

But of course, we're all paying for it. Every day. Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even just looks the other way, they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives.

Each of you has a decision to make -- and dozens of chances to make it. At a party, in a locker room, in the school parking lot. Parents, preachers, politicians -- no one can make that decision for you. It's yours. But I will tell you what it means.

Every dollar that goes to drugs fuels the killing. As long as there are Americans willing to buy drugs, there will be people willing to sell drugs -- and people willing to kill as a cost of doing business.

"Casual drug use" is responsible for the casualties of the drug war. So even casual users -- dabblers in drugs -- have blood on their hands. And unlike those of you in school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never get a second chance.

Drugs are an equal opportunity destroyer. They have no conscience. They don't care where the money comes from. They

just murder people. Young and old, good and bad, innocent and guilty -- it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- trying to protect a witness, so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

Eddie Byrne had three brothers. A girlfriend he'd known for four years. He loved fishing and football -- was a running back at Plain Edge High School. He had a lot of friends in his neighborhood. And Eddie Byrne had dreams. But in the early hours of a cold February morning, sitting in a cruiser, Eddie Byrne was blown away at point-blank range.

I've heard some say, "If you decide to do drugs, you're not hurting anybody. It's no big deal." But the next time you smoke a joint or do a line, I want you to think of Eddie Byrne -- and I want you to think about the family that lost him.

You might say I'm preaching. I suppose I am. But to me this badge is a constant reminder -- that the killing must and **will stop**. This is a promise: Eddie Byrne's life was not given in vain. **The slavery of drugs will end.** [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

From where you're sitting right now -- in school -- you're in a position to begin to make your dreams come true. But out on the streets, a nightmare for America is happening, right now.

Somewhere a teenage girl who ought to be in school is giving birth to a baby already addicted to cocaine. That baby is coming

into this world shaking and twitching from withdrawal -- so sensitive to the touch that it can't be held or fed properly.

[PICKS UP VIAL] **How can something so small cause so much pain?** How can it force brothers to kill brothers, mothers to abandon children? And behind all of the senseless violence, the needless tragedy, what haunts me is the question -- **why?**

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I have one answer. Drugs are still a problem, because too many of us are still looking the other way. And that's why I wanted to talk to you today.

I'm asking you **not** to look the other way. Maybe you're in trouble -- or on the edge of trouble. Maybe you know someone who is. Maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- you **know** they're looking up to you. Don't risk your life -- or theirs.

You know -- all of you in a classroom know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** help. And help them. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is.

We all need to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

Saying "no" won't make you a nerd. [SMILES] It won't make you a geek. It won't make you a loser, or a dweeb... In fact, it will make you more friends than drugs ever will.

The rules have changed. If you do drugs, you will be caught. And if you're caught -- and you will be caught -- you will be punished. You might lose your driver's license. Or you might lose the college loan you wanted. And some of you might even lose your freedom. But you will be punished.

Now, you may think we'll never get drugs under control -- that it's too easy for the dealers to get back on the street. But those days are over, too. The revolving door just jammed.

You think there won't be room for them in jail? We'll make room. We're almost **doubling** prison space. You think there aren't enough prosecutors? We'll hire them. We've just proposed the largest increase in federal prosecutors in history. The day of the dealer is drawing to a close.

No matter who you are -- or how strong you are -- drugs take control of your life. But without drugs, **you** are in control. You can determine your future. And that means staying in school. **Because with knowledge and education, you will succeed. You can not be denied.**

If you're thinking about dropping out, think again. If you know somebody who's thinking about dropping out, talk to them about it. If you have friends who have already dropped out, find them. Talk to them. Find a way to bring them back.

How can such a small step make any difference? Well, last winter, after I was sworn in as President, I said that from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. And I hope we all believe that.

A friend of mine tells a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As the boy walked along the beach he picked up each starfish he passed, and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference -- for yourself, and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance.

And make the days mean something.

Have a good year. And God bless you.

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REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

SOMEHOW THE FALL ALWAYS FEELS LIKE A TIME TO START
OVER. IT'S A TIME FULL OF POSSIBILITY. EVERYONE GETS
A NEW CHANCE.

NOW, I KNOW THERE ARE AMERICANS OF EVERY AGE
WATCHING. BUT PRESIDENTS DON'T TALK DIRECTLY TO
STUDENTS VERY OFTEN. AND WHAT'S BEEN ON MY MIND LATELY
IS VERY IMPORTANT. SO FOR EACH OF YOU SITTING IN A
CLASSROOM OR ASSEMBLY HALL... THIS MESSAGE GOES
STRAIGHT TO YOU.

[LEANS BACK, ON EDGE OF DESK] WHEN I WAS THINKING
ABOUT WHAT I WANTED TO SAY TO YOU TODAY ABOUT DRUGS, I
TRIED TO PUT MYSELF IN YOUR PLACE. TO LOOK AT IT FROM
YOUR PERSPECTIVE. BUT YOU KNOW, THE HARDER I TRIED,
THE HARDER IT GOT.

YOU LIVE IN COMPLICATED TIMES. YOU DEAL WITH
PRESSURES THAT PEOPLE LIKE ME -- PEOPLE LIKE YOUR MOM
OR DAD -- NEVER HAD TO FACE.

IT MAY SEEM TO YOU THAT YOUR PARENTS AND YOUR TEACHERS GREW UP IN SIMPLER TIMES. BUT MOST OF THEM LIVED THROUGH THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLES. SOME OF YOUR FATHERS FOUGHT IN VIETNAM. AND FOR MANY OF YOU, YOUR PARENTS AND TEACHERS WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO FACE DRUGS.

IF YOU CARE ENOUGH TO TALK TO THEM, YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED AT HOW MUCH THEY DO UNDERSTAND.

[PICKS UP BASEBALL] I USED TO PLAY BALL. KNEW I'D NEVER MAKE THE BIG LEAGUES -- BUT I MADE A LOT OF FRIENDS. FRIENDS I LEARNED TO COUNT ON -- BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

WE TRUSTED EACH OTHER TO COME THROUGH -- NO MATTER HOW TOUGH IT GOT. AND I LEARNED FROM THAT. I LEARNED THAT THE KIND OF PEOPLE YOU MAKE YOUR FRIENDS CAN EITHER GIVE YOU STRENGTH -- OR TAKE IT AWAY.

