

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lissa Muscatine
FROM: Kathy H. Kim
DATE: November 4, 1994
RE: Longterm Planning for the First Lady

Per your request, I have compiled a brief list of places for the First Lady to visit in the future, places in D.C. as well as locations within reasonable travelling distance. The following programs and projects represent many of the ideals, values and goals supported by this administration and of particular interest to the First Lady. Among the visiting options I have outlined below are places that exemplify volunteerism, individual and collective responsibility, creating opportunities, community building, public-private cooperation, and quality health care.

VISITING OPTIONS IN THE D.C. AREA

Friendship Terrace Retirement Community and Martha's Table

Description: Every Monday, 18 volunteer men and women of the Friendship Terrace Retirement Community gather around their game room tables to make 350 bologna and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for Martha's Table, a downtown soup kitchen.

Recruited by Saint Columba's Episcopal Church, this senior citizen group was instrumental to the birth of the church's sandwich ministry -- Martha's Table -- in 1985. And, nine years later, these volunteers remain a very important part of the efforts of Martha's Table to distribute 6,000 sandwiches a day to children and homeless people. Specifically, sandwiches from the Friendship Terrace group feed 130 children who come to Martha's Table for an after-school program of homework and games and 30 children and mothers in a Family Development Program.

There are about 50 groups throughout the area that also make sandwiches for Martha's Table, including senior citizens at the Friends Meeting of Washington and students from private schools such as Georgetown Day School.

Relevance: A visit to Friendship Terrace and to Martha's Table would allow the First Lady to demonstrate several of her key interests and concerns -- individual initiative displayed in volunteerism, feeding children so that they will have the energy to study and play, and community responsibility and humanity towards fellow members of society.

Making sandwiches, one day, could be a project the entire First Lady's Office staff could participate in.

Step Up

Description: On August 31, 1994, the D.C. Department of Public and Assisted

Housing began accepting applications for Step Up, a project which provides 75 jobs for poor tenants.

"Step Up, which has been established in eight other cities nationwide, uses federal funds designated for housing rehabilitation to train tenants in bricklaying, carpentry, painting, pipe fitting, hazardous waste abatement, heavy equipment operation and other construction work while paying them wages." (The Washington Post, October 1994)

Working on major renovation projects at public housing sites, the training will last for 12 months and the tenants will be paid about \$10 an hour.

Statistics: By the end of the filing deadline, over 1,000 residents had applied for the federally funded training program providing only 75 jobs.

There are 24,000 residents living in D.C. public housing and 14,800, or 61.6%, are female. According to The Washington Post, over 75% of the applicants to Step Up were female.

Relevance: Step Up is symbolic of this administration's efforts to provide individuals with the tools and training necessary to improve their own lives. This project not only gives the unemployed a job and a wage, but it also teaches them a marketable skill for the future. And the fact that over 1,000 people applied for 75 positions indicates a clear willingness on the part of the unemployed to assume responsibility for themselves, a willingness unnoticed by conservatives and Republicans who dismiss the entire poverty class as lazy and hopeless.

Step Up is also a good example of a working partnership between federal and local government. The project is administered by the D.C. Department of Public and Assisted Housing and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Greater Southeast Healthcare System

Description: The Greater Southeast Healthcare System is an innovative health care system that makes comprehensive, quality care accessible to people in a depressed inner-city community. The Greater Southeast Healthcare System is two hospitals, three nursing homes, a physician care network, and over 50 community programs including housing renovation, children's daycare, stay-in-school programs, adult literacy programs, pharmacies and high school clinics.

The Greater Southeast Community Hospital is the largest private employer and the only medical facility in Anacostia, where nearly a quarter of the residents live below the poverty line and almost half have not graduated from high school. Greater Southeast Community Hospital is a non-profit hospital whose operating annual profits average \$4.5 million. According to Tom Chapman, CEO of Greater Southwest Healthcare System, most of those profits are put back into the community.

