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**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
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**OA/ID Number:** 13515  
**Folder ID Number:** 13515-013

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**Folder Title:**  
Presidential Letter in Fort Worth-Star Telegram--Texas School Children and Drug Abuse 1/10/90 [OA 4390]

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Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 9, 1990

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           CHRISS WINSTON *W*

FROM:               MARY KATE GRANT *in former*

Attached for your review is a letter to school children which has been requested by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram for a special edition on drug use.

REVISED TEXT FOR PRESIDENTIAL LETTER TO  
THE SCHOOLCHILDREN OF TEXAS  
TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

TO THE SCHOOLCHILDREN OF TEXAS:

At the beginning of a new year, most Americans make New Year's resolutions. Today, as we stand on the threshold of a new decade, I'm asking each of you to make a commitment that is more important than any New Year's resolution you've ever made. I am asking you to lead a life free from drugs.

Most of you already know the dangers of drug abuse and the tragic consequences it holds for individuals and their communities. Each day, the news brings frightening evidence of the violence, death, and despair caused by drug use. You may have even seen the terrible problems caused by drug use in your own school or neighborhood.

I know that most of you have already made the right decision and have said "No" to drugs, but some kids have not. Those are the young people who need help -- those are the young people who have put their lives at risk.

A long time ago, I learned that the kind of people you have as friends can make you a stronger person, a better person. People who encourage you to try drugs might act like friends, but they are not. True friends care for you and for your future.

I ask all of you to make the right decision today and for the rest of your life -- the decision to stay away from drugs and the people who deal them. If you're in trouble because of drugs, get help. If you're not, help someone who is. There are adults out there who care about you and want to help. They can, too, if you let them.

Each of you holds so much hope and promise for the future -- don't let drugs take that away from you. Let's work together to win the war on drugs and build a better tomorrow. I believe that each of you can make a difference.

God bless you.

GEORGE BUSH

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Christo -  
the due date  
on this is Wed.  
Jan. 10 -

TO THE SCHOOLCHILDREN OF TEXAS:

Which one are  
we using Jim's  
or Mike's?

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A long time ago, I learned that the kind of people you have as friends can make you a stronger person, a better person. People who encourage you to try drugs might act <sup>like</sup> ~~as your~~ friends, but they are not. True friends care for you and for your future.

I ask all of you to make the right decision today and for the rest of your life -- the decision to stay away from drugs and the ~~merchants of death~~ <sup>people</sup> who deal them. If you're in trouble because of drugs, ~~if you know someone who is, seek help.~~ <sup>get help. If you're not, help someone who is</sup> There are adults out there who care ~~for~~ <sup>about</sup> you and want to help, ~~you~~. They can, too, if you let them.

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