I'M NOT SURE WHY IT IS, BUT SOME PEOPLE JUST MAKE YOU FIND THE BEST IN YOURSELF. THEY CAN HELP MAKE YOU A BETTER PERSON -- HELP YOU DISCOVER MORE OF WHO YOU ARE.

[PUTS DOWN BASEBALL] THERE ARE OTHERS, WHO MAY SEEM LIKE FRIENDS, BUT THEY'RE NOT -- AND THEY PROVE IT -- EVERY TIME THEY OFFER YOU DRUGS.

WITH A THOUSAND SMALL DECISIONS YOU MAKE, EVERY DAY, YOU'RE SHAPING YOUR FUTURE. IT'S A FUTURE THAT OUGHT TO BE BRIGHT WITH POTENTIAL. AND MOST OF YOU ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING. BUT FOR THOSE WHO LET DRUGS MAKE THEIR DECISIONS FOR THEM, YOU CAN ALMOST HEAR THE DOORS SLAMMING SHUT.

IT ISN'T WORTH IT. WE KNOW THAT NOW. ATTITUDES THAT ONCE ENCOURAGED OR EXCUSED DRUG USE HAVE CHANGED. COCAINE USE HAS DROPPED BY ABOUT A FIFTH AMONG HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS. OVERALL DRUG USE IS AT THE LOWEST LEVELS IN TEN YEARS.

BUT EVEN IF YOU DON'T USE DRUGS, YOU OUGHT TO BE ANGRY ABOUT THEM. BECAUSE YOU'RE BEING CHEATED BY THOSE WHO DO.

ADD IT ALL UP, AND DRUG USE COSTS THIS COUNTRY WELL OVER \$60 BILLION A YEAR -- IN CASH -- AND I DON'T KNOW HOW TO QUANTIFY THE HUMAN SUFFERING DRUGS CAUSE, BUT I DO KNOW WE'RE ALL PAYING FOR IT. WE'RE ALL FEELING IT. EVERY DAY.

EVERY TIME SOMEONE DOES DRUGS; OR SELLS DRUGS; OR EVEN "JUST LOOKS THE OTHER WAY," THEY'RE SUPPORTING AN INDUSTRY THAT COSTS MORE THAN MONEY. IT COSTS LIVES.

EACH OF YOU HAS A DECISION TO MAKE -- AND DOZENS OF CHANCES TO MAKE IT: AT A PARTY, ON THE STREET, IN THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT -- TOO OFTEN WHEN ALCOHOL IS PART OF THE PROBLEM. AND PARENTS, TEACHERS, COACHES, POLITICIANS, PRESIDENTS -- NO ONE ELSE MAKES THAT DECISION FOR YOU. BUT IF YOU TALK TO SOMEONE YOU TRUST, THEY MAY REMIND YOU OF WHAT'S AT STAKE.

YES, IT'S YOUR DECISION. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW TO MAKE IT. BUT I WILL TELL YOU WHAT IT MEANS. YOU ALL WATCH TV. YOU SEE THE NEWS -- THE CRIME -- THE DEVASTATION.

EVERY DOLLAR THAT GOES TO DRUGS FUELS THE KILLING. AS LONG AS THERE ARE AMERICANS WILLING TO BUY DRUGS, THERE WILL BE PEOPLE WILLING TO SELL DRUGS -- AND PEOPLE WILLING TO KILL AS A COST OF DOING BUSINESS. THERE IS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SUPPLIERS AND EVEN "OCCASIONAL" OR "WEEKEND" USERS THAT CAN NEVER BE FORGOTTEN.

CASUAL DRUG USE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CASUALTIES OF THE DRUG WAR. FROM THE CITY STREETS OF AMERICA TO THE STREET BOMBINGS OF COLUMBIA, EVEN DABLERS IN DRUGS BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BLOOD BEING SPILLED. AND UNLIKE THOSE OF YOU IN SCHOOL THIS FALL, THOSE KILLED BY THE DRUG TRADE NEVER DO GET A SECOND CHANCE.

DRUGS ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DESTROYER. THEY HAVE NO CONSCIENCE. THEY DON'T CARE WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM. THEY JUST MURDER PEOPLE. YOUNG AND OLD, GOOD AND BAD, INNOCENT AND GUILTY -- IT DOESN'T MATTER. FOR TOO MANY, DRUGS MEAN DEATH.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I KEEP THIS BADGE IN A DRAWER IN MY DESK, TO REMIND ME OF THAT. IT WAS WORN BY A YOUNG ROOKIE COP NAMED EDDIE BYRNE. TWENTY-TWO YEARS OLD -- NOT MUCH OLDER THAN SOME OF YOU. HE WAS OUT TRYING TO STOP THE DRUG TRADE -- PROTECTING A WITNESS, SO THAT A DEALER COULD BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

EDDIE BYRNE HAD THREE BROTHERS. A GIRLFRIEND HE'D KNOWN FOR FOUR YEARS. HE LOVED FISHING AND FOOTBALL -- WAS A RUNNING BACK AT PLAIN EDGE HIGH SCHOOL IN NEW YORK. HE HAD A LOT OF FRIENDS IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD. AND EDDIE BYRNE HAD DREAMS.

BUT IN THE EARLY HOURS OF A COLD FEBRUARY MORNING, SITTING IN A POLICE CRUISER, EDDIE BYRNE WAS BLOWN AWAY AT POINT-BLANK RANGE. BY FOUR YOUNG DEALERS, ON THE ORDERS OF A DRUG KINGPIN. COLD AND CALCULATED.

I'VE HEARD SOME SAY, "IF YOU DO DRUGS NOW AND THEN, YOU'RE NOT HURTING ANYBODY. IT'S NO BIG DEAL." WELL, THE NEXT TIME YOU THINK ABOUT USING DRUGS, I WANT YOU TO THINK OF EDDIE BYRNE -- AND I WANT YOU TO THINK ABOUT THE FAMILY THAT LOST HIM.