Greater Southeast is different from other conventional health care providers because they not only treat the physical and mental illnesses of their patients, but they also try to treat the illnesses of the community, like poverty, illiteracy, drug abuse, and violence. Through partnerships with churches, schools, community-based organizations, foundations and local governments, Greater Southeast attempts to go beyond the traditional responsibilities of a

health care provider.

Statistics: Anacostia has the highest levels of infant mortality rates, cancer, and coronary disease in the D.C. area. The Ward 8 neighborhoods, which surround Greater Southeast, has the city's highest number of pregnant teenagers, the greatest proportion of premature babies and the largest number of infants who die before their first birthdays.

This community has 25% of the city's children but only 6% of the pediatricians. While the District has 15 city-run clinics, only one serves Ward 8, where the largest number of the city's poor children reside. As such, almost 40% of the children treated in the emergency room at Greater Southwest Community Hospital do not have emergencies.

Relevance: Greater Southwest's community programs focus on prevention and their hospitals provide the most advanced treatments. Serving children is their top priority. They don't turn down people who don't have insurance. They make a profit every year. This is a hospital that should be modeled everywhere. Their motto is "caring enough to try - smart enough to succeed". This is perfect for the First Lady.

VISITING OPTIONS ON THE EAST COAST

(The following descriptions and definitions are excerpts from a HUD report that has yet to be published.)

The Main Street Market

Description: The Main Street Market is an outdoor, multicultural urban marketplace which was developed on a vacant commercial parcel of land on Main Street in the heart of downtown Hartford. Opened in the summer of 1992, the market provides covered and uncovered vendor stalls for over fifty local artisans, merchants, prepared food vendors, and farmers.

The Main Street Market project addressed four primary needs in Hartford. 1) To provide fresh produce and other products to local area residents. 2) To make the products sold there affordable to low-income groups. 3) To support entrepreneurs engaged in starting small businesses. 4) To bring together Hartford's diverse population in a central location.

A public-private cooperative effort, including local organizations and individuals, assisted in leasing the property and constructing the Main Street Market. The City of Hartford used CDBG¹ funds to lease the property. Local nonprofit and private corporations, associations, and private businesses provided development and management assistance. Trade unions donated labor, and local contractors and suppliers donated the materials. A grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving covered the remaining construction costs.

¹ Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) provide public support for revitalization of downtowns and neighborhoods. The program is popular because it balances the need to provide communities flexibility in spending priorities and, at the same time, to focus spending helping the poor: 70% of activities must benefit low- and moderate income persons.

Relevance: Revitalizing our communities and re-establishing a sense of community are important administration goals. The Main Street Market in Hartford achieves both goals through a multiple public-private cooperative effort. The market has a performance stage which would be a good place for the First Lady to address the ethnically and income diverse sellers and consumers after she's toured the street.

Joseph House Village

Description: In August 1989, the City of Salisbury, Maryland received a \$442,600 State Community Development Block Grant for Joseph House Village, Inc., a nonprofit organization, to design and construct an emergency and transitional shelter for homeless persons. This building was Phase I of a proposed six-phase project. After Joseph House Village raised additional needed funds, construction of the shelter began in March 1991 and was completed in October 1991. The building has 15 apartments that house 40-45 people, many of whom are children.

In September 1991, Salisbury was awarded a \$20,000 grant for design of Phase II, an educational/community center that will house day care, health care, job training, and counseling services. In November 1992, the Maryland State CDBG program awarded another \$494,000 toward construction of the center. Construction is now under way with completion anticipated in April 1994.

Joseph House Village provides a drug- and alcohol-free environment, health care, educational opportunities to learn a skill or trade, and day care so that they can work to attain independence. The project also provides counseling to help people acquire skills in managing a household, including budgeting, parenting, and drug resistance.

