

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

FOIA Number:

S

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.

Record Group/Collection: George H.W. Bush Presidential Records
Collection/Office of Origin: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File Draft Files
Subseries: Chron File, 1989-1993

OA/ID Number: 13501
Folder ID Number: 13501-012

Folder Title:
Address to Students Re: Drugs 9/12/89 [3]

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 8, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Address to Students

I took the liberty of sharing the draft of the President's address to students in junior high school and high school with my staff to get their reaction and what they thought would be the reaction of their children in this age group. It is a very strong speech in many respects, particularly the concluding story about the young boy walking along the beach, returning starfish to the sea.

My suggestions are in two categories. First, some general suggestions about areas that might be strengthened in the speech, and second, some specific language suggestions. The general suggestions that I have are three:

1. There is a need to say something positive in the speech about the majority of students who do not use drugs. Some further commendation for them, in addition to admonishing them to go out and try to help those who are involved in drugs, would be appreciated. This is an opportunity for the President to give them a pat on the back and to let them know that he is convinced the majority of America's youth in junior high school and high school are doing an excellent job with their lives and are not involved in drugs.

2. The second general suggestion is that there is nothing in the speech that refers to alcohol abuse, which the Department of Education's recent publication, Schools Without Drugs identifies as the gateway drug. In that publication, the Department of Education indicates that alcohol is the most widely used drug, and that by their senior year 92% of students in the class of 1988 had used alcohol, and that almost 2/3 of them had used it in the month prior to the survey. Moreover, this appears to be a growing problem, with the percentage of students who use such initial drugs as alcohol by the sixth grade tripling since 1975. According to this Department of Education publication, 26 percent of fourth-graders and 42% of sixth-graders had already used alcohol and that it was generally acknowledged to be the gateway drug into the use of illegal substances.

pp:pd 8-25-89

3. My third general suggestion is that the President indicate to these students that they are serving as role models for those who are following them, and that they can make an extraordinarily positive contribution in people's lives by being the kind of role model that others will want to and can profitably emulate.

The specific suggestions I have are as follows:

1. "Hash only came in cans" on page one might usefully be changed to "Hash only came in cans and was usually made with corned beef". I would also recommend deleting the first sentence in the first paragraph, dealing with "ice". This is apparently a relatively recent phenomenon and we do not want to encourage it.

2. I would also recommend reworking the first two paragraphs on page two, which are a little confusing when reading it for the first time and may be confusing to the listeners.

3. In the sixth paragraph on page three, I recommend this change: "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. And parents, preachers, politicians -- you know that none of them make it for you. It's yours. I can't make that decision for you. But, I will tell you what it means."

4. On page 4 in the next-to-last paragraph, I recommend ending the final sentence by simply stating, "That the slavery of drugs must end."

5. In the first paragraph on the top of page six, the illustration of Gary is a little difficult to understand, and if you are looking for ways of shortening the current draft so that you can include something about alcohol and role models, this might be a useful story to delete.

If you have any questions, or I can help in any way, please let me know.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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

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:

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 WAS USUALLY MADE WITH CORN BEEF.* [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.

Remox

SAY SOMETHING POSITIVE ABOUT MAJORITY.

ALCOHOL - THE GATEWAY DRUG. SCHOOLS WITHOUT DRUGS.

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.

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 ^{DECISION} 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. *CAN'T MAKE THAT DECISION FOR YOU.* 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?"

Too hard to understand.

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.

#

BE A ROLE MODEL.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 8, 1989

89 SEP 8 P12:14

Memorandum to Chriss Winston

From: Jim Pinkerton
Subject: Draft Address to Students

pg. 1, para. 5, line 4 The reference to 'smoking "ice"' may give this new drug unintentional advertising. If knowledge of "ice" is still fairly low among students, then we are better off not giving it any nationwide exposure.

2,1,1 "And if you think your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- you may be right."

In isolation, as a soundbite, this sentence comes across as a bit harsh -- a bit despairing of the possibility of older people understanding young people. The essence of meaning in this and the preceding paragraph -- that if your parents don't understand you, it's because things were different when they were young -- is undeniable. But it could be misunderstood by teenagers, who will not wait for the next sentence's "make them understand," as justifying their all too common tendency to believe that 'No one understands me.'

A little rephrasing may remedy this, e.g., "So, if it sometimes seems as if your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- just be patient. It's up to you to care enough to talk to them, and make sure that they do understand...."

3,6,1 Instead of "Each of you has a choice to make....," we suggest "Each of you has a decision to make." The word "choice" implies that the alternatives are equally worthwhile.

3,6,4 Instead of "I won't tell you how to make it," we suggest "I can't make it for you."

7,1-5 We particularly like the starfish parable and the concluding note about the importance of being a role model. The argument about "younger brothers and sisters...looking up to you" is a very powerful one. (Bill Bennett's speech to schoolchildren made effective use of this point. If it hasn't already been obtained, we recommend that speech as a model.) Perhaps more emphasis on this point would make it more apt to be remembered by the audience.

###



OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
Washington, D.C. 20500

September 8, 1989

FAX TRANSMISSION TO: Chriss Winston
Office of Communications

FROM: David Tell *DT*
ONDCP

SUBJECT: Presidential Address to Students

PAGES: One (1)

This is a fine speech overall. It does seem a bit long, considering the audience -- I'd say about 15 minutes, right? If you could cut two pages you'd be better off.