TO ME THIS BADGE IS A CONSTANT REMINDER -- THAT THE KILLING MUST AND WILL STOP. THIS IS A PROMISE: EDDIE BYRNE'S LIFE WAS NOT GIVEN IN VAIN. [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

WHERE YOU'RE SITTING RIGHT NOW -- IN SCHOOL -- I KNOW YOU'VE GOT YOUR DREAMS. EVERYONE DOES. BUT OUT ON THE STREETS, A NIGHTMARE FOR AMERICA IS HAPPENING, EVERY DAY. EVERY NIGHT.

SOMEWHERE A TEENAGE GIRL WHO OUGHT TO BE IN SCHOOL IS GIVING BIRTH TO A BABY ALREADY ADDICTED TO COCAINE. THAT BABY IS COMING INTO THIS WORLD SHAKING AND TWITCHING FROM WITHDRAWAL -- SO SENSITIVE TO THE TOUCH THAT IT CAN'T BE HELD OR FED PROPERLY.

[PICKS UP VIAL] HOW CAN SOMETHING SO SMALL CAUSE SO MUCH PAIN? HOW CAN IT FORCE BROTHERS TO KILL BROTHERS, MOTHERS TO ABANDON CHILDREN? AND BEHIND ALL OF THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE, THE NEEDLESS TRAGEDY, WHAT HAUNTS ME IS THE QUESTION -- WHY?

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I HAVE ONE ANSWER. DRUGS ARE STILL A PROBLEM, BECAUSE TOO MANY OF US ARE STILL LOOKING THE OTHER WAY. AND THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU TODAY.

I'M ASKING YOU NOT TO LOOK THE OTHER WAY. MAYBE YOU'RE IN TROUBLE -- OR ON THE EDGE OF TROUBLE. MAYBE YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS. MAYBE YOU'VE GOT YOUNGER BROTHERS OR SISTERS -- YOU KNOW THEY'RE LOOKING UP TO YOU. DON'T RISK YOUR LIFE -- OR THEIRS.

AND IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH THE KIND OF PROBLEM THAT CAN TRULY BE THE TOUGHEST -- IF YOU HAVE PARENTS WHO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH DRUGS OR ALCOHOL -- FIND SOMEONE YOU CAN TRUST. TALK TO THEM ABOUT IT.

YOU KNOW -- ALL OF YOU IN A CLASSROOM KNOW -- WHO'S GOT A PROBLEM. TODAY I'M NOT JUST ASKING YOU TO GET HELP. I'M ASKING YOU TO FIND SOMEONE WHO NEEDS YOU. AND HELP THEM. I'LL SAY IT AGAIN: IF YOU'RE NOT IN TROUBLE, SEEK OUT SOMEONE WHO IS.

WE ALL WANT TO SUCCEED. AND I'LL LET YOU IN ON A SECRET: WE ALL CAN SUCCEED. MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD MICHAEL JORDAN SAY "IF YOU DON'T USE DRUGS, YOU CAN JUST ABOUT BE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO BE. YOU'VE GOT AT LEAST 3/4 OF YOUR LIFE TO GO. THAT'S THREE MORE LIFETIMES TO YOU. SO DON'T BLOW IT."

SAYING "NO" WON'T MAKE YOU A NERD. IT WON'T MAKE YOU A LOSER. IN FACT, IT WILL MAKE YOU MORE FRIENDS THAN DRUGS EVER WILL. REAL FRIENDS.

BUT IF THAT'S NOT ENOUGH REASON, THERE'S ANOTHER SIDE: USING ILLEGAL DRUGS IS AGAINST THE LAW. AND IF YOU BREAK THE LAW, YOU PAY THE PRICE. BECAUSE THE RULES HAVE CHANGED.

IF YOU DO DRUGS, YOU WILL BE CAUGHT. AND WHEN YOU'RE CAUGHT, YOU WILL BE PUNISHED. YOU MIGHT LOSE YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE -- SOME STATES HAVE STARTED REVOKING USERS' DRIVING PRIVILEGES. OR YOU MIGHT LOSE THE COLLEGE LOAN YOU WANTED -- BECAUSE WE'RE NOT HELPING THOSE WHO BREAK THE LAW. THESE ARE PRIVILEGES, NOT RIGHTS. IF YOU RISK DOING DRUGS, YOU RISK EVERYTHING -- EVEN YOUR FREEDOM. BECAUSE YOU WILL BE PUNISHED.

NOW, I CAN IMAGINE A FEW WHISPERS OUT THERE -- MAYBE YOU THINK WE'LL NEVER GET DRUGS UNDER CONTROL -- THAT IT'S TOO EASY FOR THE DEALERS TO GET BACK ON THE STREET. THOSE DAYS ARE OVER, TOO. THE REVOLVING DOOR... JUST JAMMED.

YOU THINK THERE WON'T BE ROOM FOR THEM IN JAIL? WE'LL MAKE ROOM... WE'RE ALMOST DOUBLING PRISON SPACE. YOU THINK THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PROSECUTORS? WE'LL HIRE THEM... WITH THE LARGEST INCREASE IN FEDERAL PROSECUTORS IN HISTORY. THE DAY OF THE DEALER IS DRAWING TO A CLOSE. [PAUSE]

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE -- OR HOW STRONG YOU ARE -- DRUGS TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE. BUT WITHOUT DRUGS, YOU ARE IN CONTROL. YOU CAN DETERMINE YOUR FUTURE. AND THAT MEANS STAYING IN SCHOOL.

IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT DROPPING OUT, THINK AGAIN. IF YOU KNOW SOMEBODY WHO'S THINKING ABOUT DROPPING OUT, TALK TO THEM ABOUT IT. IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS WHO HAVE ALREADY DROPPED OUT, FIND THEM. TALK TO THEM. FIND A WAY TO BRING THEM BACK.

TODAY I'VE ASKED YOU TO THINK ABOUT THE TERRIBLE COST DRUGS ARE MAKING US ALL PAY, EVERY DAY. BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, I'M ASKING YOU TO THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO, TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR SOMEONE ELSE.

