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FOIA Number:

# FOIA MARKER

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**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

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**OA/ID Number:** 13502  
**Folder ID Number:** 13502-007

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**Folder Title:**  
Article for Christian Parenting Magazine 9/15/89

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>

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# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/14/89

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: \_\_\_\_\_

8/15/89 NOON

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE

	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 <i>NC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STUDDERT <i>NIC</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES <i>looking NC</i>	<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 <i>orning</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST <i>Out of town</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input 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 directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON Tuesday, August 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

89 AUG 14 PM 2:31

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

1989 AUG 14 AM 11:

((Grant))  
August 14, 1989  
Draft two  
a:FAMILY

PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE: CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE  
ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY VALUES TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

No matter where I go in the world, I see the power of God in the family. *I'd like to tell you about an amazing thing that I witnessed*  
~~Several years ago, at the funeral of Soviet leader Brezhnev, an amazing thing happened.~~  
The funeral was run to a military precision; a coldness and hollowness pervaded the ceremony -- marching soldiers, steel helmets, Marxist rhetoric, but no prayers, no comforting hymns, no mention of God.

The Soviet leaders took their places on the Kremlin Wall as the Brezhnev family silently escorted the casket around to its final resting place. I happened to be in just the right spot to see Mrs. Brezhnev. She walked up, took one last look at her husband and there, in the cold, gray center of that totalitarian state, she traced the sign of the cross over her husband's chest.

*was?*  
I ~~sat~~ *stood* stunned. With that simple act, it became clear to me that decades, even centuries of harsh, secular rule can never destroy *that inner* ~~the intuitive~~ *that burns within everyone, even* faith and strength ~~that is in us all.~~ *It*  
*Sometimes burns dimly and unconsciously, sometimes brightly and visibly. But each of us has a duty to nurture faith in God not only in ourselves but all the more in our children.*

As I grow older, I become more aware of God's presence in this world, and the help which He gives us all. I pray for Him to grant me wisdom in my official duties as President, but just as often I ask for His guidance as a father and husband, as part

of a family. The future of this nation lies in the strength of America's families, and in the values we hold as parents and teachers of our children.

*I strongly believe in the importance of parents and teachers in cultivating character.*

← Barbara and I have always told our children that to live a life of meaning, you've got to live a life of values. Love of God, reverence for human life, <sup>a sense of</sup> honor for <sup>this country - its laws and its heritage</sup> ~~the rule of law~~, respect for education, compassion for those less fortunate -- are the values we've tried to teach them. I hope those are the values they've tried to teach their children.

We must <sup>r</sup>nuture those values despite the overwhelming pressures facing our children outside our homes, the lure of drugs, the peer pressure to "go with the crowd," the temptation of easy money and flashy clothes, the emptiness of a life without commitment. We can and must teach our children to hold fast against the tide by holding fast to their values. If our children know the difference between right and wrong as they go out from the home, we will see drug-free schools, we will see an end to the violence in our streets and our classrooms, we will see a new generation that understands that any definition of a successful life must include serving others. In short ~~a~~ <sup>we will see</sup> a stronger, better America.

It all begins in the living rooms and kitchens of this country, during those quiet times when we tell our children what we believe and show them by the way we live. What's true each

day here in America was just as true that day at the Brezhnev funeral: The strength of a nation lies in the strength of her people. Likewise, the values of a nation spring from the values of her people. And these values begin within each family. We can build a better America, each one of us with our children. God bless America and her families.

# # #

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/14/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 8/15/89 NOON

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE

	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"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input 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"/>



*NC*

**REMARKS:**

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON Tuesday, August 15, 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

1989 AUG 14 AM 11:47

((Grant))  
August 14, 1989  
Draft two  
a:FAMILY

PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE: CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE  
ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY VALUES TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

No matter where I go in the world, I see the power of God in the family. Several years ago, at the funeral of Soviet leader Brezhnev, an amazing thing happened. The funeral was run to a military precision; a coldness and hollowness pervaded the ceremony -- marching soldiers, steel helmets, Marxist rhetoric, but no prayers, no comforting hymns, no mention of God.

The Soviet leaders took their places on the Kremlin Wall as the Brezhnev family silently escorted the casket around to its final resting place. I happened to be in just the right spot to see Mrs. Brezhnev. She walked up, took one last look at her husband and there, in the cold, gray center of that totalitarian state, she traced the sign of the cross over her husband's chest.