Relevance: Joseph House Village provides a comprehensive, holistic approach to the homeless problem. Combining compassion with pragmatism, Joseph House Village gives homeless people the opportunity to change their lives. Many programs target only one aspect of homelessness, whether it be shelter, food, clothing, counseling, or job training. However, Joseph House Village addresses the entire situation and attempts to create an environment where individuals can successfully transition out of homelessness. By empowering individuals, Joseph House Village is contributing to the administration's goal to help every American live up to his or her God-given potential.

Clinton brother-in-law happily making his Senate run a family affair

By William E. Gibson

Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. While other Democrats run away from President Clinton this election year, Hugh Rodham nearly bowls over the commander-in-chief with a big brotherly bear hug.

Welcome to Florida, Rodham tells his brother-in-law. Come down any time.

Scorned by pundits, ignored by campaign professionals and spurned by some fellow Democrats, Rodham has turned to family members to rescue his campaign for the U.S. Senate.

Brother Tony, who married a California senator's daughter, came home to Miami to manage the Rodham campaign.

Big sister Hillary Rodham Clinton, the first lady, emerged from gloom at the White House to flash a radiant smile across the South Florida political landscape.

Their mother, Dorothy Rodham, has gamely put in appearances at campaign rallies.

And the president briefly spoke to a poorly attended Rodham rally in Miami.

Never mind that only 200 people turned up when thousands were expected. For Rodham, the moment made his trudging along the campaign trail worthwhile.

"It's kind of bound us together in this cause because we've always been very close as a family, and when I get myself into a fix like this, they always try to come and bail me out," the candidate said with a chuckle.

Rodham, 44, has never held public office until now, he has never sought public office and he did not vote for more than a decade. He is the ultimate long-shot outsider candidate but with White House connections.

When more powerful Florida Democrats shrank from a race against Republican incumbent Sen. Connie Mack, Rodham filled the wide void. It's a campaign Rodham expects to win, defying all conventional wisdom and contrary evidence.

"I think the message my campaign brings is that if you believe in ideas, you have the right to run for any political office, no matter how many rotten things are said about you," Rodham said.

His ideas include alternative ways to deal with crime problems, based on his experience with the special Dade County "Drug Court," which channels first-time non-violent offenders into rehabilitation instead of prison.

Rodham helped the needy of Colombia while serving in the Peace Corps in the early '70s, then went to graduate school and law school before becoming an assistant public defender in Dade County.

After registering to vote in Arkansas in 1974, he did not re-register in Florida until 1991, just before his brother-in-law was elected president. Rodham said he had been disgusted with politics during the Reagan era.

"If I had it to do over again, I would have fully participated in the process," Rodham said.

Democratic leaders tried to dissuade Rodham from fully participating in the Florida Senate race this year, which they feared would be a losing cause. Operatives at the Democratic National Committee showed Rodham poll numbers indicating he could not defeat Mack, who has gathered \$2.5 million of campaign cash.

"It's no secret they discouraged him from running," said Ken Wolf, a Rodham supporter and Democratic committee

member in Broward County. "They see the enormous risk of making that race a litmus test for the administration."

Rodham said the Clintons did not restrain him. "They talked to me about it early on, as family members will discuss problems over the dinner table. I made up my mind,

and they said, 'Good.'"

Rodham supports most of Clinton's agenda, notably his policies on immigration, Cuba, Haiti and health care. He has differed only on trade policy, opposing the North American Free Trade Agreement.

(EDITORS: STORY CAN TRIM HERE)

None of this has brought much money or attention outside the family. Rodham has received no money from the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, headed by Florida Sen. Bob Graham. His main support comes from labor groups who favor his trade policy.

Rodham's embrace of the White House risks alienating many voters.

"I did not support Mr. Clinton. I feel like certain liberties have been taken by his family, which I strongly object to. I suppose this is unfair, but it rubs off on Hillary's brother," said William Fitzgerald, a retired Miami businessman leaning toward Mack. "Knowing that this state has been going strongly Republican, this could possibly hurt Rodham."

But discouraging words do not deter the underdog candidate.

In booming speeches leavened by self-inflicted fat jokes, the rotund Rodham defies what he calls "defeatist mentality." He stands by his own goals and by his White House kin.