LAST WINTER, AFTER I WAS SWORN IN AS PRESIDENT, I SAID THAT FROM NOW ON IN AMERICA, ANY DEFINITION OF A SUCCESSFUL LIFE MUST INCLUDE SERVING OTHERS. HELPING OTHERS. AND I HOPE WE ALL BELIEVE THAT.

THERE'S A STORY ABOUT A YOUNG BOY AND AN OLD MAN WHO WERE WALKING ALONG A BEACH. AS THE BOY WALKED ALONG THE BEACH HE PICKED UP EACH STARFISH HE PASSED, AND THREW IT INTO THE SEA. THE OLD MAN ASKED HIM WHY.

"IF I LEFT THEM HERE," THE BOY SAID, "THEY WOULD DRY UP IN THE SUN AND DIE. I'M SAVING THEIR LIVES."

"BUT THE BEACH GOES ON FOR MILES AND THERE ARE MILLIONS OF STARFISH," THE OLD MAN SAID. "HOW CAN WHAT YOU'RE DOING MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE?"

THE BOY LOOKED AT THE STARFISH IN HIS HAND, THREW IT INTO THE OCEAN, AND ANSWERED, "IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO THIS ONE."

YOU'RE HERE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE -- FOR YOURSELF,
AND THOSE AROUND YOU. SO LEARN TO COUNT ON EACH OTHER.
TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER. GIVE SOMEONE ELSE ANOTHER
CHANCE.

AND MAKE THE DAYS MEAN SOMETHING.

HAVE A GOOD YEAR. AND GOD BLESS YOU.

#

Alcohol abuse - Cavazos

and alcohol

(Lange/Blessey)
September 9, 1989
1:15 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over.

It's a time full of possibility. Everyone gets a new chance.

Now... Presidents don't talk directly to students very often -- and ~~teachers and principals~~ ^{at school}
I know there are Americans of every age watching ~~today~~. But ^{particularly for the kids}
what's been on my mind lately is very important. Maybe you heard ^{even}
my talk to the nation last week. ^{The point is...} But ~~I wanted~~ ^{some of} this message to go ~~es~~
straight to students.

[LEANS BACK, ON EDGE OF DESK] When I was thinking about
what I wanted to say to you today about drugs, I tried to put
myself in your place. To look at it from your perspective. But
you know, the harder I tried, the harder it got.

You live in complicated times. You deal with pressures that
people like me -- people like your mom or dad -- never had to
face.

It may seem to you that your parents and your teachers grew
up in simpler times. But most of them lived through the civil
rights struggles. Some of your fathers fought in Vietnam. And
for many of you, your parents and teachers were among the first
to face drugs.

If you care enough to talk to them, you might be surprised
at how much they ^{do} understand.

^

[PICKS UP BASEBALL] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- ^{both} on and off the field. ~~Friends who showed me what it's like to be counted on.~~

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you make your friends can either give you strength -- or take it away.

I'm not sure why it is, but
Somehow, some people just make you find the best in yourself. They ~~can~~ help make you a better person -- help you discover more of who you are.

[PUTS DOWN BASEBALL] But there are others, who may seem like friends, ~~who will offer you a one-way ticket to nowhere every time they offer you drugs.~~ ^{but they're not and they prove it}

Right now, this instant, you're shaping your future. You're deciding whether to take me
~~You're at a point in your life when the doors should all be opening to you. With each step, with a thousand small decisions, ^{serious} ~~like the one you're making today~~ that ~~you~~ ^{And it's a future that} shape your future. It ought to be bright with ^{or no}~~

potential. And most of you **are** doing the right thing. But for those who let drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut.

It isn't worth it. We know that now. Attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed. Cocaine use has dropped by about a fifth among high school seniors. Overall drug use is at the lowest levels in ten years.

But even if you don't use drugs, you ought to be angry about them. Because you're being cheated by those who do.

Add it all up, and drug use costs this country well over \$60 billion a year. ~~If every student entering junior and senior high school this fall had to pay that bill, it would cost each of you more than \$3000. Every year.~~ *- in cash - and I don't know how to quantify, the human suffering drugs cause - but I do know*

~~But of course,~~ we're all paying for it. Every day. Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even "just looks the other way," they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives. *- we're all feeling it.*

Each of you has a decision to make -- and dozens of chances to make it. At a party, *weekend on the street* in a locker room, in the school parking lot. Parents, teachers, coaches, politicians, *me - President?* -- no one can make that decision for you. But if you talk to someone you trust, they may remind you of *what's at stake.* ~~how much else there is to live for.~~

Yes And you all watch TV - you see the news - the crime - the death. It's your decision. But I will tell you what it means.

Every dollar that goes to drugs fuels the killing. As long as there are Americans willing to buy drugs, there will be people willing to sell drugs -- and people willing to kill as a cost of doing business. There is a connection between the suppliers and even "occasional" *or weekend* users that can never be forgotten.

¹ Casual Drug use is responsible for the casualties of the drug war. From the city streets of America to the street bombings of Columbia, even dabblers in drugs bear responsibility for the blood being spilled. And unlike those of you in school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never ^{do} get a second chance.

Drugs have a way of catching up with

you

Drugs are an equal opportunity destroyer. They have no conscience. They don't care where the money comes from. They just murder people. Young and old, good and bad, innocent and guilty -- it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- ~~trying to~~ protect a witness, ^{ing} ~~before it was~~ so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

Eddie Byrne had three brothers. A girlfriend he'd known for four years. He loved fishing and football -- was a running back at Plain Edge High School. ^{in N.Y.} He had a lot of friends in his neighborhood. And Eddie Byrne had dreams. But in the early hours of a cold February morning, sitting in a ^{police} cruiser, Eddie Byrne was blown away at point-blank range. *Cold and Calculated.*

I've heard some say, "If ~~you decide to~~ do drugs, you're not hurting anybody. It's no big deal." ^{well,} But the next time you think about using drugs, I want you to think of Eddie Byrne -- and I want you to think about the family that lost him.

