

Clinton Administration Accomplishments on

Violence Against Women

Executive Action on Domestic Violence & Welfare

As part of the welfare reform bill, Senators Wellstone and Murray attached an amendment that urges states to address the special needs of battered women on welfare. Battered women often have difficulty pursuing employment or education because of the mental and physical effects of battering. Moreover, abusers often fight to keep their victims from becoming independent.

The Wellstone/Murray Family Violence Amendment gives states an option to: (1) screen welfare recipients for domestic abuse; (2) refer individuals who are battered to counseling and supportive services; and (3) temporarily waive -- if the state chooses -- any program requirements such as time limits that would make it more difficult for battered women to escape domestic violence.

The President's directive encourages states to implement the Wellstone/Murray Family Violence provisions of the welfare bill and directs the Secretary of Health & Human Services and Attorney General to provide states with guidance and technical assistance. The directive also calls for the Secretary of Health & Human Services and the Attorney General to study the needs of impoverished battered women and make recommendations on assessment, referral and delivery models to help victims achieve safety and self-sufficiency.

New Federal Anti-Stalking Law and Domestic Violence Gun Law

On September 23, 1996, President Clinton signed into law the Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act of 1996, which dramatically toughens the 1994 Violence Against Women Act's provisions against stalkers who cross state lines to threaten, harass and instill fear in others, particularly women and girls. For the first time, this law makes it a Federal crime for any stalker to cross state lines to pursue a victim -- even if the woman does not have a protection order in effect, even if the stalker does not commit an actual act of violence, and even if the victim is not the spouse or intimate of the stalker.

Before September 23, women who did not have protection orders were not protected by Federal law. This legislation will provide protection to women who cannot get a protection order. In addition, this new law makes interstate stalking a Federal crime *before* any act of violence has been committed. Victims pursued across state lines by a spouse or intimate no longer have to suffer an act of violence before they can be protected by federal resources. Finally, the law brings Federal protection even if the stalker is not someone you know. The 1994 Violence Against Women Act gave federal protection to women who were being stalked by spouses, boyfriends or former "intimates." With this new law, the President has expanded that protection to people who are stalked by a stranger or someone they have not been intimate with -- an acquaintance, for instance.

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Batterers

On September 30, the President signed legislation to keep guns away from people convicted of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence. The President fought hard for this Gun Ban on domestic violence offenders, including tough, last-minute negotiations with Republican leaders to save the gun ban from being watered down. The Gun Ban builds on the Brady Bill and amends the 1968 Federal firearms statute to bar any person convicted of any crime of domestic violence -- not just a felony -- from owning and possessing a firearm. The Violence Against Women Act made it a crime for stalkers and harassers under restraining orders to carry a gun. That provision is beginning to take hold: in Kentucky alone, more than 300 stalkers and harassers were prohibited from buying firearms in one year. The Brady Law has prevented more than 60,000 felons, fugitives and others from buying handguns.

But many batterers are not covered by existing law. Because of plea bargaining or the downgrading of an offense, the overwhelming majority of domestic violence cases are misdemeanors not felonies. The result is that these offenders are still free under Federal law to possess a firearm. In 1994, there were 88,500 incidents of domestic violence where a firearm was present.

To help States in enforcing such a measure, President Clinton's 1994 Crime Bill is already providing funding for States to improve their criminal history record-keeping abilities and in 1996 the Clinton Administration specifically instituted a "National Stalker and Domestic Violence" record-keeping program.

Re-Defining Carjacking & Rape

Earlier this week, the President signed into law the Carjacking Correction Act, which clarifies that rape or sexual assault during a carjacking will bring an enhanced penalty. The current federal carjacking prohibition statute provides an enhanced penalty if "serious bodily injury" occurs during the course of a carjacking. The Carjacking Correction Act corrects that rape or sexual assault is considered "serious bodily injury." This law corrects a Federal Court ruling in which a judge determined that rape was not a "serious bodily injury" under the Carjacking Act, and therefore no sentence enhancement was applicable. The Act's sponsor, Congressman Conyers, complained that the decision would have required a criminal to spend more time in prison for breaking an arm than raping a woman.

Stopping Child Abuse

On October 3, the President signed into law the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Amendments of 1995. This legislation will give states greater flexibility to implement programs for preventing and treating child abuse and neglect. The measure authorizes \$221 million for fiscal 1997 for child abuse prevention and treatment programs, most to be used for state grants. Thirty-five million of this funding is earmarked to help abandoned infants and children with another \$20 million targeted to promote adoption and foster care. Additionally, states will be given two years to develop a procedure to speed the termination of parental rights when an infant has been abandoned and for creating an appeals process for cases where charges of neglect or abuse are challenged. The measure will also allow states to intervene in abuse cases in any appropriate manner (instead of simply removing children from their homes.)

Stopping Sex Offenders

On October 3, President signed into law the Pam Lyncher Sexual Offender Tracking and Identification Act, which codifies what the President has already initiated by directing the Attorney General to establish a national FBI database to track sexually violent criminals upon their release from prison. It builds on both Megan's Law -- which President Clinton fought for and signed into law, requiring states to tell communities whenever a dangerous sexual predator is in their midst -- and the Jacob Wetterling Act, which requires state, but not federal, registry systems. Clinton's Violence Against Women Act established a national registry of sex offenders.

The National Domestic Violence Hotline

The hotline has helped more than 50,000 callers find assistance since it was launched by President Clinton on February 21, 1996. The vast majority of these calls are from individuals who have never before reached out for assistance. To support the tremendous response to this service, the hotline will receive a new \$1.2 million in funding for FY 1997 -- an \$800,000 increase over its original 1997 authorization.

A 24-hour, toll-free service, the hotline provides crisis assistance and local shelter referrals for callers across the country. It represents a major step towards the Clinton Administration's goal of ensuring that every woman has access to information and emergency assistance, wherever and whenever she needs it. The hotline is operated by the Texas Council on Family Violence, through an HHS grant from the Violence Against Women Act. *The voice number is 1-800-799-SAFE, and the TDD number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-787-3224.*

Calling for Community Support

In July, the President announced that the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association (CTIA) has offered to provide 50,000 cellular phones and free air time to citizen patrols and community block watches throughout the country. There are an estimated 20,000 neighborhood block watches and citizen patrols throughout the country. Neighborhood watch has been proven to help prevent crime and promote cooperation between law enforcement and residents. The phones will be pre-programmed to reach local law enforcement. The President has also called on corporate leaders to educate their employees about domestic violence and to provide support and safety protections for battered women at their worksites.

The Advisory Council on Violence Against Women

The Advisory Council on Violence Against Women was created on July 13, 1995. Co-chaired by Attorney General Janet Reno and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, the Council consists of 47 experts -- representatives from law enforcement, media, business, sports, health and social services, and victim advocacy -- working together to prevent violence against women.

- o **A Checklist for Communities** On October 1, 1996, the Attorney General and Secretary Shalala announced the creation of a "Community Checklist," to help ensure that every community in the country has resources in place for domestic violence prevention and intervention.

The checklist lists steps that every facet of a community can take to prevent domestic violence; it includes recommendations for police departments, businesses, social service groups, religious organizations, athletic organizations, the media, and others.

- o **Workplace Awareness** The Workplace Resource Center is organized by the Family Violence Prevention Fund and supported by many corporations, state and local governments, labor unions, and the Advisory Council. The Center provides help and education to employees in the private and public sectors concerning domestic violence -- through newsletters, information fairs, and workplace assistance. On October 1, 1996, businesses around the country kicked-off activities for Workplace Awareness Day, and President Clinton urged all corporations to join the campaign.

The Federal government, under the President's direction, is also implementing an Employee Awareness Campaign on Violence Against Women.

Immigration Bill Provision for Domestic Violence Victims

At the Administration's urging, Congress included a provision in the immigration bill that the President signed on September 30, 1996, to ensure that immigrant women and children who are victims of domestic violence are eligible for vital public health services and are not denied services due to changes in deeming rules. The Administration also succeeded in removing provisions from the bill that would subject battered immigrants to deportation for receiving these vital services. In addition, the immigration bill now makes battered immigrants eligible for cash assistance and Medicaid if the states exercise their option under the welfare law to make legal immigrants eligible for such programs.

The Violence Against Women Act

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), passed as part of the Crime Act of 1994, is landmark bipartisan legislation -- combining tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims of violence.

VAWA is authorized to provide \$1.6 billion over five years to hire more prosecutors and improve domestic violence training among prosecutors, police officers, and health and social services professionals. It provides for more shelters, counseling services, and research into causes and effective public education campaigns.

In addition, VAWA takes domestic violence seriously by setting new federal penalties for those who cross state lines to continue abuse of a spouse or partner. VAWA has now been used in 20 prosecutions, in addition to those taking place at the state and local levels. VAWA makes it unlawful for any person who is subject to a restraining order to possess ammunition or a firearm. It also requires states to honor protective orders issued in other states and gives victims the right to mandatory restitution and the right to address the court at the time of sentencing.

The Department of Health and Human Services and the Justice Department are leading the following initiatives under the Violence Against Women Act:

Health and Human Services Programs under VAWA

- o **Grants for Battered Women's Shelters**. In 1997, HHS will award \$72.8 million to states, territories, and tribes to expand the availability of shelter services to victims of family violence and their dependents -- an increase of 52 percent over the \$47.6 million available in 1996. These resources will also support related services, such as community outreach and prevention, children's counseling, and linkage to child protection services. The Crime Act provided new resources to extend these services under the existing Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

- o **Education and Prevention Grants to Reduce Sexual Assaults Against Women.** Under this program, HHS provides grants to states for rape prevention and education programs conducted by rape crisis centers or similar nongovernmental, nonprofit entities. The funds will support educational seminars, the operation of hotlines, training programs, preparation of informational materials, and other activities to increase awareness of and to help prevent sexual assault. States receiving grants must devote at least 25 percent of their funds to education programs targeted to middle school, junior high school, or high school students. CDC will receive \$35 million for this program in FY 1997, an increase of 22 percent over its 1996 appropriation.
- o **Coordinated Community Responses to Prevent Intimate Partner Violence.** This program, administered by CDC, will help build new community programs aimed at preventing intimate partner violence, as well as strengthen and better coordinate existing community intervention and prevention programs. The program will also evaluate the impact of comprehensive community programs on preventing intimate partner violence. This program was appropriated \$6 million for FY 1997, an increase of 100 percent over its 1996 appropriation.
- o **Youth Education on Domestic Violence.** Four model curricula for youth education about domestic violence will be recommended to Congress for use in primary, middle and secondary schools, as well as higher education levels. The curricula will be chosen in consultation with an expert panel, and will be used as model programs for schools across the country. This program was given a one-year appropriation of \$400,000 in FY 1996.
- o **Education and Prevention Services to Reduce Sexual Abuse Among Runaway, Homeless, and Street Youth.** This program was authorized under the Crime Act to provide street-based outreach and education, including treatment, counseling, and provision of information and referrals to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of sexual abuse. The program was appropriated \$8 million for FY 1997, an increase of 42 percent over FY 1996.

Justice Department Programs under VAWA

- o The Justice Department's STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors) grant program assists law enforcement officers and prosecutors in developing better strategies to combat violence against women. In FY 1997, the Justice Department will provide \$145 million to states and territories to support coordinated approaches to combating domestic violence and sexual assault, an 11 percent increase over FY 1996.
- o In addition, the Justice Department will distribute \$33 million to encourage mandatory arrest policies for domestic violence cases, a 15 percent increase over FY 1996. Justice will also provide \$8 million to fund rural domestic violence programs in FY 1997, an increase of 14 percent over FY 1996.
- o The Clinton Administration has designed a new \$46 million Community Policing to Combat Domestic Violence Program. The Justice Department's COPS office is providing funds to over 300 jurisdictions around the country under this initiative to run innovative community policing programs focused on domestic violence.

- o In June 1996, President Clinton directed the Attorney General to devise a plan to create a national registry to track sex offenders, including rapists and child molesters.
- o The Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, enacted as part of the Crime Act, was amended by the federal Megan's Law, and signed by the President on May 17, 1996. Under these statutes, sex offenders and child molesters must register information about their whereabouts with appropriate state law enforcement agencies for ten years after release from prison, and state prison officials must notify local law enforcement when they are released. States must notify the general public when a particularly dangerous sex offender moves into their community.

