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OA/ID Number: 13608
Folder ID Number: 13608-004

Folder Title:

[National Association of] Evangelicals 3/3/92 [OA 6098] [2]

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 FEB 31 All: 30

DATE: 3/2/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ---

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3

SUBJECT: _____

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	HORNER	☐	☒
SKINNER	☐	☒	MCBRIDE	☐	☒
SCOWCROFT	☐	☒	MOORE	☐	☒
DARMAN	☐	☒	PETERSMEYER	☐	☒
BRADY	☐	☒	PORTER	☐	☒
BROMLEY	☐	☐	ROGICH	☐	☒
CALIO	☐	☒	ROLLINS	☐	☒
DEMAREST	☐	☒	SMITH	☐	☒
FITZWATER	☐	☒	YEUTTER	☐	☒
GRAY	☐	☒	FINDLAY	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☐	☒	KAUFMAN	☐	☒

McGroarty →

REMARKS:

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

RESPONSE:

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

02 MAR 2 09:31

March 1, 1992

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DAVID DEMAREST

FROM: ANDY FERGUSON 03

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS EVENT

I. SUMMARY

On Tuesday, March 3, at 12:15 p.m, you will deliver remarks to an audience of approximately 1,000 people gathered at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel for the NAE's 50th Annual Convention.

II. DISCUSSION

Your remarks (15 minutes, on prompter) touch on your administration's efforts in promoting traditional family values and religious liberty.

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
March 2, 1992
Draft Three
NAE2

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

[Acknowledgments]

I'd like to open, if I may, on a personal note, to thank you for the help you have given me over the years. And I'm not really referring to the fine work your team in Washington has been doing -- although they have been of great help to our administration in advancing the values we share.

My thanks are more personal than that. Barbara and I particularly want to thank you for your prayers. Prayer has always been important in our lives, and without its aid, I'm convinced, no man who has the privilege of serving in the presidency could carry out his duties. I think of Lincoln's famous remark: "I've been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go."

Barbara and I are sustained not only by our own prayers but by the intercessory prayers so many Americans make on our behalf. Your prayers inspire us and give us courage, and I thank you for that.

((And if I may, I'll make a request: Please -- Keep 'em comin'.))

I am delighted to have the opportunity to speak with you today, on the occasion of your 50th anniversary. Your theme -- "Forward in Faith" -- says much about your movement, much about

what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point our country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth. And believe me, our culture desperately needs to hear it.

But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen.

We agree on the big issues that shape the world -- and on the values close to home: I'm talking about jobs, about family, about peace, for ourselves -- for our kids.

You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools where your children can receive the finest possible education, to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God. And I believe that means you're entitled to choose your children's schools.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. You understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -

- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man.

On one side was a system -- yes, an evil system -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no government can deny.

And now, eight years later, we can say confidently: Americans won the Cold War. We won it by standing for what's right. And let there be no mistake -- we won it by the Grace of God.

Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, no one should be so blind as not to see the providential hand of God.

((I notice from your Washington newsletter that recently even Time magazine called the old Soviet Union an "evil empire." Now they tell us!))

It was not our military strength alone that won the Cold War. It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God.

Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely brought Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, sharing the Word of God with people who thirsted for it. Through your World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you helped resettle thousands who fled oppression. Many evangelicals risked their lives to bring theological training where such training was forbidden.

And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Rest assured: Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for what you have done.

Americans are the most religious people on earth. And we have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this. As Jefferson put it: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly

emphasize the opening clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's religious life. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be controlled by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief itself. Some people seem to believe that freedom of religion requires government to keep our lives free from religion.

Well, I believe they're just plain wrong.

Our nation was founded on faith. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief. [Additional religious liberty language if necessary.]

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. When a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer -- something's wrong. Government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago, for example, we were in a tough fight on Capitol Hill over child care legislation. But with the invaluable help of your group and other pro-family organizations,

we kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats, and kept it where it belongs -- in the hands of parents.

We were determined to help families get the kind of child care they want, and that included church-based care.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that must include religious-based schools, too.

The fight for school choice is not over. But let me assure you: It won't end until we win it.

For many years Americans saw another disturbing trend. Judges, legislating from the bench, steadily expanded the power of government over the lives of ordinary Americans. Today, I am happy to report to you: that trend is over.

Over the past three years I have appointed (XX) judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- judges who punish criminals, not honest cops trying to do their jobs. And I am very proud of the two fine men who have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and

welfare dependency to crime and moral breakdown -- spring from the deterioration of this most fundamental, God-given institution.