I sat stunned. With that simple act, it became clear to me that decades, even centuries of harsh, secular rule can never destroy the intuitive faith and strength that is in us all.

As I grow older, I become more aware of God's presence in this world, and the help which He gives us all. I pray for Him to grant me wisdom in my official duties as President, but just as often I ask for His guidance as a father and husband, as part

of a family. The future of this nation lies in the strength of America's families, and in the values we hold as parents and teachers of our children.

Barbara and I have always told our children that to live a life of meaning, you've got to live a life of values. Love of God, reverence for human life, honor for the rule of law, respect for education, compassion for those less fortunate -- are the values we've tried to teach them. I hope those are the values they've tried to teach their children.

We must nurture those values despite the overwhelming pressures facing our children outside our homes, the lure of drugs, the peer pressure to "go with the crowd," the temptation of easy money and flashy clothes, the emptiness of a life without commitment. We can and must teach our children to hold fast against the tide by holding fast to their values. If our children know the difference between right and wrong as they go out from the home, we will see drug-free schools, we will see an end to the violence in our streets and our classrooms, we will see a new generation that understands that any definition of a successful life must include serving others. In short -- a stronger, better America.

It all begins in the living rooms and kitchens of this country, during those quiet times when we tell our children what we believe and show them by the way we live. What's true each

day here in America was just as true that day at the Brezhnev funeral: The strength of a nation lies in the strength of her people. Likewise, the values of a nation spring from the values of her people. And these values begin within each family. We can build a better America, each one of us with our children. God bless America and her families.

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	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"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input 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 directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON Tuesday, August 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

*No Comment*  
89/15/89

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 14, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR  
COMMUNICATIONS

FROM: AMY L. SCHWARTZ  
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Proposed Presidential Article for Christian  
Parenting Magazine

I have reviewed for Counsel's office the attached Presidential article for Christian Parenting Magazine. I had only a few comments, which are marked directly on the draft.

Attachment

cc: James W. Cicconi, Jr.

89 AUG 14 P4: 29

1000 NEG 1A 1000

((Grant))  
August 14, 1989  
Draft two  
a:FAMILY

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ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY VALUES TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

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I sat stunned. With that simple act, it became clear to me that decades, even centuries of harsh, secular rule can never destroy the intuitive faith and strength that is in us all.

As I grow older, I become more aware of God's presence in this world, and the help which He gives us all. I pray for Him to grant me wisdom in my official duties as President, but just as often I ask for His guidance as a father and husband, as part

of a family. The future of this nation lies in the strength of America's families, and in the values we hold as parents and teachers of our children.

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We must <sup>r</sup> ~~nuture~~ <sup>n</sup> those values despite the overwhelming pressures facing our children outside our homes, the lure of drugs, the peer pressure to "go with the crowd," the temptation of easy money and flashy clothes, the emptiness of a life without commitment. We can and must teach our children to hold fast against the tide by holding fast to their values. If our children know the difference between right and wrong as they go out from the home, we will see drug-free schools, we will see an end to the violence in our streets and our classrooms, we will see a new generation that understands that any definition of a successful life must include serving others. In short -- <sup>we will see</sup> a stronger, better America.

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day here in America was just as true that day at the Brezhnev funeral: The strength of a nation lies in the strength of her people. Likewise, the values of a nation spring from the values of her people. And these values begin within each family. We can build a better America, each one of us with our children. God bless America and her families.

# # #

89 AUG 15 P3: 47

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 15, 1989

Memorandum to Chriss Winston

From: Jim Pinkerton

Subject: Draft Article For Christian Parenting Magazine

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pg. 1, para. 1, line 2 The Brezhnev funeral story is an old one but a good one. Perhaps we could acknowledge that we are repeating this vignette by starting the second sentence with "I like to tell about an amazing thing that I witnessed several years ago, at the funeral of...."

1,3,1 "I sat stunned." A small point, but we wonder if the then Vice President was not standing instead of sitting at the time Mrs. Brezhnev approached the casket. It seems more likely, and the original version of the story (Speech to the National Association of Religious Broadcasters, 2/2/87) does not mention that he was sitting.