Other Efforts at the Department of Health and Human Services

- o In 1994, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its National Injury Center, working with the Justice Department, expanded their public prevention and awareness efforts in a new initiative to research the prevalence of domestic violence.
- o The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) administers several programs that both research and work to address substance abuse and mental health issues among victims of domestic violence.
- o The Administration on Aging (AOA) has funded the creation and operation of the National Center on Elder Abuse, which focuses on training, technical assistance, research, and information dissemination related to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. In addition, AOA has funded six project grants to link state and local domestic violence and aging organizations to protect older women against domestic violence. In addition to this AoA project, HHS funds four national resource centers which provide information, technical assistance, and research findings on domestic violence.
- o HHS also funds several programs that aim to strengthen families, prevent the abuse of women and children, and help families provide a healthy and safe environment for children. These programs include the Family Preservation and Support program; Community Schools; and Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act grants.

Background

Recent statistics show that nearly 30 percent of all female homicide victims were known to have been killed by their husbands, former husbands, or boyfriends.¹

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¹ Department of Justice, FBI, "Crime in the United States."

Facts on Working Women

U.S. Department of Labor
Women's Bureau



No. 96-3
October 1996

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: A WORKPLACE ISSUE

Each year about one million women become victims of violence at the hands of an intimate--a husband, ex-husband, boyfriend, or ex-boyfriend. Some estimates are even higher. Women are about six times more likely than men to experience violence committed by an intimate.¹

At work, women are also more likely than men to be attacked by an intimate, whereas men are more likely to be attacked by a stranger. Each year nearly one million individuals become victims of violent crime while working or on duty. During the period 1987-1992, five percent of the women victimized at work were attacked by a husband, ex-husband, boyfriend, or ex-boyfriend compared to one percent of men who were victimized by an intimate.² When an employee is the target of attack in the workplace by an intimate, other employees may also be placed at risk.

Homicide is by far the most frequent manner in which women workers are fatally injured at work. Although more women at work are killed in the course of a robbery or other crime, or by a work associate, during the period 1992-94, 17 percent of their alleged attackers were current or former husbands or boyfriends.

For Black women, the figure was 28 percent, and, for Hispanic women, 20 percent.³

Domestic Violence Doesn't Just Affect a Woman Outside of Work

Domestic violence can interfere with a woman's ability to get, perform, or keep a job.

One small pilot study of employed battered women found that almost three-quarters reported being harassed by their abusive partners in person or by telephone while at work and more than half reported missing three days of work each month because of abuse.⁴

In another small non-random study of domestic violence victims, 96 percent of those who were employed had some type of problem in the workplace as a direct result of their abuse or abuser. These included being late (more than 60 percent), missing work (more than 50 percent), having difficulty performing one's job (70 percent), being reprimanded for problems associated with the abuse (60 percent), or losing a job (30 percent).⁵ Sometimes the abuser actually prevents the victim from working outside the home at all.

What Employers Can Do

Many employers are unaware that domestic violence affects their employees' job performance or don't know how to help them effectively. Others are aware of the problem,

but don't feel that business should play a role in addressing it.

A survey of Fortune 1000 companies, conducted for Liz Claiborne, Inc. in 1994, found that:

--4 out of 10 corporate leaders surveyed were personally aware of employees in their companies who have been affected by domestic violence;

--nearly half (49 percent) said that domestic violence had a harmful effect on their company's productivity;

--forty-seven percent said it had a harmful effect on attendance;

--forty-four percent said it had a harmful effect on health care costs;

--one-third believed domestic violence affected their balance sheet; and

--two-thirds agreed that a company's financial performance would benefit from addressing the issue of domestic violence among its employees.

Only 12 percent said that corporations should play a major role in addressing the issue. Yet, over half (58 percent) of the 100 senior executives who were interviewed sponsored domestic violence awareness or survivor support programs, and nearly three quarters offered domestic violence counseling or assistance programs. Forty-three percent said they would definitely respond to the problem in the future.

Some organizations have been pioneers in responding, and others are signing on.

For example:

--Polaroid Corporation has addressed the issue of domestic violence in a variety of ways over several years. In 1994, the President of Polaroid initiated the Chief Executive Officer's

Project, extending a charge to businesses large and small and corporations across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to collaborate with battered women's shelters. Businesses agree to provide training for their managers and supervisors and biannual luncheon seminars for employees, develop a family violence protocol for employees, and provide a shelter with in-kind services, volunteers, employees' professional expertise and/or corporate financial support. Shelters also agree to provide various forms of support.

--In 1991, Liz Claiborne initiated a public service campaign called "Women's Work." It seeks to educate the general public about domestic violence and raise corporate America's awareness of the need to deal with the problem. For its own employees, Liz Claiborne has a strong Employee Assistance Program that offers counseling and referrals. It also sponsors a series of family stress seminars during business hours.

--The CEO of Marshall's Department Store has volunteered at a shelter for battered women. The company has conducted a campaign to educate its own workers and has raised money for the Family Violence Prevention Fund's national public education campaign.

In 1995, the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor developed the *Working Women Count Honor Roll*, a program challenging businesses, nonprofits, unions, and state and local governments to initiate new programs or policies that make real, positive workplace change in the areas women say they need it the most. More than 1,300 organizations, public and private, large and small, pledged to institute changes affecting more than two million workers.

Both Polaroid and Marshall's have made *Working Women Count Honor Roll* pledges, as have several other organizations trying to

help victims of domestic violence. The following are some examples of these pledges:

--In 1995, the City of Tacoma, Washington initiated a broad-based domestic violence educational campaign targeted at its 180,000 citizens and 3,500 employees. The campaign included classes on the prevention of domestic violence, articles in the employee newsletter, the appointment of a committee of employees to recommend services for victims and their families, and the inclusion of information on domestic violence as an insert in all city resident utility bills.

--In 1995, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees/Service Employees International Union signed a collective bargaining agreement which gave the Commonwealth's 21,000 employees up to 10 days paid leave to attend necessary legal proceedings or activities in instances where the employee or his/her children is a victim of domestic abuse.

--The Bank of Boston Foundation is funding the Elizabeth Stone House, a battered women's shelter, to train residents to run small businesses.

Employers who wish to address domestic violence as a workplace issue will find a source of information and support in the National Workplace Resource Center on Domestic Violence, a project of the Family Violence Prevention Fund established in October 1995. Current initiatives of the Center include: a resource library of best corporate practices on domestic violence prevention; employee education materials; leadership of National Domestic Violence Workplace Education Day on October 1, 1996; and a Domestic Violence Advocacy Network, which can respond to members' requests for speakers, counselors, or legal experts.

Employers may also wish to contact their State's Occupational Safety and Health consultation program for help in recognizing and correcting workplace violence hazards and in improving their workplace security program.⁶

What Unions Can Do

Labor organizations can address and are addressing domestic violence at the workplace in a variety of ways. For example, they can:

--negotiate provisions in collective bargaining agreements for employee assistance services, paid legal assistance, and paid time off for family emergencies;

--sponsor workshops;

--produce and/or distribute publications and/or include articles on domestic violence in union newsletters;

--work with shelters (donate or help raise funds, support for funding, donate services, provide volunteers); and

--train stewards and union members.

Some of the publications on domestic violence produced by unions are listed in the resources section at the end of this publication.

What Employees Who Are Victims of Domestic Violence Can Do

Victims of domestic violence often feel isolated. But you don't have to face domestic violence alone. The following are some things you can do or that may be available to you:

♀ Call the nationwide, 24-hour, toll-free domestic violence hotline. The number is 1-800-799-SAFE and the TDD number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-787-3224. Callers can receive counseling and be referred directly to help in their communities, including emergency services and shelters.

♀ Create a safety plan to use at work and away from work. If you are being threatened at work, you can let your employer know of the threat. The employer should then take specific precautions to ensure your safety and the safety of other employees who may be at risk as a result of the threat. In California, under the Workplace Violence Safety Act, employers can seek a temporary restraining order and injunctive relief "on behalf of the employee" if the employee has suffered unlawful violence at the workplace or has received a credible threat of violence that could reasonably be carried out at the workplace.⁷

♀ If your place of employment has an Employee Assistance Program, contact an employee assistance counselor for counseling and referrals. Employee assistance programs are available to almost two-thirds (62 percent) of employees in medium and large private sector workplaces and one out of seven employees (15 percent) in small private sector workplaces.⁸

♀ Suggest that your employer address domestic violence. The National Workplace Resource Center on Domestic Violence has many materials that can help employers do that.

♀ If you are represented by a union, seek the union's help.

♀ Contact the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of the U.S. Department of Labor if your employer is not taking steps to ensure your safety at work. The Occupational Safety and Health Act requires employers to furnish their employees with a safe and healthful workplace. OSHA can supply information and guidance to businesses interested in making their workplaces safer.

♀ Contact your State occupational safety and health agency to see if and how they seek to prevent and address domestic and other forms of violence at work. In California, the Division

of Occupational Safety and Health has issued Guidelines for Workplace Security.

♀ You may be entitled to leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act if you are seriously injured as a result of domestic violence, and as a result have become incapacitated and unable to work. The Family and Medical Leave Act is enforced by the Wage-Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor.

♀ If you quit your job for reasons related to domestic violence, you may be able to obtain unemployment benefits. More than a quarter of the States permit award of benefits to domestic violence victims.

Other laws, such as wrongful discharge laws and laws protecting employees who must miss work in order to testify in court may protect your employment.⁹

In Rhode Island, a 1996 law protects employees from discrimination, such as discharge, solely because they have sought or obtained a protective order.

Resources

Violence Against Women Office
U.S. Department of Justice
10th & Constitution Ave, NW, Room 5302
Washington, DC 20530
(202) 616-8894

National Workplace Resource Center on Domestic Violence
383 Rhode Island Street, Suite 304
San Francisco, CA 94103-5133
(415)252-8900

The Impact of Violence in the Lives of Working Women: Creating Solutions - Creating Change (1996)

NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund
99 Hudson Street
New York, NY 10013
(212)925-6635

Domestic Violence. An AFSCME Guide for Union Action

Director, Women's Rights Department
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
1625 L Street, NW
Washington, DC
(202)429-5090

Domestic Violence. A Guide for Union Action
(February 1996)

New York City Labor Union Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Cornell University/New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations
Metropolitan District Office
16 East 34th Street, 4th Floor
New York, New York 10016
(212)340-2810
Includes information on what unions can do, supporting a co-worker, and personal safety plans.

Domestic and Workplace Violence

United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC
1775 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-1598
(202)223-3111

"Sample Contract Language to Protect Workers from on-the-job Assault," in the factpack Assault On The Job. We Can Do Something About It! (1993)
Service Employees International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC
1313 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202)898-3200

ENDNOTES:

1. Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey, Bureau of Justice Statistics Special Report, August 1995.

2. Violence and Theft in the Workplace, Crime Data Brief, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, July 1994.

3. "Fewer Women Than Men Die of Work-Related Injuries, Data Show," in Fatal Workplace Injuries in 1994: A Collection of Data and Analysis, Report 908, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, July 1996.

4. New York Victim Services Agency Report on the Costs of Domestic Violence, 1987.

5. "Domestic Violence: An Occupational Impact Study," Domestic Violence Intervention Services, Inc., Tulsa, Oklahoma, July 27, 1992

6. John Howard, MD, JD, "State and Regulatory Approaches to Preventing Workplace Violence," in Occupational Medicine: State of the Art Reviews, Vol. 11, No. 2, April-June 1996, Philadelphia, Hanley & Belfus, Inc. Consultation Services for the Employer, OSHA 3047, 1995 (Revised), Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

7. John Howard, MD, JD, "State and Local Regulatory Approaches to Preventing Workplace Violence," in Occupational Medicine: State of the Art Reviews, Vol. 11, No. 2, April-June 1996, Philadelphia, Hanley & Belfus, Inc.

8. Employee Benefits in Medium and Large Private Establishment, 1993, Bulletin 2456, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, November 1994. Employee Benefits in Small Private Establishments, 1994, Bulletin 2475, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, April 1996.

9. Catherine K. Ruckelshaus, "Unemployment Compensation for Victims of Domestic Violence: An Important Link to Economic and Employment Security," in Clearinghouse Review, special issue 1996.