Who?
~~You might say I'm preaching. I suppose I am. But~~ To me this badge is a constant reminder -- that the killing must and **will stop**. This is a promise: Eddie Byrne's life was not given in vain. ~~The slavery of drugs will end.~~ [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

?
 From where you're sitting right now -- in school -- ^{I know} you're ~~you've got your dreams - everyone does~~ in a position to begin to make your dreams come true. But out on the streets, a nightmare for America is happening, ^{every day - every} ~~right now.~~ ^{night.}

Somewhere a teenage girl who ought to be in school is giving birth to a baby already addicted to cocaine. That baby is coming into this world shaking and twitching from withdrawal -- so sensitive to the touch that it can't be held or fed properly.

[PICKS UP VIAL] **How can something so small cause so much pain?** How can it force brothers to kill brothers, mothers to abandon children? And behind all of the senseless violence, the needless tragedy, what haunts me is the question -- **why?**

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I have one answer. Drugs are still a problem, because too many of us are still looking the other way. And that's why I wanted to talk to you today.

I'm asking you **not** to look the other way. Maybe you're in trouble -- or on the edge of trouble. Maybe you know someone who is. Maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- you **know** they're looking up to you. Don't risk your life -- or theirs.

You know -- all of you in a classroom know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** help. And help them. *I'll say it again -* If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is. *And help them.*

We all ^{want to} need to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

Saying "no" won't make you a nerd. It won't make you a loser. In fact, it will make you more friends than drugs ever will. *Real friends.*

But if that's not enough reason, *there's another side:* ~~how about this:~~ Using illegal drugs is against the law. And if you break the law, you pay the price. Because the rules have changed.

If you do drugs, you will be caught. And when you're caught, you will be punished. You might lose your driver's license -- ~~we're now encouraging the states to revoke~~ *more and more* ~~users'~~ *use* driving privileges. Or you might lose the college loan you wanted -- because ~~Federal dollars are not going to go to those~~ *we're not helping* who break the law. These are ~~privileges, not rights.~~ *a lot* And if you risk doing drugs, you risk ~~losing them~~ *these privileges* -- or even your freedom. *Because* ~~But~~ you will be punished.

I can just picture a few whispers out there --
Now, you may think we'll never get drugs under control -- that it's too easy for the dealers to get back on the street. But ~~those~~ *those* days are over, too. The revolving door, just jammed.

You think there won't be room for them in jail? We'll make room. We're almost **doubling** prison space. You think there aren't enough prosecutors? We'll hire them. ~~We've just proposed~~ ~~the~~ largest increase in federal prosecutors in history. The day of the dealer is drawing to a close. **PAUSE**

No matter who you are -- or how strong you are -- drugs take control of your life. But without drugs, **you** are in control. You can determine your future. And that means staying in school.

~~Because with knowledge and education, you will succeed. You can not be denied.~~

If you're thinking about dropping out, think again. If you know somebody who's thinking about dropping out, talk to them about it. If you have friends who have already dropped out, find them. Talk to them. Find a way to bring them back.

And if you're struggling with the kind of problem that ^{can truly} ~~truly~~ ^{be the toughest} saddens us all -- if you have **parents** who have problems with drugs or alcohol -- find someone you can trust, and get them to help.

How can such a small step make any difference? Well, last winter, after I was sworn in as President, I said that from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. ^{helping others.} And I hope we all believe that.

^{There's} ~~A friend of mine tells~~ a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As the boy walked along the beach he picked up each starfish he passed, and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference -- for yourself, and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance.

And make the days mean something. ~~You'll feel good right~~
Have a good year. And God bless you.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER 8, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON *W*
FROM: MARK LANGE *ML*
SUBJECT: DRUG ADDRESS TO STUDENTS

Attached is a draft for your address to students, to be carried live by the three networks at 12:15 p.m., on Tuesday, September 12, 1989.

Your address -- which should be less than fifteen minutes long -- is an appeal to students: 1) not to do drugs, and 2) to help their peers who are doing drugs to stop.

While your overall audience will be mixed, your remarks are aimed primarily at junior- and senior-high school students, from 7th to 12th grade.

(Lange/Blessey)
September 8, 1989
6:30 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over.
It's a time full of possibility. Everyone gets a new chance.

Presidents don't talk directly to students very often. But what's been on my mind lately is very important. You may have heard my address to the nation last week. But I wanted this message to go straight to students.

[LEANS BACK, ON EDGE OF DESK] When I was thinking about what I wanted to say to you today about drugs, I tried to put myself in your place. To look at it from your perspective. But you know, the harder I tried, the harder it got.

You live in complicated times. You deal with pressures that people like me -- people like your mom or dad -- never had to face.

Some say my generation came of age in a simpler time. A time when doing lines meant reciting poems. When Coke only came in bottles. Hash only came in cans, and you served it with eggs. And rocks were for skipping on ponds.

Simpler times? Maybe. So sometimes if it seems your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- try to be patient.

It's up to you to care enough to **talk** to them -- because they **need** to understand -- really understand -- what it is you're

dealing with, every day. Whether they want to or not. Whether you think they deserve it or not.

[PICKS UP GLOVE] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- on and off the field. Friends who showed me what it's like to be counted on.

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you make your friends can either give you strength -- or take it away.

Somehow, some people just make you find the best in yourself. They can help make you a better person -- help you discover more of who you are.

[PUTS DOWN GLOVE] But there are others, who may **seem** like friends, who will offer you a one-way ticket to nowhere -- every time they offer you drugs.

You're at a point in your life when the doors should all be opening to you. With each step, with a thousand small decisions, you're shaping your future. It ought to be bright with potential. And most of you **are** doing the right thing. But for those who let drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut.

It isn't worth it. We know that now. Attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed. Cocaine use has dropped by about a fifth among high school seniors. Overall drug use is at the lowest levels in ten years.

But even if you don't use drugs, you ought to be angry about them. Because you're being cheated by those who do.

Add it all up, and drug use costs this country well over \$60 billion a year. If every student entering junior and senior high school this fall had to pay that bill, it would cost each of you more than \$3000. Every year.

But of course, we're all paying for it. Every day. Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even just looks the other way, they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives.

Each of you has a decision to make -- and dozens of chances to make it. At a party, in a locker room, in the school parking lot. Parents, preachers, politicians -- no one can make that decision for you. It's yours. But I will tell you what it means.