"It's not to scold Democrats across the country," Rodham said, "but to let them know that there are some of us who are not running away from the president, and never were."

X X X

Women candidates
Ann Richards

1. Election
goole W/C

2. Paulinas
heart

concerned
but we
can't see

3. Continued
success for
candidate

1. Older care
still need!
I'm still concerned

2. Keyball
out of state
communication

3. When have we
learned?
how
difficult to
bring about

Health
care
1. How difficult
w/ needs
2. How difficult
w/ communication

4. Next 2
years
Bipartisan

5. I'll be
very much
involved.
**

6. So Pres here to
do a job -
I can't see
him to help -
we're going to
work w/ Kong -

Leish
deput
Care = Dor
n -
this is about
what people
need

MOCK QUESTIONS FOR FIRST LADIES' PANEL

- 1) Why are you so insulated from the press?
- 2) Why should a First Lady, who is neither elected nor appointed, be given so much responsibility for an issue as complex as health care reform? Do you think your involvement and has contributed to the President's lack of popularity?
- 3) You call yourself a transitional First Lady. What are you a transition from and what are you a transition to?
- 4) Why do people think you're arrogant?
- 5) Why do you and your husband hang out with so many celebrities -- in Washington, Hollywood, and even when you're on vacation? Why don't you buy a house in Arkansas or go on vacation with ordinary people?
- 6) How do you want to be remembered in the history books? How do you think you will be remembered?
- 7) In light of your busy schedule, how many hours do you spend each day with Chelsea? How do you balance the demands of motherhood and your professional work and your job as First Lady?

MOCK QUESTIONS FOR HRC

- You often talk about balancing your career and family life. In light of your busy schedule, it seems that your career takes precedence over your family, in particular, Chelsea. How many hours per day do you spend with Chelsea? How often do the Clinton's sit down to a meal together?
- The President put you at the head of the Health Care Task Force and it failed. How much of that was your responsibility? How would it have been different if the President had appointed someone else?
- How do you want to be remembered in the history books? How do you think you will be remembered?
- Who really has the brains in the Clinton household, you or Bill?

DRAFT LETTER FROM MELANNE VERVEER

Dear _____,

In the past few days I've gotten a number of calls from friends who wondered about a particular quote from the First Lady's interview with Newsweek magazine. To end any confusion, I'd like to make clear that Mrs. Clinton has always believed in a woman's right to choose.

The Newsweek interview explored her personal religious beliefs and her views on the role of faith in our secular lives. Although Mrs. Clinton has said she would not choose abortion for herself, she believes that abortion is a matter of conscience, a highly personal and private decision that every woman must make for herself. She also believes that, ~~by law~~, we must respect the individual's choice -- whether that means choosing yes or choosing no. And we must continue to protect the moral authority of women to make choices for themselves in all facets of their lives. *on law*

Mrs. Clinton hopes that all sides in the debate can work together to ensure that abortion in our society is safe, rare, and legal.

I also want to stress that the Clinton Administration remains committed to expanding choices and opportunities for women ~~on a broader scale~~. That's why President Clinton has lifted the gag rule, signed the Family and Medical Leave law, worked hard to expand women's health research, and encouraged testing of mifepristone, formerly known as RU-486, which will begin in the United States this week. I hope you agree that these policies are what really defines a pro-choice, pro-conscience Administration.

*Cl. Adm.
It's not forget he can plan that will
provide
Policies like this are consistent
if*

GALS MEETING 10/26/94

Pro conscience - issue that each individual decide by themselves
Respect conscience + moral authority of women
who make the decision

People have a right to choose yes + choose no

[in Newsweek - word - wrong was the problem]

By law we must respect the indiv. conscience of each woman

ST/ [Control over one's own body]

Implicit - okay to better women, regulate their bodies,
+ tyrannize them

Some decisions are so private + so personal that only
the individual can make it

[

Safe, legal, + rare

It's tough decision we would hope no one would have to
make -

Protest choices of women

[We lifted the gag rule]

Religion/Baptist/ch. goes into that decision

R-B - support for fam. ply ↓ 50% in 12 yrs

Reduce abortions → ↓ unwanted preg - fam ply.