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Here is the latest on Domestic Violence:

- o Clinton Administration Accomplishments on Violence Against Women
- o President's statement on announcing DV hotline
- o **Bios of Hotline announcement participants**
- o DV Awareness Month Proc., Oct. 1996
- o Remarks by President from Oct. 2, 1995 DV event in White House
- o **Bios of Oct. 2, 1995 DV participants**
- o Letter to President from a participant from the Oct. 2, 1995 DV event
- o President's Oct. 14, 1995, DV radio address
- o Washington Post news article on President's DV radio address on Oct. 14, 1995
- o October 3, 1996, directive from President on Domestic Violence and welfare reform
- o Facts on Working Women: Domestic Violence -- A Workplace Issue

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SECTION: BUSINESS; Pg. C-7

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HEADLINE: Companies urged to help stop violence

BYLINE: Karen Brune Mathis, Times-Union senior business writer

BODY:

At least 60 Jacksonville employers can expect some words of wisdom and offers of assistance from Hubbard House Inc., a shelter for victims of domestic violence.

After all, those companies are victims of the crime as well.

Businesses nationwide lose more than \$ 4.5 billion a year from the consequences of domestic violence, including employee absenteeism, health-care costs, staff turnover and lower productivity, according to Hubbard House.

Hubbard House executives plan to send the local companies information about how to recognize and help their workers who are affected by the crime.

'We have an obligation to intervene,' said Bonnie Campbell, director of the U.S. Justice Department Violence Against Women Office.

Campbell recommended that employers educate their work force about domestic violence awareness, prevention and assistance and provide security for their staffs.

Moreover, employers can intervene and help the employee escape the situation, and should not ignore the signs of domestic violence.

'Your silence sounds like consent to me,' Campbell said.

Campbell was keynote speaker this week at the Barbara Ann Campbell Memorial Breakfast to benefit Hubbard House. About 1,000 people attended the breakfast, underwritten by U.S. Generating Co. and Gate Petroleum Co.

Barbara Ann Campbell, no relation to the keynote speaker, had worked at Gate before she was shot to death by her husband, who then killed himself.

Gate officials said that they hadn't known the woman was a battered wife, and would have assisted her had they been aware of the situation.

The 60 companies on Hubbard House's mailing list already have shown interest in domestic violence awareness by sponsoring corporate tables at the breakfast or providing other support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities.

Former Mayor Jake Godbold, whose wife is the sister of Barbara Ann Campbell, spoke highly of the corporate representatives who attended.

'So many times in Jacksonville, we send our money and we don't show,' Godbold said.

Hubbard House plans to send information and offers to provide seminars and awareness training to the companies, with the hope they take further steps to assist their work forces.

'For a small amount of money, they can really do a lot,' said Diane Clark manager of corporate education at Hubbard House.

For example, employers can put up posters and distribute literature educating workers about where to find help regarding domestic violence.

Clark said that State Farm Insurance Co. and Barnett Bank of Jacksonville already are involved in domestic violence awareness issues and sponsor corporate education programs.

Clark and the Justice Department official both emphasized yesterday that employers are on the front lines of witnessing the effects of domestic violence in the workplace.

Victims, the majority of them women, are known to miss work, be harassed on the job either in person or by telephone, worry about their personal safety and the welfare of their children, suffer from bruises and other injuries, leave their jobs and face other effects.

Hubbard House also reported that nationally:

There are 13,000 acts of violence against women at work each year by husbands and boyfriends.

Homicide is the leading cause of on-the-job death for women.

Either by phone or in person, 74 percent of battered women are harassed at work.

One in five, or 20 percent, of battered women lose their jobs because of missing too much work.

An overwhelming majority, 94 percent, of corporate security directors rank domestic violence as a high security problem.

In Jacksonville, reports of domestic violence are on the rise. Last year, there were 7,833 reported abuses, compared with 6,975 in 1994 and 6,126 in 1993.

Through July this year, 4,813 cases were reported.

Hubbard House said that in half of the cases in which women are battered, the children are beaten as well.

Information Box:

HELPING VICTIMS

The Hubbard House Inc. domestic violence shelter advises companies to provide assistance for victims, including:

Put up posters condemning domestic violence and provide information for victims.

Distribute literature in employee lounges and restrooms regarding domestic violence awareness and prevention.

Provide training and awareness programs for supervisors and managers about how to respond when an employee is a victim or perpetrator of domestic violence.

Look for symptoms of domestic violence among employees and coworkers. Symptoms include unexplained or vaguely explained bruises or other injuries, distraction, absenteeism or tardiness and harassing phone calls.

Let suspected victims know help is available by offering the phone number for Hubbard House or other shelters in the area.

Check whether the company's employee assistance program includes domestic violence services or referrals.

Make sure security guards are trained to handle the special safety needs of battered women.

For information, companies can call Hubbard House in Jacksonville at 399-1000 or Quigley House in Orange Park at 284-0340.

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Omaha World Herald

October 6, 1996 Sunday SUNRISE EDITION

SECTION: BUSINESS; Pg. 1M

LENGTH: 842 words

HEADLINE: Violence at Home A Rising Concern For Employers

BYLINE: JOHN TAYLOR, WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

BODY:

Laura Blake was called a model employee by those who worked with her at Omaha's Lozier Corp. "Always at work, always pleasant," said Cathy Simmons, an employee development specialist at Lozier. "She was an employee who was on her way to succeeding and had been promoted to a supervisory position." On Sept. 29, 1991, the man with whom she had lived for five years shot and killed Ms. Blake and her 13-year-old daughter, Janesha Ayanna, in their home. He then drove to Robinson Memorial Church of God in Christ at 2318 N. 26th St., and killed himself.

It was learned later that Ms. Blake, fearing for her safety, several days earlier had sought a restraining order against the man, Roy McClarty.

The smile that her co-workers said they would remember her by apparently had concealed the turmoil in her domestic life.

"We had no idea she was in that situation," said Mrs. Simmons.

It was that experience that caused the Lozier company to take another look at how it was helping employees cope with similar domestic violence incidents.

"We had (an employee assistance program) for quite a while, but we really stepped it up after (the deaths)," Mrs. Simmons said.

Mrs. Simmons will be among those participating this week in various YWCA "Week Without Violence" programs during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

She will take part in a press conference at 9:30 a.m. Monday at the YWCA, along with James Hardeman, corporate manager of the employee assistance program of Polaroid Corp.; Kate Dear, director of employee assistance at the First National Bank of Omaha; and YWCA officials.

In a telephone interview from his office in Cambridge, Mass., Hardeman said, "The business community is some 25 to 30 years behind the whole movement of dealing with issues . . . of domestic violence in the workplace." His company, Polaroid, is considered a leader among corporations that offer specific programs for employees who have been subjected to domestic violence.

Omaha World Herald, October 6, 1996 Sunday

Among other things, in recent years Polaroid has annually donated \$ 42,000 a year to shelters for battered women in the Boston area and has trained its staff to recognize battered workers.

Hardeman said that domestic violence is a "bottom-line issue" - meaning that it has an impact on a corporation's financial performance and profits.

While there have been estimates that domestic violence costs companies as much as \$ 5 billion a year, Hardeman said he doubts there is "any true figure." No one really knows the actual loss to corporations from absenteeism, medical bills, retraining costs and lost productivity resulting from domestic violence, although it is sizable, he said.

Besides discussing what companies can do for employees subjected to domestic violence away from the job, Hardeman said he also will be talking about violence within the workplace. He will speak at 5 p.m. Monday at the Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge St. He said he became more active in dealing with violence between employees three years ago after a Polaroid employee took five hostages and threatened to shoot them.

"I was asked to talk him out of the building, and we had to have the police there," he said. "It was a very scary scene." Violence between employees on the job, however, happens less frequently than the kind of domestic violence that occurs outside the workplace, he said.

To deal more forcefully with domestic violence, the First National Bank created an employee assistance program about three years ago, said Ms. Dear, who heads the program.

Companies like First National have helped employees deal with problems like drug and alcohol addictions for some time, she said. Only in recent years have companies recognized the impact of domestic violence.

"I can't really quantify domestic violence cases, but I would say that I've seen more each year that we've had the program," she said. "I don't know whether that means there are more cases or more people are becoming more comfortable and reaching out for help." That assistance can take a number of forms, including trying to help a threatened employee feel safer at work or en route to and from work, she said.

For example, Ms. Dear said, if an abuser knows where an employee parks, "the security department might get involved by (helping the employee) make other parking arrangements." The bank also may permit an employee to take time during the work day to file for protection orders and to be available for any hearings, she said.

Mrs. Simmons said that Lozier has tried to increase its awareness of domestic violence problems to detect problems earlier.

"We recently had an employee who was in an abusive situation who no longer is in that situation because of the things that we've put in place now," she said.

"Part of working for a great company is to know that the company will take care of the employee and put things in place for them that can help them whether they are at home or at work."

8TH STORY of Focus printed in FULL format.

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The Washington Post

October 17, 1996, Thursday, Final Edition

SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A01

LENGTH: 1416 words

HEADLINE: No Place to Hide; For Abused Women, Isolation and Social Fabric Of
Rural Maryland Make Escape More Difficult

BYLINE: Jackie Spinner, Washington Post Staff Writer

BODY:

After two years of living with an abusive boyfriend in Calvert County, Yvonne Mott wanted out. She called a shelter, which would accept her if she found a way to get there. It was 12 miles away, and Mott didn't have a car.

Deborah Albrittain had two toddler daughters when her boyfriend started shoving her around the secluded farmhouse they shared in Charles County. She was miles from anybody who might have heard her cries for help and was afraid to run away with the children.

A clerk at Brenda Sauder's neighborhood grocery in Calvert County saw her bandaged face. The woman asked what had happened. "It's called domestic violence," Sauder replied. The clerk observed: " 'You must have made him awful mad,' " Sauder said.

The women, like countless others living in rural areas across the country, encountered the inherent hardships of getting away from a violent relationship in a place where it isn't so easy to get away.

Although battered women find it hard to leave an abusive relationship regardless of where they live, rural communities have extra barriers: Southern Maryland, for example, has no mass transportation, and many battered women there are isolated, without a telephone or car and miles from a neighbor.

Too, they live in a culture that often expects a woman to keep family business private. Social connections interwine so much that women are afraid to come forward.

"It's much more dangerous in a spread-out community," said Eileen Clancy, family service coordinator for Walden/Sierra Inc., which coordinates many of the domestic violence programs for St. Mary's County. "You can't get lost in the crowd and be anonymous. There are a lot of very large, extensive problems we have dealing with domestic abuse in a rural community."

Every time one 38-year-old woman tried to flee, her abusive husband tracked her down and coaxed her back to their home with I-love-yous and I'm-sorrys. St. Mary's County, where she and her husband were raising a daughter, is small enough and rural enough that she simply could not disappear.

"Everybody knows everybody, and anywhere that I went, he found me," she said. "I went to church, he found me. I got an apartment, he found me. I wasn't even comfortable going to the grocery store because everybody knew me."

The woman, who asked that her name not be used because she is afraid of provoking her ex-husband, eventually had to move to a neighboring county to get away from the man who, she said, punched her, pushed her down the stairs and threatened her with a knife during their four-year, four-month marriage.

Annette Gilbert-Jackson, director of Charles County's Center for Abused Persons, recalled one battered wife who spoke out at a domestic violence vigil in the county and incensed her relatives.

"People in her family got very angry," Gilbert-Jackson said. "They didn't want her putting their personal information out in the public to get spread across the county."

Gilbert-Jackson said raising awareness about domestic violence has been a chore in Charles County.

"It's getting a little better, but people don't want to hear about it," she said. "They think we are some radical feminist group. The school board doesn't want us to talk about it in the schools. We are supposed to keep quiet."

One of the largest hurdles for battered women in Southern Maryland is finding refuge. The counties have scarce affordable housing, few apartment complexes and limited shelter space.

"I wanted to leave, but I had no place I could afford to go," said Mott, 32, who has since moved in with another man because she could not afford her own place. "They told me it could be years before I could get into a housing program because the waiting list is so long."

Charles County has 12 beds for battered women in a wing of the region's shelter for the homeless in Hughesville. St. Mary's does not have a women's shelter and instead boards battered women in efficiency apartments and private homes. Calvert County operates Southern Maryland's lone women's shelter, which can take 14 women at a time. Mott stayed at the Calvert shelter for nine months after the police took her there.