Every dollar that goes to drugs fuels the killing. As long as there are Americans willing to buy drugs, there will be people willing to sell drugs -- and people willing to kill as a cost of doing business.

"Casual drug use" is responsible for the casualties of the drug war. So even casual users -- dabblers in drugs -- have blood on their hands. And unlike those of you in school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never get a second chance.

Drugs are an equal opportunity destroyer. They have no conscience. They don't care where the money comes from. They

just murder people. Young and old, good and bad, innocent and guilty -- it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- trying to protect a witness, so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

Eddie Byrne had three brothers. A girlfriend he'd known for four years. He loved fishing and football -- was a running back at Plain Edge High School. He had a lot of friends in his neighborhood. And Eddie Byrne had dreams. But in the early hours of a cold February morning, sitting in a cruiser, Eddie Byrne was blown away at point-blank range.

I've heard some say, "If you decide to do drugs, you're not hurting anybody. It's no big deal." But the next time you smoke a joint or do a line, I want you to think of Eddie Byrne -- and I want you to think about the family that lost him.

You might say I'm preaching. I suppose I am. But to me this badge is a constant reminder -- that the killing must and **will stop**. This is a promise: Eddie Byrne's life was not given in vain. **The slavery of drugs will end.** [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

From where you're sitting right now -- in school -- you're in a position to begin to make your dreams come true. But out on the streets, a nightmare for America is happening, right now.

Somewhere a teenage girl who ought to be in school is giving birth to a baby already addicted to cocaine. That baby is coming

into this world shaking and twitching from withdrawal -- so sensitive to the touch that it can't be held or fed properly.

[PICKS UP VIAL] **How can something so small cause so much pain?** How can it force brothers to kill brothers, mothers to abandon children? And behind all of the senseless violence, the needless tragedy, what haunts me is the question -- **why?**

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I have one answer. Drugs are still a problem, because too many of us are still looking the other way. And that's why I wanted to talk to you today.

I'm asking you **not** to look the other way. Maybe you're in trouble -- or on the edge of trouble. Maybe you know someone who is. Maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- you **know** they're looking up to you. Don't risk your life -- or theirs.

You know -- **all** of you in a classroom know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** help. And help them. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is.

We all need to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

Saying "no" won't make you a nerd. [SMILES] It won't make you a geek. It won't make you a loser, or a dweeb... In fact, it will make you more friends than drugs ever will.

The rules have changed. If you do drugs, you will be caught. And if you're caught -- and you **will** be caught -- you will be punished. You might lose your driver's license. Or you might lose the college loan you wanted. And some of you might even lose your freedom. But you **will** be punished.

Now, you may think we'll never get drugs under control -- that it's too easy for the dealers to get back on the street. But those days are over, too. The revolving door just jammed.

You think there won't be room for them in jail? We'll make room. We're almost **doubling** prison space. You think there aren't enough prosecutors? We'll hire them. We've just proposed the largest increase in federal prosecutors in history. The day of the dealer is drawing to a close.

No matter who you are -- or how strong you are -- drugs take control of your life. But without drugs, **you** are in control. You can determine your future. And that means staying in school. **Because with knowledge and education, you will succeed. You can not be denied.**

If you're thinking about dropping out, think again. If you know somebody who's thinking about dropping out, talk to them about it. If you have friends who have already dropped out, find them. Talk to them. Find a way to bring them back.

How can such a small step make any difference? Well, last winter, after I was sworn in as President, I said that from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. And I hope we all believe that.

A friend of mine tells a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As the boy walked along the beach he picked up each starfish he passed, and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference -- for yourself, and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance.

And make the days mean something.

Have a good year. And God bless you.

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(Lange/Blessey)
September 11, 1989
10:30 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over.
It's a time full of possibility. Everyone gets a new chance.

Now, Presidents don't talk directly to students very often -- and I know there are Americans of every age watching. But what's been on my mind lately is very important -- particularly for the kids. Maybe some of you heard my talk to the nation last week. The point is... this message goes straight to students.

[LEANS BACK, ON EDGE OF DESK] When I was thinking about what I wanted to say to you today about drugs, I tried to put myself in your place. To look at it from your perspective. But you know, the harder I tried, the harder it got.

You live in complicated times. You deal with pressures that people like me -- people like your mom or dad -- never had to face.

It may seem to you that your parents and your teachers grew up in simpler times. But most of them lived through the civil rights struggles. Some of your fathers fought in Vietnam. And for many of you, your parents and teachers were among the first to face drugs.

If you care enough to talk to them, you might be surprised at how much they do understand.

[PICKS UP BASEBALL] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- both on and off the field.

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you make your friends can either give you strength -- or take it away.

I'm not sure why it is, but some people just make you find the best in yourself. They can help make you a better person -- help you discover more of who you are.

[PUTS DOWN BASEBALL] There are others, who may seem like friends, but they're not -- and they prove it -- every time they offer you drugs.

With a thousand small decisions you make, every day, you're shaping your future. It's a future that ought to be bright with potential. And most of you are doing the right thing. But for those who let drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut.

It isn't worth it. We know that now. Attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed. Cocaine use has dropped by about a fifth among high school seniors. Overall drug use is at the lowest levels in ten years.

But even if you don't use drugs, you ought to be angry about them. Because you're being cheated by those who do.

Add it all up, and drug use costs this country well over \$60 billion a year -- in cash -- and I don't know how to quantify the

human suffering drugs cause, but I **do** know we're **all** paying for it. We're all feeling it. Every day.

Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even "just looks the other way," they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives.

Each of you has a decision to make -- and dozens of chances to make it: at a party, on the street, in the school parking lot. And parents, teachers, coaches, politicians, Presidents -- no one else makes that decision for you. But if you talk to someone you trust, they may remind you of what's at stake.

Yes, it's your decision. But I **will** tell you what it means. You all watch TV. You see the news -- the crime -- the devastation.

Every dollar that goes to drugs fuels the killing. As long as there are Americans willing to buy drugs, there will be people willing to sell drugs -- and people willing to kill as a cost of doing business. There is a connection between the suppliers and even "occasional" or "weekend" users that can never be forgotten.