And too often overweening government has aided the tragedy. Recently I announced a new commission to isolate the causes of the family's decline -- and I think you'll agree I found the right man to lead the commission: your Layman of the Year last year, Governor John Ashcroft.

Governor Ashcroft knows the importance my administration places on strengthening the family. As long as I am your president, families will come first in America.

We must always guard against laws that weaken the family and traditional values. At the same time, we can take positive steps to strengthen them. Here's an example: I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 per child -- and I want them to do it this year. [Additional \$500 exemption language if necessary.]

We're also waging war against the forces that would tear the family apart. In 1990 alone, our agents from the FBI, Customs and Postal Inspection Service won 245 convictions against the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. These creatures have been put on notice: There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of our children.

And may I add: pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if somebody calls it art. [[And believe me, the person I select to

head the National Endowment for the Arts will be able to tell the difference between art and trash.]]

Faith and family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on earth. And to these values we must add: the infinitely precious value of life itself. Our Declaration doesn't tell us that all men are "born" equal. It says "created," a word that echoes the mystery of faith, affirming the right to liberty, the right to pursue happiness -- and yes, the right to life.

Last fall we won a significant victory in this battle. I made it clear to Congress that while I am president, the federal government will not fund abortions -- or abortion counseling, even when it's disguised as "family planning."

A majority in Congress voted against us; but I had to do what was right. I vetoed their legislation. And let them understand: Principle must stand above politics. If they send me anything similar again, I will veto it again.

[Possible insert on vetoing Freedom of Choice Act.]

Lincoln once said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." As president I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being coming to the aid of another. And I am always reminded of a phrase from the Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting the values of faith and family and life -- we serve Him

as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country forward in faith, one nation under God.

Thank you, and God bless you.

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(Ferguson\Aarhus)
March 2, 1992
Draft Three
NAE2

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We can also wage war against the forces that would tear the family apart. The Justice Department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section has been vigorously prosecuting the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. Since 1987 they have obtained 85 convictions involving more than \$20 million in fines and forfeited assets. There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of human beings.

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((And if I may, I'll make a request: Please -- Keep 'em comin'.))

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"Forward in Faith" -- says much about your movement, much about what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point our country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth. And believe me, our culture desperately needs to hear it.

But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen.

We agree on the big issues that shape the world -- and on the values close to home: I'm talking about jobs, about family, about peace, for ourselves -- for our kids.

You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools -- schools of your choosing -- where your children can receive the finest possible education, to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. And you understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength

and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost nine years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man. On one side was a system -- yes, an evil system -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no government can deny.

My friends, Americans won the Cold War. And let there be no mistake -- we won it by the Grace of God.

Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, is there anyone among us so blind as not to see the providential hand of God?

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Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely brought Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, sharing the Word of God with people who thirsted for it. Through your World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you helped resettle thousands who fled oppression. Many of you risked your lives to bring theological training where such training was forbidden.

And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for your work.

Every survey on the subject shows that Americans are the most religious people on earth. And we have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this. What Jefferson wrote in those early days is true today: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the opening clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's

religious life. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be controlled by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief itself. Some misguided people think that freedom of religion requires government to keep our lives free from religion. Well, I believe they're just plain wrong.

Our nation was founded on faith. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief. [additional religious liberty language if necessary]

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. When a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer -- something's wrong. Government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago -- with the invaluable help of the NAE and other pro-family organizations -- we were in a tough fight on Capitol Hill over child care leg. But with the inval, we kept choice of child care out oof the hands of gov bur, and kept it where it belongs -- in the hands of parents. able to enact child-care legislation that kept choice of child care out of the

hands of government bureaucrats and placed it where it belongs, in the hands of parents.

We were determined anted to help families get the kind of child care they want, and that included church-based child care.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that includes religious-based schools, too.

This fight is not over. But let me assure you: It won't be over until we win it.

For many years the power of government was steadily expanded by judges legislating from the bench. I am happy to report that trend is over. ose days are coming to a close. Over the past three years I have appointed (XX) judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- who punish criminals, not cops trying to do their jobs. And I am very proud of the two fine men who have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

We must do everything in our power to preserve the institution that nurtures faith, the family. I am firmly convinced that our greatest problems today -- from drugs and welfare dependency to crime and violence -- spring from the deterioration of this most fundamental, God-given institution.

And too often overweening government has aided in this tragedy. Recently I've asked Governor John Ashcroft, who was NAE Layman of the Year last year, to head a Commission on America's Urban Families, to isolate the causes of the alarming decline. I make to you this pledge: As long as I am your president, families will come first in America.