Shelter space is even more sparse on Maryland's Eastern Shore, where one eight-bed domestic abuse shelter serves five counties.

"We have more animal shelters than domestic violence shelters down here," said Karen Greene, a client advocate for the Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence, which covers Kent, Queen Anne, Talbot, Caroline and Dorchester counties. "But just like the city, we deal with domestic violence every day."

According to the U.S. Justice Department, the rate of violence against women is roughly the same in urban and rural areas, although advocates say that such acts are more underreported in rural communities.

In 1995, the Calvert County sheriff's department took 480 reports of domestic

violence, the St. Mary's sheriff's department answered 788 domestic violence calls and Charles County, far more populous than the other Southern Maryland counties, responded to 3,706.

Albrittain, 36, whose boyfriend has custody of the couple's two young daughters, said many more of those battered women could be helped if more domestic violence services were available.

"They need housing, they need a shelter, they need more places to get help," she said. "There's not enough."

The size of the community further complicates the women's situation.

The location of the Calvert County shelter, called Safe Harbor, is supposed to be a secret to protect the women who live there. But Calvert has only 64,000 residents, and Allen Reynolds, Safe Harbor's director, said everyone in the county knows where it is.

"It's supposed to be a hidden place, a secret, but it's not," Reynolds said. "It's one of the problems you have in a small county."

Confidentiality is another. The communities are so small that volunteers who answer the domestic violence hot lines are likely to know callers. Many rural residents have police scanner radios and listen to the calls for assistance. They hear the names of the domestic violence victims and quite often know them.

"Confidentiality is right out the window before the officer arrives on the scene," said Elaine Hughes, executive director of the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence, an advocacy group. "It's a serious problem."

Debra Bright, coordinator of Maryland's Violence Against Women Act program, said the intimacy of rural areas often dissuades women from filing charges against batterers.

"They may know all the players in the criminal justice system," she said.

One battered woman's call for help to the St. Mary's sheriff's department was answered by a deputy who was her husband's cousin.

In Charles County, of the 3,706 domestic violence calls for police assistance, 619 resulted in formal reports or complaints. Of the 788 domestic violence calls to which the St. Mary's sheriff's department responded, 253 resulted in formal reports or complaints.

The battered woman from St. Mary's said it hasn't been easy having to move out of the county, which was her home for 14 years. She still sees her ex-husband because he has visitation rights with their infant daughter.

She has not become an outspoken advocate against domestic violence, with her name out there for all to see. She pressed battery charges against her ex-husband, but they were dropped in a plea bargain in which he pleaded guilty of assaulting her college-age daughter from a previous marriage.

Because her ex-husband is prominent in St. Mary's and because he has rights

to visit their daughter, she is afraid he will retaliate against her through the child if he believes she is sullyng his name.

She said she wishes she could take a public stand because "you can't keep sweeping this under the carpet," but for now, it is enough that she got out herself.

"I lost a lot of me," she said. "I have to think of me now. I am far better than my husband thought of me. I am an okay person."

Preparing her daughter for weekend visits with the child's father, the woman has sewn purple ribbons to her clothing, a widely recognized sign of domestic violence awareness. A card about ending domestic violence is always in the baby's bag.

Here are telephone hot line numbers for victims of domestic abuse in Southern Maryland: St. Mary's County, 301-863-6661; Calvert County, 410-535-1121 or 301-855-1075; Charles County, 301-645-3336 or 301-645-3337.

GRAPHIC: Photo, robert a. reeder; Illustration, Brenda Sauder, of Calvert County, says of a broken nose: "I can go all day and forget this . . . and then I look in the mirror and see what everybody else does. I'm scarred for life." Women in Calvert County's Safe Harbor shelter create sketches and poems. The shelter's supposedly secret location is well known, its director says.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: October 17, 1996

Violence Against Women Act NEWS

Vol. IV Oct. 1996

A Message from Bonnie J. Campbell, Director of the Violence Against Women Office

October is *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*, and as I travel around the country I am heartened by what communities are doing to stop the violence. Unprecedented partnerships are forming among businesses, law enforcement, nonprofit groups, and agencies at every level of government in unified efforts to give shelter and support to vulnerable women and families.

Attention at the national level is also focused on ending domestic violence. Beginning October 1, with the sponsoring of an Information Fair for employees, the Justice Department has been working with other agencies, States, and communities to raise public awareness and understanding of this pervasive problem. The Department's Violence Against Women Office held an interagency meeting with key staff from Federal departments to discuss and coordinate their antiviolence strategies. The Violence Against Women Grants Office awarded more than \$137 million in S*T*O*P grant funds, encouraging States to pay particular attention to the problem of domestic violence among Native American, rural, and other groups of underserved women, as well as to what law enforcement can do to confront and reduce incidents of sexual assault and statutory rape.

The President signed into law more than half of a dozen pieces of legislation intended to increase Federal protection of women and children from violence and sexual assault. The new laws include an amendment to the welfare reform bill urging States to use their welfare dollars to help domestic violence victims. The Welfare Reform Act includes a provision that allows States the option of implementing temporary and "good cause" waivers of any welfare program requirements. The President has directed the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services to assist States in implementing this provision.

These steps are encouraging signs that the nation is working toward ending family violence. During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we should recognize not only how far we've come in the battle against domestic violence but that there is still much work ahead of us. Let this national observance be the first step into an awareness that lasts 12 months of the year. And let that result in the elimination once and for all of this malady that haunts so many of our families.

GUEST COLUMN

INTERFAITH BREAKFAST: A CALL TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

by Reverend Marie Fortune

Executive Director of the Center for Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence and Member of the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women

Religious leaders are in powerful positions to help women and families escape from violence. Domestic violence and sexual assault are notoriously underreported crimes, and, as religious leaders, we may be the only recourse a battered woman has. Perhaps fearing retribution from her abuser or feeling intimidated by the legal system or even shame over her predicament, a woman may be reluctant to turn to the police or social services for aid. We are often the only link connecting her with the help she so desperately needs. We can be both a safe haven for the abused and a first step toward accountability for the abuser.

But how do we reach out to victims of domestic violence? What do we say when a woman confides that her partner has physically, sexually, or emotionally abused her? How do we make it easier for victims to leave violent relationships and get the counseling and services that they--and their children--might need? How do we provide the spiritual support that is necessary for her healing?

Finding answers to these questions was the focus of the first national *Interfaith Breakfast: A Call to End Domestic Violence Against Women* sponsored jointly by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, and the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence. The national event was replicated in 100 communities throughout the country as local and regional interfaith groups met with violence prevention organizations in a unified showing of commitment to antiviolence efforts.

Attorney General Janet Reno was the guest of honor at the October 11 event in Washington, DC and spoke movingly of her career-long dedication to ending domestic violence. She offered examples of how Federal agencies have responded to the issue and urged participants to work together with the courts, law enforcement, social service groups, schools, and others in giving help and offering hope to those who suffer violence at home.

The Interfaith Breakfast brought religious leaders together in prayer and discussion of our roles and obligations in combatting domestic violence. There were 65 representatives from Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Roman Catholic, and Protestant traditions whose presence was a significant witness to the importance of voices from many religious traditions speaking out against violence against women. As the speakers made clear, none of our religious traditions is exempt from the problems of sexual and domestic violence. So we all have a job to do.

As religious leaders, it is our job to ensure that no woman has to choose between the support of her religious community and her physical safety. It is our job to ensure that if a woman seeks the help of her religious leader, she will find a safe resource who is well-informed and prepared to be her advocate. It is our job to ensure that our doctrines, teachings, and scripture not be misused and distorted to excuse or justify the harm that has been done to her. If we do our job and work cooperatively with our secular colleagues, victims of sexual and domestic violence will find the help they need to resist the violence and find healing.

Events like the Interfaith Breakfasts help us renew our commitments and organize our efforts.

A COMMUNITY CHECKLIST: IMPORTANT STEPS TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

by the Advisory Council on Violence Against Women

Beginning with this issue, *Violence Against Women Act News* will include a checklist of ideas for communities to use in combatting domestic violence. Each month's list will focus on a specific segment of the community. The following checklist identifies actions the religious community can take to end domestic violence. It was made available at the first national Interfaith Breakfast held October 11th in Washington, DC. A copy of the complete checklist is available electronically at: <http://www.usdoj.gov/vawo>.

CHECKLIST FOR THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

The religious community provides a safe haven for women and families in need. In addition, it exhorts society to share compassion and comfort with those afflicted by the tragedy of domestic violence. Leaders of the religious community have identified actions to share with the nation to create a unified response to violence against women.

✓ Become a Safe Place. Make your church, temple, mosque or synagogue a safe place where victims of domestic violence can come for help. Display brochures and posters which include the telephone number of the domestic violence and sexual assault programs in your area. Publicize the National Domestic Violence Hotline number, 1-800-799-SAFE(7233) or 800-787-3224(TDD).

✓ Educate the Congregation. Provide ways for members of the congregation to learn as much as they can about domestic and sexual violence. Routinely include information in monthly newsletters, on bulletin boards, and in marriage preparation classes. Sponsor educational

seminars on violence against women in your congregation.

✓ Speak Out. Speak out about domestic and sexual assault from the pulpit. As a faith leader, you can have a powerful impact on peoples' attitudes and beliefs.

✓ Lead by Example. Volunteer. Volunteer to serve on the board of directors at the local domestic violence/sexual assault program or attend a training to become a crisis volunteer.

✓ Offer Space. Offer meeting space for educational seminars or weekly support groups or serve as a supervised visitation site when parents need to visit safely with their children.

✓ Partner with Existing Resources. Include your local domestic violence/sexual assault program in donations and community service projects. Adopt a shelter for which your church, temple, mosque or synagogue provides material support, or provide similar support to families as they rebuild their lives following a shelter stay.

✓ Prepare to be a Resource. Do the theological and scriptural homework necessary to better understand and respond to family violence and receive training from professionals in the fields of sexual and domestic violence.

✓ Intervene. If you suspect violence is occurring in a relationship, speak to each member of the couple separately. Help the victim plan for safety. Let both individuals know of the community resources available to assist them. Do not attempt couples counseling.

✓ Support Professional Training. Encourage and support training and education for clergy and lay leaders, hospital chaplains, and seminary students to increase awareness about sexual and domestic violence.

✓ Address Internal Issues. Encourage continued efforts by religious institutions to address allegations of abuse by religious leaders to insure that religious leaders are a safe resource for victims and their children.

(Adapted in part from the Nebraska Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition and the Center for Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence, Seattle, WA)

ABA INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMISSION FOCUSES ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

by the American Bar Association

In November 1994, the American Bar Association (ABA) established a national commission to look at the problem of domestic violence and develop effective, multidisciplinary responses that communities can adopt. The commission brought together doctors, lawyers, judges, police officers, psychologists, and victim advocates from around the country. Following are summaries of commission projects:

♦ *The Impact of Domestic Violence on Your Legal Practice* is a 53-chapter lawyer's manual discussing the broad effects of domestic violence on various legal specialties, including family, criminal, tax, real property, and tort law. Copies are available by calling the ABA Service Center at 1-800-285-2221.

♦ *It's Not O.K.: Let's Talk About Domestic Violence* videotape was developed in partnership with the Walt Disney Company for professionals working with children who witness domestic violence. The 25-minute videotape is available from the ABA Service Center (1-800-285-2221) and may be useful for advocates, judges, law enforcement, social workers, psychologists, and others working with children witnesses.

♦ *A multidisciplinary guide for developing coordinated community responses* is currently under production. Intended for corporations, lawyers, doctors, religious community members, and nonprofit organizations, the document will be introduced to the public on the World Wide Web at the 1996 Annual Meeting.

♦ *A technical assistance and continuing legal education video* is being developed by the Commission in conjunction with the ABA Center for Pro Bono work, the ABA Center for Continuing Legal Education, and the USDOJ Office of Justice Programs. Designed for attorneys, law enforcement, prosecutors, and victims advocates, the video will highlight significant new provisions under the Violence Against Women Act.

♦ *Regional Conferences on family violence* cosponsored by the U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services and the American Medical Association will examine child abuse issues, sexual assault, domestic violence, and elder abuse.

Other issues of national scope under study include insurance discrimination against victims of domestic violence, interstate enforcement of protection orders, domestic violence in the sports community and in the workplace, and domestic violence curricula for law schools.