Casual drug use is responsible for the casualties of the drug war. From the city streets of America to the street bombings of Columbia, even dabblers in drugs bear responsibility for the blood being spilled. And unlike those of you in school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never do get a second chance.

Drugs are an equal opportunity destroyer. They have no conscience. They don't care where the money comes from. They

just murder people. Young and old, good and bad, innocent and guilty -- it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- protecting a witness, so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

Eddie Byrne had three brothers. A girlfriend he'd known for four years. He loved fishing and football -- was a running back at Plain Edge High School in New York. He had a lot of friends in his neighborhood. And Eddie Byrne had dreams.

But in the early hours of a cold February morning, sitting in a police cruiser, Eddie Byrne was blown away at point-blank range. By four young dealers, on the orders of a drug kingpin. Cold and calculated.

I've heard some say, "If you do drugs, you're not hurting anybody. It's no big deal." Well, the next time you think about using drugs, I want you to think of Eddie Byrne -- and I want you to think about the family that lost him.

To me this badge is a constant reminder -- that the killing must and will stop. This is a promise: Eddie Byrne's life was not given in vain. [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

Where you're sitting right now -- in school -- I know you've got your dreams. Everyone does. But out on the streets, a nightmare for America is happening, every day. Every night.

Somewhere a teenage girl who ought to be in school is giving birth to a baby already addicted to cocaine. That baby is coming into this world shaking and twitching from withdrawal -- so sensitive to the touch that it can't be held or fed properly.

[PICKS UP VIAL] **How can something so small cause so much pain?** How can it force brothers to kill brothers, mothers to abandon children? And behind all of the senseless violence, the needless tragedy, what haunts me is the question -- **why?**

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I have one answer. Drugs are still a problem, because too many of us are still looking the other way. And that's why I wanted to talk to you today.

I'm asking you **not** to look the other way. Maybe you're in trouble -- or on the edge of trouble. Maybe you know someone who is. Maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- you know they're looking up to you. Don't risk your life -- or theirs.

And if you're struggling with the kind of problem that can truly be the toughest -- if you have parents who have problems with drugs or alcohol -- find someone you can trust. Talk to them about it.

You know -- **all** of you in a classroom know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** you. And help them. I'll say it again: If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is.

We all want to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to

be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

Saying "no" won't make you a nerd. It won't make you a loser. In fact, it will make you more friends than drugs ever will. Real friends.

But if that's not enough reason, there's another side: Using illegal drugs is against the law. And if you break the law, you pay the price. Because the rules have changed.

If you do drugs, you will be caught. And when you're caught, you will be punished. You might lose your driver's license -- some states have started revoking users' driving privileges. Or you might lose the college loan you wanted -- because we're not helping those who break the law. These are privileges, not rights. If you risk doing drugs, you risk everything -- even your freedom. Because you will be punished.

Now, I can imagine a few whispers out there -- maybe you think we'll never get drugs under control -- that it's too easy for the dealers to get back on the street. Those days are over, too. The revolving door... just jammed.

You think there won't be room for them in jail? We'll make room... we're almost doubling prison space. You think there aren't enough prosecutors? We'll hire them... with the largest increase in federal prosecutors in history. The day of the dealer is drawing to a close. [PAUSE]

No matter who you are -- or how strong you are -- drugs take control of your life. But without drugs, you are in control.

You can determine your future. And that means staying in school.

If you're thinking about dropping out, think again. If you know somebody who's thinking about dropping out, talk to them about it. If you have friends who have already dropped out, find them. Talk to them. Find a way to bring them back.

Today I've asked you to think about the terrible cost drugs are making us all pay, every day. But even more important, I'm asking you to think about what **you** can do, to make a difference for someone else.

Last winter, after I was sworn in as President, I said that from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. Helping others. And I hope we all believe that.

There's a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As the boy walked along the beach he picked up each starfish he passed, and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference -- for yourself, and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance.

And make the days mean something.

Have a good year. And God bless you.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 9/7/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 9/8/89 10:00 AM
89 SEP 8 10:13

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BREEDEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BENNETT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PETERSMEYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 10:00 AM Friday, September 8, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*See Comments
9/8/89*

James W. Cicconi
Assistant to the President
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff
Ext. 2702

(Lange/Blessey)
September 7, 1989
3:20 p.m.
[SCHOOLS.DOC]

89 SEP 7 P3:45

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: ADDRESS TO STUDENTS (7TH-12TH)
THE LIBRARY
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1989
12:15 P.M.

[LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW] Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over. It's a time full of possibility. Everyone gets a new chance.

[TO CAMERA] You know, Presidents don't talk directly to students very often. But what's been on my mind lately is very important. You may have heard my address to the nation last week. But I wanted this message to go straight to you.

[LEANS ON EDGE OF DESK] When I was thinking about what I wanted to say to you today about drugs, I tried to put myself in your place. To look at it from your perspective. But you know, the harder I tried, the harder it got.

You live in complicated times. You deal with pressures that people like me -- people like your mom or dad -- never had to face.

Some say my generation came of age in a simpler time. A time when doing lines meant reciting poems. When Coke only came in bottles. Rock only came on the radio. Hash only came in cans. And the idea of smoking "ice" would have been a little confusing.

Simpler times? Maybe. And if you think your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- you may be right.

But it's up to you to care enough to talk to them, and make them understand what it is you're dealing with, every day. Whether they want to or not. Whether you think they deserve it or not.

[PICKS UP GLOVE] I used to play ball. Knew I'd never make the big leagues -- but I made a lot of friends. Friends I learned to count on -- on and off the field. Friends who showed me what it's like to be counted on.

We trusted each other to come through -- no matter how tough it got. And I learned from that. I learned that the kind of people you surround yourself with can either give you strength -- or take it away.

Somehow, some people just make you find the best in yourself. They can help make you a better person -- help you discover more of who you are.

[PUTS DOWN GLOVE] But there are others, who may seem like friends, who will offer you a one-way ticket to nowhere -- every time they offer you drugs.

You're at a point in your life when the doors should all be opening to you. And with each step, with a thousand small decisions, you're shaping your future. It ought to be bright with potential. But for some, who are letting drugs make their decisions for them, you can almost hear the doors slamming shut.