Mike Pristone ^{underground}
~~Mike Pristone~~ [sp?] testis aid beg. - poss. b/c of

Clinton Adm. - for years banned - women elsewhere

Next wk study coming out;

Statistical link b/w abortion + br. cancer

Women's research -
br. cancer

Excerpt of Interview: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton with WJAR
Radio, 10/24/94

Q. One of the biggest buzz words in America today is "abortion." And in the article, [Woodward] suggests that you feel that abortion is wrong, but should not be criminalized, is that accurate?

That is. Obviously, in some cases, it is a very difficult decision, and I respect the right of conscience. You know I've come in my own mind to think about this issue as really pro-conscience in the sense of trying to change people's attitudes and feelings so that if a decision is made to choose abortion it is done only after the most careful soul searching. I think the issue has become so polarizing and neither side on the divide is really reflecting what most of us in the great muddled middle feel, which is that we do not approve, we are not happy about the number of abortions but cannot imagine what criminalization would do to women and doctors and just the fabric of our life together ... I would like it if we could perhaps call a verbal truce and for people on all sides to work together to figure out how we make abortion, in my husband's words, safe and rare, but legal.

- This Admin. committed to expanding choices for women
gay rules. From Lw. in all facets
of their lives

This incl -

You'll give that these policies
really define what roles
a truly pro-choice Admin.

Soulful Matters

Hillary Clinton: In the middle of a crucial and bitterly fought political season, the First Lady speaks exclusively with NEWSWEEK's Religion Editor about her spiritual life

BY KENNETH L. WOODWARD

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON HAS been called many things since she became the nation's First Lady. To her fiercest critics she is a radical feminist; to her most ardent admirers she is a disciplined political operative, an eloquent advocate who needs no notes when speaking. In softer profile, Mrs. Clinton comes across as a well-organized working mother and her husband's closest confidant. But long before she was a Democrat, a lawyer, or a Clinton, Hillary Rodham was a Methodist. And that, say those who know her now as well as those who knew her when, is the way the First Lady is best understood. She thinks like a Methodist, talks like a Methodist and wants to reform society just like a well-Sunday-schooled Methodist churchwoman should. "I

am," she told NEWSWEEK in an exclusive interview at the White House last week, "an old-fashioned Methodist."

In any other place, from almost any other woman, such an admission would be insignificant. Americans want their First Family to be religious, but not strongly so. As Ronald Reagan understood—and Jimmy Carter painfully learned—vague belief firmly held is the most appropriate White House religion. Politicians may not care and the media may scoff, but the Clintons are perhaps the most openly religious First Couple this century has seen. The president is a hymn-humming, sermon-loving, liberal Southern Baptist who studied under the Jesuits at Georgetown and feels at home in any kind of pew. But Mrs. Clinton is cut from old, less expressive Methodist stock, and these days she feels like a battered woman. Her public role has diminished, and she's being blamed for the failure of health-care reform in a bitter political season. Meanwhile, evangelists of the religious right scorn her as a Mary Magdalene, while pundits in the sec-

ular press ridicule her spirituality as flaky New Age blather. All this has taught her a "great deal of sympathy" for Christian fundamentalists. Like them, she believes she has to prove that she isn't a figment of other people's prejudices.

Indeed, at one point in the conversation, the First Lady even submitted to a brief examination of her faith:

*For her,
the social
gospel
is more
than pious
words*

"Do you believe in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?"

"Yes."

"The atoning death of Jesus?"

"Yes."

"The resurrection of Christ?"

"Yes."