We must guard against laws that weaken the family and traditional values. At the same time, there are positive steps we can take to strengthen them. And here's an example: I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 per child -- and I want them to do it this year. [additional five hundred dollar exemption]

We can also wage war against the forces that would tear the ^{language} family apart. The Justice Department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section has been vigorously prosecuting the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. Since 1987 they have obtained 85 convictions involving more than \$20 million in fines and forfeited assets. There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of our children.

And may I add: pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if somebody calls it art. [[And believe me, the person I select to be our new head of the National Endowment for the Arts will be able to distinguish between art and trash.]]

Faith and family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on earth. And to these values let us add: the infinitely precious value of life itself. Our Declaration

doesn't tell us that all men are "born" equal. It says "created," a word that echoes the mystery of faith, affirming the right to liberty, the right to pursue happiness -- and yes, the right to life.

Last fall we won a significant victory in this battle. I made it clear to Congress that while I am president, the federal government will not fund abortions -- or abortion counseling, even when it's disguised as "family planning."

A majority disagreed with us; but I had to do what was right. I vetoed their legislation. And let them understand: If they send me anything similar again, I will veto it again.

[Possible insert on vetoing Freedom of Choice Act.]

In a moment of great trial for our country, Lincoln said, "My concern is not whether God is on our side, but whether we are on God's side." As president I have often spoken of service -- not simply public service, but personal service, one human being to another. And I am always reminded of a phrase from my Book of Common Prayer: "Oh, God ... whose service is perfect freedom." We must be sustained by the confidence that in serving others -- in promoting unashamedly the values of faith and family and life -- we serve Him as well. It is this confidence that will enable us to move our country, one nation under God, forward in faith.

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John Gardner

92 FEB 28 AM: 22

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

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You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. And you understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

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6

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Dorance
Smith

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

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Document No. 311548ss**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 2/28/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY 2/28
 PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
 SUBJECT: TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	HORNER	☒	☐
SKINNER	☐	☒	MCBRIDE	☒	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	MOORE	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	PETERSMEYER	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	PORTER	☒	☐
BROMLEY	☐	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CALIO	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SMITH	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	YEUTTER	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	FINDLAY	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐	KAUFMAN	☐	☒

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm 122, Ext. 2930, NO LATER THAN COB TODAY 2/28/92, with a copy to this office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

See comments. Thanks.
 PE
 Paul Fortenberry
 02/28

PHILLIP D. BRADY
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

32 FEB 28 All : 22

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2

what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point their country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth, in a culture that desperately needs to hear it. But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen. You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children. You want schools -- schools of your choosing -- where your children can receive the finest possible education to prepare them for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. And you understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

3

President Reagan spoke to you then of what America must do to win this hard and bitter peace. Like you, President Reagan and I understood that the Cold War wasn't some mundane competition between rival world powers. It was a struggle for the mind of man. On one side was an system -- yes, an evil system -- dedicated to denying the life of the spirit and celebrating the omnipotence of the state. On the other was a system founded on a profound truth -- that our Creator has endowed his children with inalienable rights that no state can deny.

And by the grace of God, we won the Cold War. Tonight our children and grandchildren will go to their beds untroubled by the fears of nuclear holocaust that haunted two generations of Americans. In this shining outcome, in this great triumph of good over evil, is there anyone among us so blind as not to see the providential hand of God? ((I notice from the NAE newsletter than recently even Time magazine called the old Soviet Union an "evil empire." Now they tell us.))

(Justice)

It was not our military strength alone that won the Cold War. It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God. Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely smuggled Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, bringing the Word of God to people who thirsted for it. Through the NAE's World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you have helped resettle many thousands who fled oppression. Many of risked your lives to

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bring theological training where such training was forbidden. And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for your work.

Every survey on the subject shows that Americans are the most religious people on earth, and they have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this, and spoke of it in definitive terms. What Jefferson wrote in those early days is true today: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the first clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's spirituality. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be subsumed by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief

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The Founders would have thought this idea absurd. And it is. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief.

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. Something's wrong in this country when a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer. I have long believed -- and continue to believe -- that government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. Two years ago -- with the invaluable help of the NAE and other pro-family organizations -- we were able to enact child-care legislation that kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats and placed it where it belongs, in the hands of parents. We wanted to help families get the kind of child care they want, whether at home or at church or synagogue. It was a tough fight, but we won it.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that

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For many years the power of government was steadily expanded by judges legislating from the bench. I am happy to report those days are coming to a close. Over the past three years I have appointed judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- ^{judges} who punish criminals, ^{instead of} ~~the~~ cops trying to do their jobs. And in particular I am very proud that over the past three years two fine men have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

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And too often overweening government has aided in this tragedy. Recently I've asked Governor John Ashcroft, who was NAE Layman of the Year last year, to head a Commission on America's Urban Families, to isolate the causes of the alarming decline. I make to you this pledge: As long as I am your president, families will come first in America.