We know that now. Attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed.

Cocaine use has dropped by about a third among high school seniors. Overall drug use is at the lowest levels in ten years. We now understand that "casual" drug use is a myth.

But even if you don't use drugs, you ought to be angry about them. Because you're being cheated by those who do.

Add it all up, and drug use costs this country well over \$60 billion a year. If every student entering junior and senior high school this fall had to pay that bill, it would cost each of you more than \$3000. Every year.

But of course, we're all paying for it. Every day. Every time someone does drugs; or sells drugs; or even just looks the other way, they're supporting an industry that costs more than money. It costs lives. Because "casual" drug use is responsible for the casualties of the drug war.

Each of you has a choice to make -- and dozens of chances to make it. At a party, in a locker room, in the school parking lot. And parents, preachers, politicians -- you know that none of them make it for you. It's yours. I won't tell you how to make it. But I will tell you what it means.

Every dollar that goes to drugs fuels the killing. As long as there are Americans willing to buy drugs, there will be people willing to sell drugs -- and people willing to kill as a cost of doing business.

So even casual users -- dabblers in drugs -- have blood on their hands. And unlike those of you entering school this fall, those killed by the drug trade never get a second chance.

Drugs are an equal opportunity destroyer. They have no conscience. They don't care where the money comes from. They just murder people. Young and old, good and bad -- it doesn't matter. For too many, drugs mean death.

[PICKS UP BADGE] I keep this badge in a drawer in my desk, to remind me of that. It was worn by a young rookie cop named Eddie Byrne. Twenty-two years old -- not much older than some of you. He was out trying to stop the drug trade -- trying to protect a witness, so that a dealer could be brought to justice.

Eddie Byrne had three brothers. A girlfriend he'd known for four years. He loved football -- was a running back at Plain Edge High School. He had a lot of friends in his neighborhood. But in the early hours of a cold February morning, sitting in a cruiser, Eddie Byrne was blown away at point-blank range.

To me this badge is a constant reminder -- that the killing must and **will stop**. It's a promise, that Eddie Byrne's life was not given in vain. That **the slavery of drugs must end -- and will end**. [PUTS BADGE DOWN.]

From where you're sitting right now -- in school -- you're in a position to begin to make your dreams come true. But out on the streets, a nightmare for America is happening, right now.

Somewhere a teenage girl who ought to be in school is giving birth to a baby already addicted to cocaine. That baby is coming

into this world shaking and twitching from withdrawal -- so sensitive to the touch that it can't be held or fed properly.

[PICKS UP VIAL] **How can something so small cause so much pain?** How can it force brothers to kill brothers, mothers to abandon children? And behind all of the senseless violence, the needless tragedy, what haunts me is the question -- **why?**

[PUTS DOWN VIAL] I have one answer. Drugs are still a problem, because too many of us are still looking the other way. And that's why I wanted to talk to you today.

I'm asking you **not** to look the other way. Maybe you're in trouble -- or on the edge of trouble. Maybe you know someone who is.

You know -- **all** of you know -- who's got a problem. Today I'm not just asking you to get help. I'm asking you to find someone who **needs** help. And help them. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is.

We all need to succeed. And I'll let you in on a secret: we all **can** succeed. Maybe you've heard Michael Jordan say "If you don't use drugs, you can just about be anything you want to be. You've got at least 3/4 of your life to go. That's three more lifetimes to you. So don't blow it."

Saying "no" won't make you a nerd. It won't make you a geek. It won't make you a loser, or a dweeb... It will only show strength. And it will make you more friends than drugs ever will.

I think of Gary -- a very street-tough drug user from Denver, who was part of a panel answering questions from students about drugs. In the middle of the session, Gary broke down and cried, saying that he did drugs because no one who wasn't doing drugs would like him. When the students in the audience were asked who would be Gary's friend, there was a sea of hands all around the room.

You are in control of your life. With knowledge and education, you will succeed. You can not be denied.

If you're thinking about dropping out, think again. If you know somebody who's thinking about dropping out, talk to them about it. If you have friends who have already dropped out, find them. Talk to them. Find a way to bring them back.

How can such a small step make any difference? Well, last winter, after I was sworn in as President, I said that any definition of a successful life must include serving others. And I think we all sense that.

A friend of mine tells a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As the boy walked along the beach he picked up each starfish he passed, and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference -- for yourself, and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance. And make the days mean something.

I've got a lot of faith in you. But even more important, maybe you've got younger brothers or sisters -- they're looking up to you. And your future -- well, that's **completely** up to you.

Make it a good one.

Have a good year. And God bless you.

#



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

September 8, 1989

MEMORANDUM

To: Denise Schwartz
Office of Cabinet Affairs

From: Chino Chapa *cc.*
Acting Chief of Staff

Re: Presidential Remarks: Address to Students

A few suggestions on the Presidential remarks:

- The President should consider at least mentioning alcohol. It is an illegal substance for those under 18 and the "drug of choice" for most of our teenagers. Secretary Cavazos has been very outspoken about this in his speeches at schools.

PAGE 3

- Suggestion for 2nd paragraph: "We now understand that there are serious consequences to 'casual use.'" [Something stronger than myth.]
- Suggestion for 3rd paragraph: Start with "Most of you do not use drugs. . . [Most kids do not, thus we shouldn't start with "even if.""]
- Suggestion for 6th paragraph: In the third sentence, the last half should read, ". . . -- none of them makes that choice for you."



He thought this would be good for Bush's speech
to Am. Kids 9/12.

To ^{MARK} Stephanie
Date 9/7 Time 11:05

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M. Mr. Fields ^{club advisors}
of Brian McMahon H.S.
Phone Norwalk, CT

TELEPHONED	PLEASE CALL
CALLED TO SEE YOU	WILL CALL AGAIN
WANTS TO SEE YOU	URGENT

RETURNED YOUR CALL

Message 203-852-9488
before 2/2:15

students have own
Drug Support Group
SADA
Students Against Drugs Alcohol
Operator

AMPAD EFFICIENCY® 23-020
totally initiated by Kids!!
Dr. Forsalina principal if Mr. Fields not available