The interview was conducted in the Map Room around a makeshift folding table that looked like it had just been cleared of dishes. The First Lady, dressed in black, glanced down often at her hands. For three months, NEWSWEEK had

sought an interview about her religious faith and her aides were fearful that no matter what she said, Mrs. Clinton would be accused of trying to manipulate her public image. She even hesitated to name her favorite Bible passages, convinced she'd be misunderstood: "If I quote a Bible Scripture, people are always looking for the hidden meaning in it" (page 25). Or, worse, that her words might be turned against her in the latest Rush to judgment.

Can this Hillary Clinton be real? Though conservatives may doubt her religious convictions, and liberals wish them away, Hillary Rodham Clinton is as pious as she is political. Methodism, for her, is not just a church but an extended family of faith that defines her horizons. Through her father's fam-

ily, she can trace her roots back via her grandparents' stories to early-19th-century England and Wales—close to the beginnings of the original Methodist movement. Her mother taught Sunday school. Though her father was seldom seen at First United Methodist Church in Park Ridge, Ill., where young Hillary grew up, she vividly recalls that "he said his prayers kneeling by his bed every night of his life, until he had [his] stroke."

The First Lady is a Methodist by choice as well as by chance. Of the three Rodham children, only Hillary continued to attend Sunday services as an adolescent. "She's really a self-churched woman," says the Rev. Donald Jones, her former youth minister, who developed his privileged suburban students' social consciences by taking them to visit migrant workers' children. More than other Protestants, Methodists are still imbued with the turn-of-the-century social gospel, which holds that Christians have been commissioned to build the Kingdom of God on earth.

As a bright, well-educated woman growing up in the turbulent '60s, Hillary Rodham defied that generation's rebellious stereotype. At Wellesley, she continued to attend church, joined the interdenominational chapel society and took a year of required Bible study—an experience, she says, "I'm very grateful for." She also read



MIKE STEWART—SYGMA

On the same page: Singing hymns in Little Rock in 1978

'Hillary views the world through a Methodist lens.' And, he jokes, 'We know what's good for you.'

Rev. Donald Jones,
former youth
minister



E. LEE WHITE

With the Clintons in the pews, he tries to be 'prophetic' without striking at the president.

Reverend Wogaman,
Foundry United
Methodist Church



JOHN FICARA - NEWSWEEK

Motive, a now defunct magazine for college-age Methodists. "I still have every issue they sent me," Mrs. Clinton says. But the issue she remembers best contained an article by a Methodist theologian, Carl Oglesby, called "Change or Containment." "It was the first thing I had ever read that challenged the Vietnam War," Mrs. Clinton recalls. Partly because of that war, she switched from being a Goldwater Republican to a McGovern Democrat. But she remained a devout Methodist. Although the United Methodist Church had by then dropped most of its traditional taboos against alcohol and dancing, Hillary was conservative in her social habits. In a letter to Jones from college, she wrote that she

was having "as much fun as any good Methodist can." Even today, says Jones, "when Hillary talks it sounds like it comes out of a Methodist Sunday-school lesson."

That should be no surprise. In Arkansas, Mrs. Clinton taught Methodist Sunday school. She also attended church regularly and, in the Methodist tradition of favoring lay preachers, she spoke often at church gatherings on "Why I am a United Methodist." Even her campaign to reform Arkansas's public schools, says the Rev. Clint Bursleson, her former pastor in Little Rock, was "grounded in Methodist social concerns. That's who Hillary is. She's not a woman who would be in harmony with [Methodism's conservative] evangelical movement."

Perhaps, but after two years in the White House, Mrs. Clinton is showing another side of her Methodist self. The religious books she reads are mostly by popular evangelical and spiritual-guidance authors, like Tony Campolo, Father Henri Nouwen and the Rev. Gordon MacDonald, and the only religious magazine she sees these busy days is Christianity Today, an evangelical weekly. She says she also keeps a copy of "The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church" in her private quarters, along with the Bible. The two volumes reflect her search for religious balance. "I think that the Methodist Church, for a period of time, became too socially concerned," she says, "too involved in the social gospel, and did not pay enough attention to questions of personal salvation and individual faith. It is, for me, both a question of grace and of personal commitment."