Every law that is passed must guard against the weakening of the family. At the same time, there are positive steps we can take to strengthen it. As part of my economic growth package, I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 - and I want them to do it this year.

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Most recently, some in Congress wanted to deprive low-income families of the so-called "Wee Tots" exemption, which increases the take-home pay of families just getting by. The exemption promotes self-reliance and hard work; it helps keep families in tact. Fortunately, we were able to halt Congress's effort to eliminate this lifeline. Sooner or later they will understand: I will not allow legislation that works against the family.

We can also wage war against the forces that would tear the family apart. The Justice Department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section has been vigorously prosecuting the smut-merchants who deal in child pornography. ~~since~~ ^{plus} 1987 we have obtained 85 convictions involving more than \$20 million in fines and seized assets. There is no place in America for this horrifying exploitation of human beings.

And may I add: pornography is pornography -- blasphemy is blasphemy -- and government has no business funding it -- even if some misguided people want to call it art.

Faith and family -- these are the values that sustain the greatest nation on earth. And to these values let us add: the infinitely precious value of life itself. Our Declaration doesn't tell us that all men are "born" equal. It says "created," a word that echoes the mystery of faith, affirming the right to liberty, the right to pursue happiness -- and yes, the right to life.

In 1990 alone, our agents with the FBI, Customs, and the Postal Inspection Service achieved 245 convictions against dealers in child pornography, made 244 arrests, and opened ~~142~~ 142 investigations. As for those who would trade in vile, and hard-core obscenity, since

8

Last summer we won a significant victory in this battle. I made it clear to Congress that while I am president, the federal government would not fund abortions -- or abortion counseling, even when it's disguised as "family planning." A majority disagreed with us; but I had to do what was right. I vetoed their legislation. And let them understand: If they send me anything similar again, I will veto it again.

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#

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

92 FEB 28 P7:29 February 28, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY SNOW
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
COMMUNICATIONS AND DIRECTOR OF SPEECHWRITING

FROM: LEE S. LIBERMAN
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: National Association of Evangelicals

The Counsel's Office has no legal objection to the above draft speech.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 FEB 28 P5:09

DATE: 2/28/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY 2/28PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992SUBJECT: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	HORNER	☒	☐
SKINNER	☐	☒	MCBRIDE	☒	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	MOORE	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	PETERSMEYER	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	PORTER	☒	☐
BROMLEY	☐	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CALIO	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SMITH	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	YEUTTER	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	FINDLAY	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐	KAUFMAN	☐	☒

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm 122, Ext. 2930, NO LATER THAN COB TODAY 2/28/92, with a copy to this office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

please see comments. Thank you.

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

02 FEB 28 All : 22

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TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
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what evangelicals have brought to America over its lifetime. Evangelicals point their country toward the future, with the diligence and hard work and confidence only a firm faith can provide.

In one sense, of course, evangelicals stand apart, as they must, bearing witness to a transcendent truth, in a culture that desperately needs to hear it. But at the same time, in so many crucial ways, your concerns are the concerns of your countrymen. You want, as all Americans do, safe streets for your children.

Excellent You want schools -- schools of your choosing -- where your children can ~~receive the finest possible education to~~ *begin a process of lifelong learning and* ~~prepare them~~ for a life of industry and good citizenship and faith in God.

You want a government that understands the limited role it must play in a nation of free men and women; a government that spends your tax money for the common good, and for the common good alone; a government that promotes economic growth and opportunity.

And you want for yourselves and your country that most precious of gifts -- peace on earth. And you understand that peace comes not from vacillation and weakness but from strength and clarity of purpose. The last time a president came before you -- I note that it is almost eight years to the day -- our country was nearing the climax of a titanic struggle, the Cold War.

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It was not our military strength alone that won the Cold War. It was our steadfast faith -- in ourselves, in our country, and above all, in God. Our victory came from the kind of work performed by people here in this room. Many of you bravely smuggled Bibles behind the Iron Curtain, bringing the Word of God to people who thirsted for it. Through the NAE's World Relief Corporation and other enterprises, you have helped resettle many thousands who fled oppression. Many of risked your lives to

bring theological training where such training was forbidden. And now in the free countries of the former Communist bloc your work continues, to ensure that the vacuum left by Communism's demise is filled by faith. Our country -- indeed, the world -- will be forever grateful for your work.