LENDING A HELPING HAND: TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

*By Preet Kang
Violence Against Women Grants Office
Office of Justice Programs*

Caran Curry, Prosecutor Coordinator for Victim Services in Arkansas, had heard people talk about having the criminal justice system take a coordinated approach to addressing domestic violence, but she wasn't sure it was possible. "I really didn't get the picture until I saw it for myself," Curry said of her site visit to Quincy, MA. "It really does work. It was fascinating to see how everybody worked with the victim. Each component of the criminal justice process was involved. I came away from Quincy with renewed vigor to see what we could do in Arkansas."

Curry's site visit to Quincy was made possible through a cooperative agreement awarded to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence by the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Violence Against Women Grants Office to enhance the implementation of the Violence Against Women Program in the States. The Coalition provides ongoing, in-depth training and technical assistance to States and their subgrantees to design and implement strong programs to counter violence against women.

These technical assistance grants enable police officers, prosecutors, judges, victim assistance

providers, and others on the frontlines of this issue to receive training, education, and support to help strengthen their domestic violence programs. For instance, a number of police groups received funds to educate police leaders about the Violence Against Women Act and to formulate a curriculum for training police officers and increasing their understanding of domestic violence issues.

Similarly, OJP awarded almost \$370,000 to the American Prosecutors Research Institute to develop workshops for local prosecutors committed to exploring and implementing effective policies for investigating and prosecuting crimes of violence against women. Through these workshops, prosecutors will have a chance to learn from their peers, as well as other professionals, about overcoming challenges to successful prosecutions of domestic violence cases and designing action plans for implementing changes in their offices.

Also, OJP and the State Justice Institute are jointly sponsoring a training and technical assistance grant to the Family Violence Prevention Fund to conduct three video teleconferences on domestic violence to assist judges in handling domestic violence.

Other technical assistance efforts under development include the following:

- ♦ training sessions for judges across the country addressing the judicial response to sexual assault.

STATES TO RECEIVE \$132 MILLION IN S*T*O*P GRANTS

The Violence Against Women Grants Office will award States and U.S. territories more than \$132 million for domestic violence shelters, rape crises centers, hotlines, victim advocates, and training and specialized law enforcement and prosecutors units. Funds are available under the S*T*O*P Violence Against Women formula grant program. Now in its third year the STOP program will give each State and territory \$500,000 in FY 97 funds plus additional money based on population. More information about STOP and other antiviolence efforts is available electronically at <http://www.usdoj.gov/vawo>.

♦ workshops addressing the problem of police officers who batter their partners. The project will identify the extent of the problem, develop strategies for reducing the number of incidents of domestic violence involving police officers, and promote implementation of these strategies in law enforcement agencies around the country.

LEGISLATIVE WRAP UP

By Kathleen O'Connell
Violence Against Women Office

The 104th Congress adjourned October 1, but not without passing, and the President signing, several key pieces of legislation to broaden Federal legal protection for women and children.

Among the bills passed this summer is the *Interstate Stalking Punishment Act of 1996*, which amends the Defense Department's spending authorization, making it a Federal crime to stalk or harass someone across State lines or within special maritime and territorial jurisdictions of the United States regardless of whether the stalker has committed an act of violence, is the spouse or intimate of the victim, or is under a court order of protection.

The new law sets penalties from up to 5 years in prison for harassment to life in prison for certain bodily injury.

Another bill to come through Congress this session also provides a corrective amendment to existing law. The *Carjacking Correction Act* amends the Federal carjacking statute to include rape in the legal definition of serious bodily injury.

The House and Senate also moved to strengthen protection from convicted sexual abusers. An amendment to the *Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act* now requires States to notify local law enforcement and citizens when a sex offender is released into the community. The new provision is referred to as Megan's Law after a 7-year-old New Jersey girl who had been brutally raped and murdered by a convicted sex offender who had

moved in across the street from her family. The Jacob Wetterling Act provides States financial incentives to adopt registration systems for convicted child molesters and other offenders.

A related measure passed by the 104th Congress requires the Attorney General to set up a national registry of sex offenders in the FBI. The *Pam Lychner Sexual Offender Tracking and Registration Act* will give law enforcement access to information about such offenders from any State or U.S. territory. (For more information about the registry, see *Violence Against Women Act News*, September 1996.)

The President also signed into law legislation prohibiting anyone convicted of a misdemeanor domestic violence charge from owning or possessing a gun; a bill to enhance penalties for using the drug, Rohypnol, with criminal intent; and the *Health Insurance Portability Act* to restrict certain insurers from denying coverage for preexisting conditions, including conditions linked to domestic violence.

Any part or all of this newsletter may be reproduced without restrictions. To subscribe for fax copies of the newsletter, please send us a fax of your name, the name of your organization, address, e-mail address, and telephone and fax numbers. The Violence Against Women Office fax number is 202-307- 3911. More information about the Office is available electronically at <http://www.usdoj.gov/vawo>.

Yes, I would like to receive fax copies of the Violence Against Women Act News. My name, organization, address, and telephone and fax numbers are

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL.AND FAX: _____

Violence Against Women Act NEWS

Vol. III Sept. 1996

A Message from Bonnie J. Campbell, Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs

August heat didn't slow the pace of activity at the Violence Against Women Office (VAWA) and the work of the Administration this summer to help safeguard the welfare of American women and families.

Speaking from Columbus, Ohio the President announced his strong support for federal legislation that would keep guns out of the hands of all batterers. And in one of his weekly radio addresses, the President made public the FBI's establishment of a national sex offender registry that will enable law enforcement to know almost instantaneously whether and where a sex offender has registered.

These key initiatives add significantly to the progress achieved already in combatting domestic violence and sexual assault and abuse. Currently, under provisions of the 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, a person subject to a domestic violence protection order is prohibited from possessing a firearm. And under the 1968 federal firearms statute, a person convicted of a felony charge may not possess a firearm. Now the President has made clear that anyone convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence should also be barred from having a gun.

The national sex offender registry builds on the success of the Jacob Wetterling Act, which is also a part of the 1994 Crime Act. States have begun developing and improving registry systems of sex offenders; with the national system law enforcement can share this information from state to state.

Also in August, the Office of Justice Programs awarded nearly all of the 1996 STOP Violence Against Women grants; \$130 million was made available for police, prosecution, prevention and victims services.

The Office of Justice Programs made these awards quickly (employing friendly applications and staff consultation) to states during the application process.

Looking back on the successes of last month, I am happily anticipating a very full and eventful autumn, as we work toward *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month* in October. Much has been accomplished and we head into the coming months with great optimism and a full schedule.

GUEST COLUMN

REACHING OUT

By Esta Soler

Executive Director of the Family Violence Prevention Fund and Member of the Advisory Council on Violence Against Women

For 3 years, the Family Violence Prevention Fund (the FUND) in San Francisco has been educating Americans about the terrible harm caused by domestic violence and encouraging people to get involved in efforts to prevent this devastating epidemic. We have mounted the *There's No Excuse for Domestic Violence* campaign and trained professionals in health care, child welfare, law and criminal justice.

More and more, Americans recognize that family violence is not a private matter--in some way it affects every community, every business and every one of us. More now than at any time in the past, people are looking for solutions--for how they can prevent and reduce battering.

With this in mind, the FUND is reaching out to a new group--the business community--launching *Workplace Education Day 1996*, which will feature large and small employers, labor unions, government agencies and media joining together to educate their employees and members.

Scheduled for October 1, *Workplace Education Day 1996* will kick off National Domestic Violence

Awareness Month. The FUND is asking employers and unions to offer support to employees who are abused and to provide information on how everyone can prevent domestic violence. Among those already committed to participate are The Gap, Kaiser Permanente, Marshalls, Inc., Polaroid, Wells Fargo Bank, the American Bar Association, American Federation of State and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice. Governors Mike Lowry of Washington and Lawton Chiles of Florida will announce educational programs for their state employees.

Employers and unions will put on special programs and distribute materials discussing domestic violence and how to address it. At seminars, brown bag lunches and meetings featuring domestic violence survivors and CEOs, business, labor and government leaders will declare: "There's no excuse for domestic violence, and we *all* have to be a part of the solution."

Workplace Education Day 1996 is a project of the National Workplace Resource Center on Domestic Violence, created by the FUND last fall to engage employers and unions in addressing this violence at work and to encourage them to become active in preventing abuse. Already, 19 national companies, labor unions and trade associations have joined the Center to develop model policies and benefits for employees who face abuse.

Businesses and government workplaces are increasingly realizing that this violence exacts a heavy toll. The impact is felt in increased health care costs, reduced productivity, higher rates of absenteeism and turnover and a greater risk of workplace violence, which can generate legal liability. A recent study by the National Institute of Justice estimates that domestic violence accounts for almost 15 percent of total crime costs--\$67 billion per year. Employers pay a large share of these costs, primarily through higher health insurance bills.

The fact that 99 percent of American women work for pay at some point in their lives means that most battered women are working women. For many, work is no sanctuary because stalking, threats and violence follow them on the job. The news media often carry reports of women killed at work by

abusive husbands or boyfriends. The U.S. Justice Department estimates that in 60,000 incidents of on-the-job violence each year, the victims know their attackers intimately.

Please join us on October 1. Just think: reaching out to a friend at work whom you suspect is being beaten could save her and her children's lives. If you are in business, labor or government and want to learn how to participate in *Workplace Education Day 1996*, contact Donna Norton at the FUND (415-252-8900 ext. 25). If you are working in a domestic violence agency and want to learn how to encourage local employers to get involved, contact Kelly Mitchell-Clark at the FUND (ext. 47).

COMMUNITY POLICING TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

*By Charles Miller, Press Secretary
Community Oriented Policing Services Office*

Late last year, Attorney General Janet Reno announced a new initiative that would put the issue of domestic violence on the front burner of American law enforcement. The Community Policing to Combat Domestic Violence Program, a funding initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), encourages police and sheriffs' departments to form partnerships with advocacy organizations in the effort to reduce domestic violence.

Through this new initiative, law enforcement agencies were called on to partner with nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services programs, domestic violence shelters or community service groups. The response was so overwhelming that the original \$10 million allocated for funding was increased to \$46 million. Three hundred thirty-four agencies paired with advocacy groups in all 50 states received grants.

COPS funds will support many innovative ideas that have been proposed. For instance, the San Diego Police Department and Domestic Violence Services of the YWCA of San Diego County will develop a Community Domestic Violence Resource Network, including a toll-free telephone clearinghouse of information on all services available throughout the area in emergency and nonemergency domestic violence situations.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe Safety Commission, along with Project Medicine Wheel in South Dakota, are developing a new protocol for police officer investigation and report writing to increase the strength of cases going to trial. In Akron, Ohio, the Police Division, in partnership with the Victim Assistance Program, will develop a court to specifically handle domestic violence cases.

In Alaska, the North Slope Borough of Alaska and the Arctic Slope Native Association, confronted with a remote area that covers nearly 90,000 square miles, will seek a way to provide services to domestic violence victims.

In Hawaii, the Honolulu Police Department, with its partners, Parent and Children Together and Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, will create a "one-stop" Drop-In Center to assist victims of domestic violence in a non-threatening environment. The Center will provide victims with on-site crisis assistance, counseling, legal assistance and child care while parents attend court. The department will have a detective on site, allowing for close cooperation between victim advocates and police in preliminary stages of an investigation.

These innovative ideas to reduce and curtail domestic abuse are as numerous as the departments that applied for these grants. It is believed that as a result of this program, successful and long-lasting partnerships will be formed between law enforcement agencies and advocacy groups.

With department by department successes, the wealth of knowledge gleaned from these projects will be shared throughout the country, helping to curb domestic violence and improve services to victims nationwide.

THE NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

by Joan Silverstein

Assistant Associate Attorney General

On August 24, 1996 President Clinton announced in his radio address a plan for a national sex offender registry. The registry, operated by the FBI, will enable law enforcement to quickly determine whether an individual has been convicted of a sex offense in any state in the country. The

plan was developed by the Attorney General as directed by the President and builds on progress made by the 1994 Jacob Wetterling Act and Megan's Law to protect our neighborhoods and communities from sex offenders and child molesters. The interim registry has two basic components:

- A centralized database at the FBI where existing criminal history records are flagged to identify whether an individual is a registered sex offender and where the individual is registered; and
- The National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), a computer-based link that will enable states to access and retrieve information from other states about registered sex offenders.