IN THE WHITE HOUSE FAMILY QUARTERS, the ethos is more Methodist than Baptist. A telltale example: liquor is served—something a staunch Southern Baptist would hesitate to do. But you have to ask for it, which is the moderate Methodist way. On Sundays, it's a Methodist, not a Baptist, church the First Family most often attends. And like her mother, 14-year-old Chelsea Clinton is being raised a Methodist.

The Methodist ethos extends to politics as well. The First Lady's speech in April 1993 calling for "remodeling society by redefining what it means to be a human in the 20th century" may have startled some listeners, but its ambitious optimism was fully consonant with the Methodists' liberal social creed. Indeed, Mrs. Clinton's many speeches defending the universal health-care coverage resonated with the moral rhetoric of resolutions adopted by the church's governing General Conference. Her favorite adjective is a Methodist byword: inclusive. "Hillary views the world through a Methodist lens," says the Reverend Jones, who is still a welcome guest at the White House. "And we Methodists," he adds wryly, "know what's good for you."

If the Kennedy era was Camelot and the Reagan White House a ranchero on the Potomac, the Clinton presidency—in the figure of its formidable First Lady—is Washington's Methodist Moment. And Methodists have waited a long time for that moment to arrive. With more members (8.8 million) than the Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Congregationalists and American Baptists combined, the United Methodists dominate mainline American Protestantism and its chief ecumenical agency, the National Council of Churches. But the last time the Methodists or the mainline had a political friend in the White House was during the Great Society phase of the John-

son administration. Jimmy Carter confided mostly in fellow Southern Baptists. The Reagan-Bush administrations assiduously courted the emergent religious right—and ignored what they regarded as the religious left, as represented by the mainline churches' liberal Washington lobby. Significantly, that lobby is housed on Capitol Hill in the Methodist Building.

Despite what some critics believe, the nation's First Lady is not markedly feminist in her religion. She thinks abortion is "wrong," but, like her husband, she says, "I

don't think it should be criminalized." She does not follow feminist theology and seems unaware of the upheaval its most radical exponents have created among Methodists in the name of greater inclusiveness.

As long as they are in the White House, the First Family has elected to worship at Foundry United Methodist Church, less than a mile away. There they find spiritual support from pastor J. Philip Wogaman, a liberal social-ethics professor who tries, he says, to be "prophetic" in his sermons "without embarrassing the president."

Generally the First Family slips into the same pew, three rows down from the front off the right center aisle. It's a mixed congregation in a mixed urban neighborhood. As Wogaman proudly points out, young singles and married couples usually sit up front on the far left, gays prefer the far right, African-Americans congregate in the center and older white congregants—including Senate Republican leader Robert Dole and his wife, Elizabeth—favor the sections near the door. Very inclusive. Very Methodist. Very Hillary Rodham Clinton. ■

Interview: 'I Believe in Prayer'

IN AN HOURLONG INTERVIEW at the White House with NEWSWEEK's Kenneth L. Woodward, Hillary Rodham Clinton spoke frankly about her religious beliefs and habits. She was wary, yet eager to clarify her spiritual and moral convictions. Excerpts:

You used to attend a Bible-study group in Arkansas. Do you in Washington?

On rare occasions. But I have continuing contact and conversations with women both here and in Arkansas who are part of an extended prayer or Bible-study group for me. I talk with them, or they come here and visit with me. I have a group of friends who are very faithful in their intercessory prayer for the president and me.

You really believe in intercessory prayer?

I do. I do. And not only do I believe in it, I think there is increasing evidence of it. There is an interesting hospital study in which patients of comparable medical condition were prayed for and prayers were, apparently, the only difference that could be discovered between how the patients were treated.

Do you have a favorite Bible passage?