You should check the high school senior cocaine use number at the top of page three with Mark Barnes at HHS. I don't have it at my fingertips, but it seems a bit too good to be true. Declines in drug use are slowest among young people.

I also think you have a few too many anecdotal stories in here. The Eddie Byrne story is always a winner. The "Gary" story on the other hand -- and especially the starfish business at the end -- seem kinda hokey. These are high school kids, remember. And anyhow, saving one starfish at a time when there are millions of them on the beach kind of plays into Democratic criticism that we're aren't spending nearly enough money to deal with the enormous problem, right?

These are small nitpicks. I think the speech is basically okay.

89 SEP 8 PM 12:14

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

89 SEP 8 10:28

September 8, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: NELSON LUND *NL*
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks -- Address to Students

Counsel's office has reviewed the captioned draft remarks. We have no legal objections.

We appreciate having had the opportunity to review this matter.

cc: James W. Cicconi

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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

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:

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.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 9/6/89

TO: *Chris Winston*

FROM: CLARK KENT ERVIN
Office of National Service
x6266

CKE

- Action
- Your Comment
- Let's Talk
- FYI

*Attached are our comments
on the President's Sept. 12
address to students.*

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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

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:

89 SEP 8 10:07 AM

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.

was what you made out of

corned beef

(In the President's "day," rock wasn't even found on the radio.)

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. ^{NI} 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 dependable ~~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.

contradiction
in terms

to make

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 ^{who pays the cost} ~~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 ^{believe} ~~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?"

from now on
in America

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.

#

And when you do this, ~~you~~ when you claim responsibility for
 rescuing a friend or neighbor from the plague of drugs,
 you become one of the points of light -- ~~to~~ of which I have
 spoken so often. I challenge each of you to
 share your light with those who now know only
 darkness

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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

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"/>	UNTERMEYER	<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:

*No comments, except the suggestion below.
- Rob Partman 9/8/89*

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

- Has a decision been made not to mention the President's program or Congress in these remarks? I believe a low key reference to the proposals and POTUS hope for quick action ~~to~~ in Congress ~~will~~ be useful.

89 SEP 8 A10:08

(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.] *another point?* ?

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.

not "cool"?

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.

#

(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.

Presidents don't talk directly to students very often -- and I know there are Americans of every age watching today. But what's been on my mind lately is very important. Maybe you heard my talk 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.

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 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 -- 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 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.

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, teachers, coaches, politicians -- no one can make that decision for you. But if you talk to someone you trust, they may remind you of how much else there is to live for.

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" 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 jungles 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 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 think about using drugs, 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. It won't make you a loser. In fact, it will make you more friends than drugs ever will.

But if that's not enough reason, 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 users' driving privileges. Or you might lose the college loan you wanted -- because Federal dollars are not going to go to those who break the law. These are privileges, not rights. And if you risk doing drugs, you risk losing them -- or even 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.

And if you're struggling with the kind of problem that truly 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. 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.

①

CAMP DAVID

too 'hip'

LBJ talked about "FAT
City" trying to sound under-
standing about Viet Nam protests.

Laugh laugh laugh.

A little too hip in places
Geek???

Also the apologizing for
past generations must come out.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER 8, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: CHRISS WINSTON ^W
FROM: MARK LANGE ^{M/L}
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.

3

(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. ~~Maybe you~~
heard my ~~talk~~ ^{talk} 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.

It may seem to you that your parents grew up in simpler times? Maybe. So sometimes if it seems your parents don't understand -- or your teachers don't understand -- try to be patient. You might be surprised.

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

WW II ?

Do all kids have this hip slar

No

30
1/1
4/2
1989
1942

As long as it gets
the all other ways
through - through

Don't tell in enough
what words

more on what we
want them to do.

dealing with, every day. ^{Bring 2 seats into it.} ~~Whether they want to or not. Whether~~
~~you think they deserve it or not.~~

[PICKS UP ^{Baseball} 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 ^{Baseball} 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.

~~Handwritten scribble~~ ^{the c's}
⊙ casual use in this country leads to killing elsewhere (Columba)
you exper. ↑
Here is a link.

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, ^{teachers, coaches,} preachers, politicians -- no one can make that decision for you. It's yours. But I will tell you what it means.

bring Ps into it.

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

4

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 ^{cocaine} 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

①

5

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.

6/10/90

In 5 Am People see users as causing a problem.

more precise
Cocaine is vs. low
if you break laws you must pay the price
we illegal drugs your price of the law

Use no
for crime connected with drugs
I want each Gov. to encourage his state to take better away
Fed govt not to have these laws

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.

and address
us all: + you
have parents
who do
drugs get
someone to
help them
your parent
your police

Find someone
you trust

Like 14?

14

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.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 12, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO STUDENTS

The Library
The White House

12:15 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Somehow the fall always feels like a time to start over. A time full of possibility and 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 presidents don't often get the chance to talk directly to students. And 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.

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. And 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. 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 10 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.

MORE.

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 can make 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's 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 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.

I keep this badge -- I keep this badge in my drawer -- 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. And 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, why, you're not hurting anybody. It's no big deal. Well, the next time 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. Where you're sitting right now -- where you're sitting there 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. And 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 and 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 three-quarters 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. And 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. But 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.

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. And if you have friends who have already dropped out, talk to them, too. 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 at all?"

And the boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it out 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.

END

12:30 P.M. EDT