Law enforcement can use the centralized database to identify in a single, national search where an individual is registered and, through NLETS, can immediately access vital information about that individual from the indicated state registry.

The registry will be both efficient and cost-effective because it combines existing data already collected by state and federal agencies to track sex offenders. It will be operating in 6 months although states will be able to communicate through NLETS by November.

The registry announced by the President is an interim measure that will fill a critical role until a permanent National Sex Offender Registry file is in place with the FBI by mid-1999. When fully completed in mid-1999, the permanent registry will include state-of-the-art identification techniques, such as an indication of DNA availability, fingerprint matching and mugshots, which will be invaluable in tracking offenders.

Ultimately, the successful tracking of sex offenders and child molesters, and the prevention of future sex crimes, calls for a commitment from law enforcement at every level to work together and share information. Maintaining a reliable and centralized national sex offender registry is one step forward. In addition, states should be encouraged to do the following:

- Issue arrest warrants for offenders whose addresses cannot be verified or who fail to comply

with state registration requirements;

- Require submission of DNA samples as part of the state registration process, which will help significantly in the investigation of rape and serial rape cases where the suspect is unknown; and
- Work together to develop agreements for interstate sharing and disclosure of sex offender registry information to ensure public safety.

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Domestic Violence Offenders

*By Elizabeth Hyman
Violence Against Women Office
Office of Justice Programs*

Recognizing an important gap in the protection of battered women, President Clinton announced his support for legislation to prevent batterers and abusers from possessing firearms. Speaking from the Columbus Ohio Police Academy on August 26, the President said

"I believe strongly in the right of Americans to own guns. I have used them as a hunter with great joy. But make no mistake, those who threaten the safety of others do not deserve our trust. If you're convicted of felony, you shouldn't have one. If you're a fugitive from the law, you shouldn't have a gun. If you're stalking or harassing women or children, you shouldn't have a gun. And if you commit an act of violence against your spouse or child, you shouldn't have a gun."

In 1994, there were 88,500 incidents of domestic violence where a firearm was present. Moreover, responding to these calls has been deadly business for law enforcement. From 1985 to 1994, there were 65 law enforcement officers killed when they responded to family quarrels, and 9 out of 10 of those deaths resulted from firearms. The connection between guns and domestic violence can have dangerous, even deadly consequences.

Many individuals convicted of crimes of domestic violence are not covered by existing firearm law. It is estimated that the vast majority of domestic violence cases are misdemeanors and not felonies, and are therefore not an included category under the 1968 federal firearms statute. The result is that

these offenders are still free under federal law to possess a firearm.

Senator Lautenberg (D-NJ) and Representative Torricelli (D-NJ) have been pushing for legislation that would prohibit those convicted of any domestic violence offense--misdemeanor or felony--from owning or possessing a firearm. The bill introduced by Senator Lautenberg passed the Senate unanimously this past July. Thus far, similar legislation has not been passed in the House.

That is why President Clinton called on Congress to disarm domestic violence offenders and pass legislation like the Lautenberg Bill. The President's announcement represents another significant step in the effort to reduce domestic violence in this country.

Rape and sexual assault crimes dropped for the third year in a row according to the Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). BJS's national survey of 100,000 people found there were 56 thousand fewer rapes and 22 thousand fewer sexual assaults in 1995. The drop in rape/sexual assault crimes is part of a 9 percent decline overall in violent crimes committed in 1995. For more information contact the BJS clearinghouse at 1-800-732-3277.

As always, please feel free to reproduce this newsletter or any portion of it. Additionally, to receive the newsletter by fax, fax your name, organization, address, e-mail address, phone and fax numbers to the Violence Against Women Office at 202-307-3911. Thank you!

Sex Offender Registration and Community Notification

On July 29, 1994, a seven-year-old New Jersey girl, Megan Kanka, was sexually assaulted and murdered by a twice-convicted sex offender who moved in across the street from her family. Promising to show her his new puppy, the defendant lured Megan to his home and subsequently raped and killed her. Her body was later found nearby. At the time, there were no state law provisions for notifying local law enforcement or the community concerning a sex offender's criminal history or presence in the neighborhood.

The Provision

The Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act provides states with a financial incentive to adopt effective registration systems for convicted child molesters and other persons convicted of sexually violent crimes. As amended by Megan's Law, the Act now requires community notification concerning the release of registered offenders when necessary to protect the public. In August 1996, the Attorney General submitted a plan to the President for a national sex offender registry that builds upon the state-level registration systems.

The Impact

All states have some form of sex offender registration system, but not all have community notification programs, and relatively few regularly verify an offender's address. The Jacob Wetterling Act and guidelines provide minimum national standards for effective state registration and notification systems.

In general, registration systems help the investigation of sex crimes by informing the authorities of the identities and whereabouts of convicted sex offenders. These systems may also inhibit offenders -- who know that the authorities know who they are and where they are -- from committing additional crimes. Community notification enables communities to take common sense measures to protect themselves and their families, such as ensuring that their children do not associate or visit with known child molesters.

The national sex offender registry will facilitate communication among the states about convicted sex offenders by permitting law enforcement at every level to have immediate access to information about all registered offenders nationwide. By mid-1999, the FBI will establish a National Sex Offender Registry File, which will have state of the art identification techniques, including fingerprint matching and mugshots.

The Success

The Department of Justice is assisting states in both enacting and defending their sex offender registration and notification laws. The Department of Justice published final guidelines for state registration systems on April 4, 1996. Guidelines to implement Megan's Law will be issued in the near future.

The Department of Justice also has participated in state and federal litigation defending the validity of several states' sex offender registration and notification systems. To date, the Department has filed "friend of the court" briefs in cases in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, and Washington State, and has provided support to state attorneys and court officers in several other states.

The Future

The Department of Justice will continue to work with the states to help them comply with the Wetterling Act by adopting conforming registration and notification systems. The Department also will continue to participate in litigation defending the constitutionality of state registration and notification systems.



Washington, D.C. 20530

**U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
SELECTED STATISTICS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

- ♦ Women were attacked seven times more often by offenders with whom they had an intimate relationship than were male violence victims.
- ♦ Women experienced over 1,000,000 violent victimizations per year committed by an intimate, compared to approximately 143,000 incidents per year committed against men.
- ♦ Women are more likely to be injured in violent incidents committed by intimates than in incidents committed by strangers.
- ♦ Nearly 30 percent of all female homicide victims were known to have been killed by their husbands, former husbands or boyfriends. In contrast, just over 3 percent of male homicide victims were known to have been killed by their wives, former wives or girlfriends.
- ♦ Husbands, former husbands, boyfriends and ex-boyfriends committed 26 percent of rapes and sexual assaults.
- ♦ Forty-five percent of all violent attacks against female victims 12 years old and older by multiple offenders involve offenders they know.
- ♦ The rate of intimate-offender attacks on women separated from their husbands was about three times higher than that of divorced women and about 25 times higher than that of married women.
- ♦ Women of all races were equally vulnerable to attacks by intimates. However, women in families with incomes below \$10,000 per year were more likely than other women to be violently attacked by an intimate.

Sources: *BJS, Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesignated Survey, August 1995*
BJS, Violence Between Intimates, November 1994

OCTOBER 1, 1996



Washington, D.C. 20530

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Women were victims of violent crime 4.2 million times in 1995, and most of these crimes were committed by someone they knew.

Source: Department of Justice
National Crime Victimization Survey

On September 13, 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Violence Against Women Act, landmark legislation that combines tough new sanctions with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims of violence.

FIGHTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act, Pub. L. No. 103-322, 108 Stat. 1902-1955 (1994), passed as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The Act takes a comprehensive approach to domestic violence and sexual assault, combining a broad array of legal and practical reforms.
- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act encourages better responses to domestic violence from police, prosecutors, and judges; forces sex offenders to pay restitution to their victims; increases funding for battered women's shelters; and provides for interstate enforcement of protection orders.

THE LAW WORKS FOR VICTIMS

- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act protects battered women who move across state lines. The Act establishes the nationwide enforcement of protection of abuse orders entered in any court and provides penalties for crossing state lines to abuse a spouse or violate a protection order. Now, when it is appropriate, Federal, state, and local prosecutors can work together to determine who can bring the most effective prosecutions. As of September 1996, 20 Federal cases had been brought under Federal criminal provisions of the Act.

- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act bans firearm possession by abusers who are under protection orders. As of September 1996, three Federal cases have been brought under this provision of the Act.
- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act established a Federal cause of action for gender-motivated violence. Victims of a felony crime of violence motivated at least in part by gender may bring a civil suit for damages or equitable relief in Federal or state court.
- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act enhances and protects the rights of crime victims. Among other provisions, the new law strengthens restitution orders and extends the "rape shield law" to protect victims from intrusive inquiries regarding their private sexual conduct.

THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

- ◆ The National Domestic Violence Hotline is one solution that promises to reach every community in the nation. A critical component of the Violence Against Women Act, this nationwide, 24-hour, toll-free hotline will serve as a lifeline to victims of domestic violence across the country, providing local referral information to victims in need. It was announced by President Clinton on February 21, 1996.
- ◆ From its opening through May 31, 1996, NDVH advocates have answered 42,285 calls for help from residents of the 50 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Hotline's toll-free numbers are **1-800-799-SAFE or 1-800-787-3224 (TDD)**.

FUNDING TO THE STATES

- ◆ In FY 95, the Department of Justice S*T*O*P Violence Against Women Grant Program (Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors) provided approximately \$26 million directly to states and Indian tribes as a first step in helping restructure the criminal justice system's response to crimes of violence against women. Through a streamlined application kit, \$426,346 was awarded to all 50 states and six territories in an expedited process.
- ◆ In FY 96, Congress appropriated \$130 million to continue the S.T.O.P. program. States are encouraged to build on their current efforts and to focus on projects that will strengthen intra- and interstate enforcement of protection orders; to develop innovative programs related to sexual assault and stalking; and to increase their emphasis on judicial education and court-related projects. Awards are planned by the end of August.
- ◆ In FY 96, Congress appropriated \$28 million for grants to Encourage Arrest Policies. This discretionary grant programs encourages States and localities to treat domestic violence as a serious violation of criminal law. This program is intended to promote

the implementation of mandatory or pro-arrest policies relating to domestic violence cases. Grants are to be awarded to the states by September 30. No money was appropriated for this grant program in FY 95.

- ◆ In FY 96, Congress appropriated \$7 million for the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement grant program. This discretionary grant program is intended to support the establishment and expansion of cooperative efforts among law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim advocates, and other criminal justice practitioners and service providers involved in the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence and child abuse cases in rural jurisdictions. Grants are to be awarded to the states by September 30. No money was appropriated for this grant program in FY 95.
- ◆ In addition to the VAWA grants, the Department has announced \$46 million under the Community Oriented Policing to Combat Domestic Violence grant program. These grants were developed in response to the real needs expressed by law enforcement officers, many of whom report that domestic violence incidents are the most dangerous and difficult encounters they experience on the job. The response to this program by police departments has been overwhelming -- over 700 agencies applied for assistance. 336 police departments, working in partnership with victim advocates and others in their community, will receive funding to develop domestic violence programs that utilize the proven techniques of community policing.

STEPS ALONG THE WAY...

- ◆ On March 21, 1995, the President named Bonnie Campbell as Director of the Violence Against Women Office at the Department of Justice.
- ◆ Also on March 21, 1995, the President announced \$26 million in S*T*O*P grants to states to bolster their law enforcement, prosecution, and victims services to better address violence against women.
- ◆ On April 7, 1995, Attorney General Janet Reno signed Federal guidelines that should lead to laws in all 50 states requiring sexual offenders and child molesters to register with authorities. This will help state law enforcement agencies communicate with each other regarding sex offenders who cross state lines.
- ◆ On July 13, 1995, the Attorney General and Secretary Shalala announced the Advisory Council on Violence Against Women and held the first meeting of this group of 46 experts on the issue of violence against women.
- ◆ On July 27-29, 1995, the Department of Justice held the first ever Violence Against Women Grantee's Conference. Representatives from all 50 states and the territories attended the conference, where they exchanged stories of success and considered challenges in dealing with domestic violence in their communities and across state lines.