Every survey on the subject shows that Americans are the most religious people on earth, and they have always instinctively sensed that God's purpose was bound up with the cause of liberty. The Founders understood this, and spoke of it in definitive terms. What Jefferson wrote in those early days is true today: "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God?"

That conviction is enshrined in our Declaration of Independence, and in our Constitution. It is no accident that in drafting our Bill of Rights, the Founders dedicated the first portion of our First Amendment to religious liberty. We rightly emphasize the first clause of that Amendment, which forbids government from establishing religion. In fact, I believe the establishment clause has been a great boon to our country's spirituality. One reason religion flourishes in America is that worship can never be subsumed by the state.

But in recent times we have too often ignored the clause that follows, which forbids government from prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This myopia has in some places resulted in an aggressive campaign against Judeo-Christian religious belief

itself -- as if the freedom of religion required government to keep our lives free from religion.

The Founders would have thought this idea absurd. And it is. Government must never promote a religion; but it is duty-bound to promote religious liberty. It must never put the believer at a disadvantage because of his belief.

That is the challenge my administration has undertaken. Something's wrong in this country when a child can obtain a condom at school but is forbidden to lead his classmates in voluntary prayer. I have long believed -- and continue to believe -- that government has no business denying our children their right to pray in schools.

The Cornerstones of any Community are ~~the~~ ^a Commitment to children and strong families.

We must hold the line on state intervention in other areas as well. ↑ Two years ago -- with the invaluable help of the NAE and other pro-family organizations -- we were able to enact child-care legislation that kept choice of child care out of the hands of government bureaucrats and placed it where it belongs, in the hands of parents. We wanted to help families get the kind of child care they want, whether at home or at church or synagogue. It was a tough fight, but we won it.

And we continue to fight for the parents' right to choose their children's schools. School choice is at the heart of America 2000, our strategy to revolutionize American education. All parents -- rich or poor -- must have the right to choose the kind of education their children will receive -- and yes, that

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For many years the power of government was steadily expanded by judges legislating from the bench. I am happy to report those days are coming to a close. Over the past three years I have appointed judges who understand the limits of government and the rights of parents -- who punish criminals, not cops trying to do their jobs. And in particular I am very proud that over the past three years two fine men have taken their place on the Supreme Court -- Justice David Souter and Justice Clarence Thomas.

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Every law that is passed must guard against the weakening of the family. At the same time, there are positive steps we can take to strengthen it. As part of my economic growth package, I have asked Congress to increase the child tax exemption by \$500 - - and I want them to do it this year.

Most recently, some in Congress wanted to deprive low-income families of the so-called "Wee Tots" exemption, which increases the take-home pay of families just getting by. The exemption promotes self-reliance and hard work; it helps keep families in tact. Fortunately, we were able to halt Congress's effort to eliminate this lifeline. Sooner or later they will understand: I will not allow legislation that works against the family.

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

92 FEB 28 P2:30

DATE: 2/28/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY 2/28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

SUBJECT: TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	HORNER	☒	☐
SKINNER	☐	☒	MCBRIDE	☒	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	MOORE	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	PETERSMEYER	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	PORTER	☒	☐
BROMLEY	☐	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CALIO	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SMITH	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	YEUTTER	☐	☒
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Thank you.

RESPONSE:

OK - a few suggestions.

BT & SR

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

92 FEB 28 All : 22

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~~MAKE ABOUT FAMILIES~~

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 2/28/92 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: COB TODAY 2/28

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992SUBJECT: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
12:15 PM

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☒	HORNER	☒	☐
SKINNER	☐	☒	MCBRIDE	☒	☐
SCOWCROFT	☒	☐	MOORE	☒	☐
DARMAN	☒	☐	PETERSMEYER	☒	☐
BRADY	☐	☒	PORTER	☒	☐
BROMLEY	☐	☐	ROGICH	☒	☐
CALIO	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
DEMAREST	☒	☐	SMITH	☒	☐
FITZWATER	☐	☒	YEUTTER	☐	☒
GRAY	☒	☐	FINDLAY	☐	☒
HOLIDAY	☒	☐	KAUFMAN	☐	☒

REMARKS:

Please forward your comments directly to Dan McGroarty, Rm 122, Ext. 2930, NO LATER THAN COB TODAY 2/28/92, with a copy to this office.

Thank you.

RESPONSE:

TO: DAN MCGROARTY

February 29, 1992

The NSC staff concurs with the draft presidential remarks.

cc: Phillip D. Brady

for
Brent Scowcroft

PHILLIP D. BRADY
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

(Ferguson\Aarhus)
February 27, 1992
Draft One
NAE

92 FEB 28 All : 22

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