At this point I am spending a lot of time thinking about the Sermon on the Mount, and particularly the Beatitudes, but really Matthew 5, 6 and 7. Those three chapters I think are just filled with challenge

and it's very hard to read and for me to fully understand. Or the whole Book of James—because I, being a Methodist, am big on deeds as well as words.

The United Methodist Church is very strong on inclusive lan-

God more in a Father sense. But that's not exclusive to me. I don't discount characteristics and virtues of the feminine by saying and thinking that. But that is the tradition I grew up in and it is accessible to me, so I'm more likely to rely on it.



JAMES COLBURN—PHOTOREPORTERS

The family that prays together . . . Church bound

guage for God as both He and She. Are you?

I'm sort of agnostic when it comes to inclusive language. I've always thought that language was so inadequate to express the mystery and power of God. I mean, use He, use She—none of us are capable of really describing who God is.

What about God as Mother as well as Father?

I think God is both . . . I think God is omnipotent and omniscient. I think that because of the fact that I am a child of my tradition and have developed as I have over time, I think of

Have you been unfairly identified as New Age?
Oh, yes.

You seem to be an old-fashioned Methodist.

That's exactly right . . . The secular press doesn't know how to talk about religion except in stereotypes. I think they've done a great disservice to many people who are in what is loosely called the religious right. I think the people who are searching for meaning and order in their lives are naturally going to be trying to have a theology that gives them answers to difficult

questions posed by modern times. I have a great deal of sympathy for that, and I think it is unfair to the great number of people who identify themselves in such ways—either evangelicals or fundamentalists—to stereotype them. I think some of their leaders are, as pharisees have always been, willing to manipulate people for their own particular purposes.

One of the differences I have with some of the denominations is the idea that one's Christianity is sealed at the moment that you accept Christ as your Savior and become in whatever ways are open to you a practicing Christian. I think that is a never-ending challenge. And I believe that every day I fall short of what I should be achieving.

At a National Prayer Breakfast, Mother Teresa strongly criticized countries that accept abortion. Did you take her criticism personally?

Well, I talked with her after the speech. And we are going to help her establish a center here.

Are you comfortable with schools' distributing condoms?
No, I'm not comfortable with that. I would much prefer that every child be given appropriate guidance and discipline so that that was never an issue. But I also think that it is a problem that has to be addressed in certain parts of the country where, for whatever reasons, family and religion have failed to do their jobs.

Thanksgiving + Xmas for HRC / Mtg 10/26/98

- ① ~~Stennis~~ hear mtg at White House
- ② Violence?
- ③ other possible venues?
- ④ Can Anthony questions >
- ⑤ Nov - Dec. sched.
- ⑥ Dec. summit

Letter

- assume 6 yr. concerns
- what Mrs. C. said - like to clarify what she said
 - #1-2 not defensive, mild
 - Melanne; give it Nicole

Chir 1/25/

MAMMOGRAMS

Mother of Year Award - April / NYC

① Kick off Mama - grams

② ✓ D.C. rates / Africa - America -

GIRLS INTO 5/31/95

JULY - AUGUST

Op Eds

Column

Magazine

Radio

PSAs

Process → keep visible

Hersey High School

2 friends - evolved along diff. paths

honoring individual choices

meaning of friendship

- whatever choice you make you can always make a difference

- (kids raising \$\$ for Nina Hyde Ctr. - also raising awareness)

Dear JHS

Conflict Resolution

✓ Stats on whether kids more involved in service

Kids not being fairly depicted / Distorted view

Need to start celebrat^g kids + their potential

+ help them achieve what they can be

"Expecting the best from our kids"

"Honoring our kids"

Honor people you are in relationships with

GIRLS (2)

It's not only a tree grows in Brooklyn

It's minds + character + futures

WOMEN / FAMILY ISSUES

A national conversation abt what families need

① economic

② values

A counter movement

③ badges / symbols

"It takes a Village"

Common-sense conversations

People don't look at what they have control
over in their own lives

Have to do it in partnership w/ family members,
community

Loss of energy; too many obstacles

How powerless these ppl feel

* Partnership