- ◆ On August 18, 1995, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala awarded \$1 million to the Texas Council on Family Violence to set up a hotline for victims of domestic violence. The hotline operates through the fifty states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.
- ◆ The Violence Against Women Act punishes domestic abusers who cross state lines. The first conviction under this new federal law took place on May 23, 1995 in West Virginia. On September 1, 1995, the defendant was sentenced to life in prison for interstate domestic violence and kidnapping.
- ◆ Bonnie Campbell attended the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing as a U.S. Delegate from September 1-15, 1995.
- ◆ On September 8, 1995, the Attorney General announced the Community Policing to Combat Domestic Violence Grant Program. This \$20 million grant program is the first of its kind. It is open to all state, local, Indian Tribal and other public and private law enforcement agencies committed to using community policing to address domestic violence. Police departments must partner with nonprofit, nongovernmental victim service programs, domestic violence shelters, or community service groups to apply for funding under this solicitation.
- ◆ On September 28, 1995, Bonnie Campbell convened the first meeting of the Interagency Working Group on Violence Against Women to examine what other components of the federal government are doing and what they can do to fight violence against women.
- ◆ On October 2, 1995 President Clinton signed a Presidential Proclamation declaring the month of October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and sent an Executive Memorandum to the heads of all executive departments and agencies to implement a Federal Employee Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign.
- ◆ On October 14, 1995 President Clinton used his weekly radio address as an opportunity to discuss the problem of domestic violence, noting that as a child he witnessed domestic violence firsthand.
- ◆ On October 30, 1995 the Department of Justice held a Violence Against Women Information Fair for its employees as part the Federal Employee Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign. The Fair included a self-defense demonstration, information booths by national and local organizations dealing with domestic violence and violence against women, artwork by survivors of domestic violence, and video presentations.
- ◆ On January 25, 1996 the Advisory Council on Violence Against Women held its second meeting. At that meeting the following subgroups made recommendations of initiatives to amplify messages about violence against women and to encourage a greater public awareness around the issue: *Media & Entertainment, Educational Institutions, the Religious Community, the Workplace, the Sports Industry, the Health Profession and Law Enforcement*. An eighth subgroup, *Primary and Secondary*

Education, was added at the recommendation of the Advisory Council because of the impact domestic violence has on children.

- ◆ Also on January 25, 1996, the Attorney General announced that the S.T.O.P Violence Against Women state plans of all 56 states and eligible territories have been approved signifying that all have received \$426,364 to improve prosecution, training and services to victims of violent crimes.
- ◆ On February 21, 1996, President Clinton announced the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-SAFE or 1-800-787-3224 (TDD). The Hotline is a nationwide, 24-hour, toll-free number. The hotline provides immediate crisis intervention assistance to those in need. To date, the hotline has received more than 42,000 calls.
- ◆ On May 15, 1996, the Attorney General testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the first year of the Violence Against Women Act and the Violence Against Women Office.
- ◆ In May, Congress took several steps to strengthen the Jacob Wetterling Act in passing the community notification requirement of Megan's Law, and on May 17, 1996, the President, who has always been supportive of Megan's Law, signed it into law.
- ◆ On May 24, 1996, the Department of Justice announced the availability of \$130 million in grant funding for the states to assist police, prosecutors, and victim service providers in combating domestic violence and sexual assault. The S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women formula grants were authorized by the Violence Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994.
- ◆ On May 28, 1996, the Department of Justice began distribution of a resource book, *Domestic Violence Awareness: What You Can Do*, to all of its 96,000 employees. This resource book is one of the steps in the Department's Violence Against Women Employee Awareness Campaign.
- ◆ On June 20, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) announced \$46 million to be awarded to 336 police departments. Working in partnership with victim advocates and others in their community. The funding will be used to develop domestic violence programs that utilize the proven techniques of community policing.
- ◆ On July 18, 1996, the Advisory Council on Violence Against Women met for the third time. The purpose of this meeting was review efforts made since the January meeting as well as to draft a *Community Checklist: Important Steps Communities Can Take to End Violence Against Women*. The checklist will be published in October 1996.
- ◆ In August 26, 1996 the President announced his support of legislation to prohibit anyone convicted of any crime of domestic violence--misdemeanor or felony--from owning and possessing a firearm.
- ◆ On September 20, 1996, Director Campbell convened a meeting of the Interagency Working Group on Violence Against Women to discuss what steps they are taking to prevent violence against women in the workforce.

- ◆ On September 21, 1996 the President announced that the FBI would set up a national registry of sex offenders to provide law enforcement agencies across the nation immediate access to information about where offenders live.
- ◆ On September 23, 1996, the President signed a bill that makes interstate stalking and harassment a Federal crime regardless of whether the stalker has committed an act of violence or subject victim had a court order of protection. It also sets penalties from up to 5 years in prison for harassment to life in prison for bodily injury.

September 24, 1996

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL
COVER SHEET

TO: Erica

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DATE: October 23, 1996

PAGES: 10, including cover

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

February 21, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE EVENT

The Roosevelt Room

12:38 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Candice. Thank you, Secretary Shalala. Thank you, Senator Kennedy, Senator Leahy, Representative Conyers. I want to thank Bonnie Campbell for doing such a great job as the Director of the Violence Against Women Office at the Justice Department. And I thank the Attorney General and Associate Attorney General John Schmidt and the others at Justice who have supported this endeavor for the first time. I want to thank you, Ellen Fisher, and your entire team for your hard work and your leadership. We are counting on you.

I want to thank all the brave women in this audience who have survived the horrors and the fears of domestic violence and who have gone on to work, like Candice, as advocates. And I want to thank the men and the women who are here today, some in law enforcement, some in other walks of life, who are here because they believe in this effort and they want to support it.

I was just sitting here thinking how many of you had the same reaction to Candice that I did. You sort of stepped up here and started talking, sounding like another ordinary speech -- I've done thousands of these now in the last 22 years -- and it was almost hypnotic, just a calm, even-voice narrative that seemed almost unbelievable except for those of you who have lived through it so often.

When I gave the State of the Union address and asked the American people to look beyond the present battle over the budget to the real challenges facing our country -- not just our government, but our country -- I pointed out that our first and foremost challenge now and perhaps forever will be to have good, strong families and to give childhood back to all the children in this country. Most of us have known the joys of -- some of the joys of family life. And anybody who's been in a family knows that none of them are perfect. But there's a world of difference between a family with its joys and its problems and a family terrorized by violence and abuse.

For all the economic problems facing poor children in America, I would rather them be poor and home with loving parents than have their childhood robbed by violence in their homes. So I say again to all of you, this is not a women's issue, this is an issue for families and for children and for men as well. And it is an American challenge that we have to face.

This issue has been swept under the rug for too long. We have tried to take it out into the daylight, to let people talk about it, to give people a chance to find courage in the efforts of other and to know where they can find help. That's what the Violence Against Women Act in the 1994 Crime Bill was all about. And again, I thank Bonnie Campbell and all those at Justice who have supported those endeavors.

It's also what our efforts in the Crime Bill to train people locally to be more sensitive to this are all about. We're making progress now. We're actually getting a core group of police officers and prosecutors and judges who really understand this problem and how it should be dealt with. This past September, federal prosecutors used the Violence Against Women Act to help ensure that a man convicted of severe violence against his wife was actually sentenced to life in prison. So I think that we need to continue this effort.

The second thing we need to do is to make sure that women who are struggling to take control of their own lives know how to do it. And for all the reasons that Secretary Shalala said, this number -- this hotline will make a difference to women everywhere, whether they're isolated in rural areas, whether they're in big cities without enough money for a quarter for a telephone call -- everywhere that people can see this number they will be able to use it.

So I guess what I'd like to do now is to wrap up my remarks and say that we're really, all of us here, for people who aren't here. And my greatest hope about this press conference is that people out there across America will see it tonight or hear about it, and if they are victims of domestic abuse or if they suspect that someone they know and care about is a victim of domestic abuse, they will pick up the phone and call this number -- 1-800-799-CARE.

SECRETARY SHALALA: SAFE.

THE PRESIDENT: SAFE, I mean. (Laughter.) I can't read. Maybe it will get overused and we'll have to have two. (Laughter.)

If this hotline -- if one person does this and it saves their lives, if one person winds up safe, it will have been worth the effort. But all of you in this room know that it's not one person, that there are thousands and thousands and thousands of people out there.

I'm going to be very interested to see what the report is after one month and two months and three months. And I'm going to ask to get a report -- how many calls, how many people out there, feeling alone and lonely and bereft and abandoned will dial that; how many people will commit to memory 799-SAFE and dial it. Because I believe that all of us, even those of you who are advocates, may well be surprised by the sheer numbers, the volume of calls.

So I ask you as you leave today to reaffirm our common commitment to an end to

domestic violence; to reaffirm our common commitment to saying to people, you must not raise your hand in violence against members of your family in your home; and to reaffirm our commitment to get this number everywhere. I want school children to know that there is a 1-800-799-SAFE. I want every police officer to know there's a 1-800-799-SAFE. I want every mayor to know it. I want every church leader to know it. I want it to be emblazoned in the synagogues and all the houses of worship in America. I want people to know this number. This is a way that we can bring the marvels of modern technology to solve a very old problem in a profoundly human way.

So, again, I say, I thank all of you for your efforts. As you know, it means a lot to me personally. But it will only count if everyone in America who needs to know this number, knows it; and if everybody who needs to know it, knows it and feels that they can use it; and then that the people on the other end of the line do their job. I'm convinced that people on the other end of the line will do their job. (Laughter.) And I'm convinced those of you who are out there in the fields will continue to do your job.

So I ask you to celebrate today, but remember, there's a lot of doctors and teachers and police officers and others that we need to gather into this great American family committed to doing away with this problem. I think -- I will say again, if we can do this, and then we can make some progress on the real issue, which is getting every man in America to make a personal pledge never to raise a hand in violence in the home, this is a problem that America has that can actually be solved. And I think all of you are going to hasten the day when we do it.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

Q -- a question on this topic, sir?

THE PRESIDENT: Okay.

Q Following up on what the speaker said, could you or your family or your mother have benefitted from a service like this when you were growing up, considering the problems that were in your household?

THE PRESIDENT: The honest answer is, I don't know. I think that -- I think yes because at that time in our country's history, most women were too embarrassed to talk about it. They didn't know that anybody else -- they didn't know if anybody else had the problem, and, if they did, they had no way of finding out who they were. And I think that the sense of shame, the ambivalence that maybe somehow this must be partly my fault, or this is my burden to bear, that this is not anything that I can get out of -- I think that's how it would have been most helpful.

I had a -- my mother was one of the most remarkably resilient and self-reliant people I knew, but I think she came of age at a time when women in America simply didn't know that there was any way out of this. And I bet you there's still a lot of women out there who just don't know that there's any way out of this. So I would think that would have been the most

important thing that would have helped us.

Thank you.

Q I wonder if you could just take a moment and speak to the fact that with the billions of women who are battered, those that are the least addressed are those that are deaf, and that there is also a TTD line --

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I'm sorry.

Q -- and maybe a special thank-you to Senator Kennedy for seeing that that happened. (Laughter and applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Would you like to say something about it?

That's the TTD line, and for the last couple of years we've done some things to point out what telephone technology is doing to bring communication to the deaf. And this TTD line is 1-800-787-3224.

I thank you for mentioning that. Thank you.

Thank you all.

(Applause.)

END

12:49 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 3, 1996

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH, 1996

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Domestic violence threatens the very core of what we hold dear. Millions of women and children throughout our nation are plagued by the terror of family violence each year, and approximately 20 percent of all hospital emergency room visits by women result from such violence. Family violence is a crime that transcends race, religion, ethnicity, and economic stature, and one of its greatest tragedies is its effect on our young people: as many as 3 million children witness violence in their homes each year.

We must never give up in our efforts to transform despair into hope for the women and families across this country who suffer violence at home. We must encourage all Americans to increase public awareness and understanding of domestic abuse as well as the needs of its victims. My Administration is fully engaged in this struggle, coordinating our efforts through the Violence Against Women Office at the Department of Justice and through the Department of Health and Human Services.