1,3,3 We suggest a better transition in order to connect the Brezhnev story with the theme of the piece, e.g., "The lesson I take away from this story is this: that inner faith burns within everyone -- sometimes dimly and unconsciously, sometimes brightly and visibly. As parents, we have a duty to nurture faith in God not only in ourselves, but all the more in our children."

2,2,1 As a suggestion, we believe that the phrase "cultivating character" is a good shorthand for the President's belief that values are important in strengthening the social fabric of the country. "Character," like "excellence" a few years ago, is a salutary concept that used to be considered old-fashioned but is now undergoing a revival. Thus, the graph could begin with "I strongly believe in the importance of parents and teachers in cultivating character. Barbara and I ...."

2,2,2 The list of values is a good one. Perhaps "honor for the rule of law" might be combined in the phrase "a sense of honor for this country -- its laws and its ancient heritage," which gets in the idea of tradition as well as good citizenship.

#

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/14/89

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: \_\_\_\_\_

8/15/89 NOON ✓

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE

	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 <span style="color: red; font-size: 2em;">→</span>	<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"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input 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 directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than NOON Tuesday, August 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

**RESPONSE:**

*No comment*

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

1989 AUG 14 AM 11:47

((Grant))  
August 14, 1989  
Draft two  
a:FAMILY

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SUBJECT: PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE

	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"/>
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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"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input 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:

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RESPONSE:

*ok*  
*JW*

89 AUG 15 10:54

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

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

✓

August 14, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR CHRISS WINSTON

FROM: ROGER B. PORTER *RBP*

SUBJECT: Presidential Remarks: Presidential Article For  
Christian Parenting Magazine

The proposed article is well written and appropriate for the audience. We have no suggested changes from a policy standpoint and approve of the draft in its present form.

cc: James W. Cicconi

89 AUG 15 48:12

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/14/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 8/15/89 NOON

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SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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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"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input 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"/>

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**RESPONSE:**

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

1989 AUG 14 11:11

((Grant))  
August 14, 1989  
Draft two  
a:FAMILY

PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE: CHRISTIAN PARENTING MAGAZINE  
ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY VALUES TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

No matter where I go in the world, I see the power of God in the family. Several years ago, at the funeral of Soviet leader Brezhnev, an amazing thing happened. The funeral was run to a military precision; a coldness and hollowness pervaded the ceremony -- marching soldiers, steel helmets, Marxist rhetoric, but no prayers, no comforting hymns, no mention of God.

The Soviet leaders took their places on the Kremlin Wall as the Brezhnev family silently escorted the casket around to its final resting place. I happened to be in just the right spot to see Mrs. Brezhnev. She walked up, took one last look at her husband and there, in the cold, gray center of that totalitarian state, she traced the sign of the cross over her husband's chest.

I sat stunned. With that simple act, it became clear to me that decades, even centuries of harsh, secular rule can never destroy the intuitive faith and strength that is in us all.

As I grow older, I become more aware of God's presence in this world, and the help which He gives us all. I pray for Him to grant me wisdom in my official duties as President, but just as often I ask for His guidance as a father and husband, as part

of a family. The future of this nation lies in the strength of America's families, and in the values we hold as parents and teachers of our children.

Barbara and I have always told our children that to live a life of meaning, you've got to live a life of values. Love of God, reverence for human life, honor for the rule of law, respect for education, compassion for those less fortunate -- are the values we've tried to teach them. I hope those are the values they've tried to teach their children.

We must nurture those values despite the overwhelming pressures facing our children outside our homes, the lure of drugs, the peer pressure to "go with the crowd," the temptation of easy money and flashy clothes, the emptiness of a life without commitment. We can and must teach our children to hold fast against the tide by holding fast to their values. If our children know the difference between right and wrong as they go out from the home, we will see drug-free schools, we will see an end to the violence in our streets and our classrooms, we will see a new generation that understands that any definition of a successful life must include serving others. In short -- a stronger, better America.

It all begins in the living rooms and kitchens of this country, during those quiet times when we tell our children what we believe and show them by the way we live. What's true each

day here in America was just as true that day at the Brezhnev funeral: The strength of a nation lies in the strength of her people. Likewise, the values of a nation spring from the values of her people. And these values begin within each family. We can build a better America, each one of us with our children. God bless America and her families.

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