Legislation enacted during the past several years is also helping to overcome the scourge of domestic violence. The Violence Against Women Act that I signed into law has given law enforcement critical new tools with which to prosecute and punish criminals who intentionally prey upon women and children. The Interstate Stalking Punishment and Prevention Act of 1996, enacted just last month, makes it a Federal crime for any stalker to cross State lines to pursue a victim, whether or not there is a protection order in effect, whether or not an actual act of violence has been committed, and whether or not the stalker is the victim's spouse. And I am pleased that the Congress has just taken action to keep guns out of the hands of people with a history of domestic violence.

My Administration has also worked to increase the support available for battered women and other victims of domestic violence, including the elderly. In February, I announced the creation of a 24-hour, toll-free National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-SAFE. The response to this service has been overwhelming, and the hotline has already received over

50,000 calls -- the majority from women and men who have never before reached out for assistance. This year, we will also provide increased and unprecedented resources for battered women's shelters, domestic violence prevention efforts, and children's counseling services.

There is still much more to do, however. The welfare reform legislation that I recently signed recognizes the special needs of domestic violence victims, and I urge all States to accept the option of implementing the new law's Family Violence provisions. I have also directed the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice to develop guidance for States and assist them in implementing the provisions. As we help families move from welfare to work, we must ensure that they remain safe from violence in their homes and are given the support they need to achieve independence.

As a result of these and other efforts at the national, State, and local levels, we are one step closer to eliminating domestic violence and building in its place a brighter, more secure future for our families and loved ones. I salute all those whose efforts are helping us in this endeavor and pay special tribute to the survivors of domestic violence whose courage is an inspiration to us all. I urge all Americans to join me in working toward the day when no person raises a hand in violence against a family member.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 1996 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month by demonstrating their respect and gratitude for all those individuals who unselfishly share their experiences, skills, and talents with those affected by domestic violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-first.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 3, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE SIGNING OF THE ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION

The Rose Garden

9:23 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, thank you very much. Thank you very much Attorney General Reno, Secretary Rubin, Secretary Shalala, General McCaffrey, OMB Director Frank Raines, Undersecretary Kelly, our ATF Director John McGaw, Bonnie Campbell, Bob Scully and the board members of NAPO, to the families who are here represented that were mentioned by the Attorney General who have paid such a great price to serve our country in law enforcement, to the members of Congress who are here who supported this action in a completely bipartisan way, I thank you for being here: Senator Biden, Senator Graham, Senator Feinstein, Senator John Kerry, Senator Reid, Senator Specter, Senator Wellstone, Congressman Conyers, Congressman DeFazio, Congressman Fox, Congressman Frost, Congressman Luther, Congressman Studds. I thank you all for your active support of these initiatives and for your presence here today.

I would like to begin by saluting the brave men and women who are in law enforcement in the United States. Before this ceremony, I had the honor of meeting and presenting the annual "Top Cop" award to 25 law enforcement officials from around the country who have displayed heroism, devotion to duty and service to their communities that is truly extraordinary. That service is also on display in every community every day. Our police are at the center of our strategy as a nation for fighting crime, and today I think every American should give them thanks. So I would like to ask all of you to recognize those who have been awarded the "Top Cop" award behind us. (Applause.)

I would also like to say again a special word of thanks to Richard Hagerman and Donna Whitson, to the O'Hare and Alou families, and to Karen Degan and her family for their remarkable work to prove that representative government can still represent, can still actually respond to the legitimate needs and concerns of the citizens of this country.

This is a good day for America because we have seen a change in the attitudes of our

people, the actions of communities, and the work in Washington on the problem of crime. Today, after years and years of talking about the crime problem, we can actually see that we can say with a clear heart and a clear mind and absolute conviction to the American people, "There is something you can do about crime." We are getting results, and today we mark the passage of three more laws that further advance our anti-crime strategy.

Four years ago, we put in place an anti-crime strategy that was both tough and smart. It was eventually embodied in the 1994 Crime Bill. It has been behind all of our actions over the last three and a half years. We are on track to putting 100,000 new community police officers on the street, people who work with their neighbors to catch criminals, close crack houses, who work with citizens groups which we have also supported to prevent crime before it happens.

I am pleased that the Budget Bill I signed on Monday evening will keep moving forward on our promise to finish putting 100,000 police on the street. We have toughened penalties, made three strikes and you're out the law of the land, expanded the death penalty, said to drug dealers who prey on public housing, "One criminal conviction and you are out of public housing." We have said to sexual predators, "The law will follow you wherever you go," and we are working to establish a national registry for sexual predators to make absolutely sure that that is exactly what happens. We are taking guns off the street, banning 19 deadly assault weapons, passing the Brady Bill.

And we are giving our young people some things to say yes to as well: expanded anti-drug programs in our schools, encouragement to communities to enforce truancy laws, impose community curfews, introduce policies like school uniforms. All of these things will work to give our children a stronger sense of right and wrong and a greater capacity to do what is right.

This strategy, of course, is not ours alone. In fact, I would say to all those here -- especially to you, Senator Biden -- who helped us write the Crime Bill of 1994, what we have done in Washington is a reflection of what we have heard from the energy, the determination, and the activities of thousands and thousands of citizens and law enforcement officials all across this country where our police are taking back their streets, enlisting the active support of community watch groups, of parents, of businesses.

For four years in a row now, crime has come down in America. Murders are down, rapes are down, robberies are down, drug use is down. The rising tide of juvenile violence, which seemed poised to upend our progress, has finally begun to recede. There are one million fewer crime victims today than there were a year ago. Now we must press on. We must build on this strategy of putting more police on the street and taking criminals, drugs, and guns off the street. That is what these measures we mark today do.

First, earlier this week, Congress answered my call to expand on the proven success of the Brady Bill. When our police officers and crime victims were advocating the passage

of the Brady Bill and the assault weapons ban, those who opposed them told the nations hunters that Congress would take their guns away. Well, now we know. After two years, not a single hunter has been denied a weapon but 60,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers have been denied guns because of the Brady Bill. It was plainly the right thing to do. It has worked. (Applause.)

Until now, the Brady Bill has worked to bar felons from buying guns, handguns. Thousands of people, however, who are wife beaters or child abusers, even those who have wielded weapons in their assaults, could still buy handguns with potentially deadly consequences. There is no more harmful type of violence than this.

In August, I asked Congress to pass an extension of the Brady Bill to deny handguns to anyone convicted of domestic violence. I am pleased that the Congress enacted this important domestic violence law as part of the Budget Bill. It is a very fitting way to begin Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which I am proclaiming today. (Applause.)

Now, with a strong voice, America says: If you are convicted of a felony you should not have a gun. If you are a fugitive from the law, you should not have a gun. If you are stalking or harassing women or children you should not have a gun. And if you raise and commit an act of violence against your spouse or your child you should not have a gun. That is now the law of the land.

Second, I am very pleased that in the Budget Bill Congress passed more was done to help break the cycle of crime and drugs. Drug dealers with guns and criminals on drugs are central to our crime problem. Up to two-thirds of the adults arrested for felonies today have substance abuse problems. When criminals go on parole, and then they go back on drugs, chances are very high that they will commit new crimes. Now, listen to this -- I couldn't believe it when I learned this -- 60 percent, 60 percent, of the heroin and cocaine sold in our country is purchased by people on bail, on probation, or on parole. Seventy-five percent of the prisoners with a history of heroin or cocaine use are released, without treatment, to go back on drugs within three months and back to the cycle of crime and drugs.

Today, states often do not do much to drug test prisoners or parolees or take action to break them of their habit. Last month, I proposed legislation to do something about that. It requires states receiving federal prison funds to develop comprehensive drug testing and treatment programs for prisoners and parolees. And I am very, very pleased that the Congress passed this legislation. We say to inmates, "If you stay on drugs, you have to stay in jail." We say to parolees, "If you go back on drugs, then you have to go back to jail. If you want to stay on the street, stay off drugs."

I have asked the Attorney General to issue preliminary guidelines for the states to help them comply with this new law by the end of this year. I am pleased we are not wasting any time.

And again, let me thank the Congress for their prompt action on this problem. This has the potential to make a huge difference in the crime problem in America, as well as to liberate a lot of people from a drug abuse habit and enable them to go back to being responsible citizens, instead of just being in a revolving door, in and out of prison all their lives.

Finally, I'm pleased that Congress has passed important anti-drug legislation that I submitted last spring to deal with methamphetamine. Methamphetamine is a deadly drug that unfortunately is gaining popularity. In two years, deaths from this drug have doubled. Currently isolated in geographic pockets, its use now threatens to spread nationwide

With this legislation we increase penalties for trafficking in meth, toughen the penalties for trafficking in those chemicals used to produce meth, and give the Justice Department authority to regulate and seize those chemicals. I am particularly pleased that we are acting before this epidemic spreads. And I thank General McCaffrey and Attorney General Reno for their urgency in this matter. We have to stop meth before it becomes the crack of the 1990s, and this legislation gives us a chance to do it.

Again, let me say to General McCaffrey a thank you for your work and for holding two national forums on methamphetamine, one with Senator Feinstein in Southern California, and one with Senator Kerry in Nebraska, over the next few months.

All of these new laws will help us to fight crime, but we must recognize that more police and tougher penalties cannot fight crime alone. Parents have to teach their children to stay away from drugs and out of gangs and violence. Clergy, businesspeople, educators, all must do their part. We need more citizens out there patrolling the streets, and we are trying to generate another million volunteers to help because we know that these citizen patrols have dramatically reduced crime when they are working with police officers. And all of our young people must decide to assume more personal responsibility to stay off drugs, out of gangs, and away from jail and within the law.

As of today, if you commit an act of violence against your spouse or child, you can't purchase a gun. If you violate your parole and use drugs, you must go back to jail. If you traffick in meth, you must pay a stiff penalty. We are safer because of these actions.

Again, I thank the Congress and I'm pleased to sign the legislation, and I'd like to ask the members who are here and the law enforcement officers to come up and be with me. (Applause.)

(The bill was signed.) (Applause.)

END

9:36 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 3, 1996

October 3, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

SUBJECT: Guidelines to States for Implementing
the Family Violence Provisions

Domestic violence has a devastating impact on families and communities. Each year, hundreds of thousands of Americans are subjected to assault, rape, or murder at the hands of an intimate family member. Our children's futures are severely threatened by the fact that they live in homes with domestic violence. We know that children who grow up with such violence are more likely to become victims or batterers themselves. The violence in our homes is self-perpetuating and eventually it spills into our schools, our communities, and our workplaces.

Domestic violence can be particularly damaging to women and children in low-income families. The profound mental and physical effects of domestic violence can often interfere with victims' efforts to pursue education or employment -- to become self-sufficient and independent. Moreover, it is often the case that the abusers themselves fight to keep their victims from becoming independent.

As we reform our Nation's welfare system, we must make sure that welfare-to-work programs across the country have the tools, the training, and the flexibility necessary to help battered women move successfully into the work force and become self-sufficient.

For these reasons, I strongly encourage States to implement the Wellstone/Murray Family Violence provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 (Public Law 104-193, section 402(a)(7)). These provisions invite States to increase services for battered women through welfare programs and help these women move successfully and permanently into the workplace. The Family Violence provisions are critical in responding to the unique needs faced by women and families subjected to domestic violence.

As we move forward on our historical mission to reform the welfare system, this Administration is committed to offering States assistance in their efforts to implement the Family Violence provisions.

Accordingly, I direct the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General to develop guidance for States to assist and facilitate the implementation of the Family Violence provisions. In crafting this guidance, the Departments of Health and Human Services and Justice should work with States, domestic violence experts, victims' services programs, law enforcement, medical professionals, and others involved in fighting domestic violence. These agencies should recommend standards and procedures that will help make transitional assistance programs fully responsive to the needs of battered women.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services is further directed to provide States with technical assistance as they work to implement the Family Violence provisions.

Finally, to more accurately study the scope of the problem, we should examine statutory rape, domestic violence, and sexual assault as threats to safety and barriers to self-sufficiency. I therefore direct the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make it a priority to understand the incidence of statutory rape, domestic violence, and sexual assault in the lives of poor families, and to recommend the best assessment, referral, and delivery models to improve safety and self-sufficiency for poor families who are victims of domestic violence.

I ask the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General to report to me in writing 90 days from the date of this memorandum on the specific progress that has been made toward these goals.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Pls file a a
~~get~~ Women binder
(make this a
category); also
make w/g women a
category. —