

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Domestic Policy Council

Series/Staff Member: Leanne Shimabukuro

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 21301

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Crime/Drugs/Administration Record [3]

Stack:

S

Row:

98

Section:

4

Shelf:

7

Position:

2

CRIME ACROSS THE COUNTRY IS DOWN

CRIME IS DOWN ACROSS THE COUNTRY – THIS IS NO TIME TO TURN BACK

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of violent crimes reported to police has fallen 7.4% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

MAYORS, POLICE CHIEFS AND COPS ON THE FRONT LINES ARE STANDING UP FOR PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES

- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President of Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95: *"...In the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill which you signed on September 13, 1994."*
- ★ Mayor Victor Ashe, President, U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2/1/95: *"I would like to congratulate you on the outstanding job which the Department of Justice has done in implementing the 1994 crime act ... We strongly support the COPS Program."*
- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ Patrolman John Greg says that his neighborhood in Sharon, PA, *"has quieted down immensely" and "that the biggest measure [of the precinct's] success is you have the kids out playing again and you have people sitting on their front porches again."* [Source: Herald, 7/15/95]
- ★ Police Commissioner Michael Carpentieri of the village of Pawling says, *"I was not only impressed at the speed, but happy with the way they handled it. No bureaucracy, and it was quick and decisive. This is the first time money flowed from a bill so quickly."* [Poughkeepsie Journal, 2/9/95]

UNPRECEDENTED ACTION TO FIGHT CRIME

President Clinton's Record of Historic Firsts

PRESIDENT CLINTON STANDS UP TO GUN LOBBY

The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill, which has prevented over 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from purchasing guns. We've enacted an Assault Weapons Ban, which is taking 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies off of America's streets.

CRIME BILL PROVIDES UNPRECEDENTED SUPPORT TO STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

- The President directed more federal resources to the state and local level to help them fight crime than any other administration in history. [FY95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice funded]

CRIME BILL ESTABLISHES FIRST EVER PLAN TO PUT COPS ON THE STREETS

- The President created the Community Oriented Policing Program which is putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule and is already helping to reduce crime across the country. Already, over 44,000 COPS have been funded and almost 20,000 are on the street. [Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

PRESIDENT CLINTON ENACTS FIRST-EVER VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

- The President won passage of the Violence Against Women Act which tripled funding for battered women's shelters; bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$26 million in state grants; created National Domestic Violent Hotline. The Act also established the first Violence Against Women office at the Department of Justice. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

PRESIDENT CLINTON ENACTS FIRST-EVER STATE PRISON GRANT PROGRAM

- The President authorized nearly \$8 billion to states to build and expand prisons. In FY96, the Justice Department will give out approximately \$400 million for prison construction grants to states. [Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]

PRESIDENT CLINTON ORDERS FIRST-EVER STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN INCARCERATION GRANT PROGRAM

- The President directed more funding to states to help them incarcerate dangerous undocumented criminal aliens than any other administration. [Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]

PRESIDENT CLINTON INITIATES FIRST-EVER DRUG COURT PROGRAM

- The President is providing nonviolent, substance-abusing adult and juvenile offenders with sanctions and services necessary to change their destructive behaviors and keep them from cycling through our courts, jails, and probations systems. Drug Courts are a tough, effective and popular alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders. The Justice Department has already granted 64 grants in 34 states to design, implement and enhance their own Drug Courts. [Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office Fact Sheet, 5/96]

PRESIDENT CLINTON PUSHES THROUGH FIRST EVER BOOT CAMP PROGRAM.

The President is providing prosecutors and the courts with a viable sentencing solution for youthful offenders by placing them in a military-style atmosphere that instills self-discipline and provides physical conditioning that was lacking in their lives, while freeing up conventional prison, jail and juvenile corrections space for violent offenders. The Justice Department has already awarded 43 grants to 27 states and three territories to plan and build Boot Camps. [Department of Justice]

THE PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES ARE WORKING

VIOLENT CRIME RATES ARE FALLING

- Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office -- the first time the violent crime rate has fallen three years in a row since 1982. Yet, for four years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two major reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

COMMUNITY POLICING IS WORKING

- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
- ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]

TOUGHER LAWS ARE PUTTING MORE CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS

With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.

- **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

KEEPING GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS

- The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

JUVENILE CRIME

Breaking the Cycle of Juvenile Violence

JUVENILE CRIME IS DOWN UNDER PRESIDENT CLINTON

- The juvenile crime arrest rate decreased 2.9% in 1995 -- the first decline in seven years. The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2% last year -- the largest one year decrease in more than 10 years. Since 1993, the juvenile murder rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 1995 Uniform Crime Report, 8/8/96]

KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF HARMS WAY

- **Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.** Strengthened and expanded the Safe and Drug-Free School Act, which provides school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. The President successfully fought off an attempt by Congressional Republicans to dramatically cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program.
[Source: Based on House-passed FY96 Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill; Department of Education release 2/9/96]
- **School Uniforms.** Encouraged school to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual to be distributed to 16,000 school districts to assist them in establishing these policies.
- **Curfews.** Encouraged cities across the country to adopt curfew programs to decrease juvenile delinquency and victimization. Curfews, when backed up by a community of support and are part of a larger plan to help fight juvenile crime, can play an important role in keeping our children safe.
- **Truancy Programs.** Providing \$10 million in grants to schools and community groups to design and operate their own truancy programs to keep our children in school and off the streets -- out of harms way.
- **Youth Crime Interdiction.** Working with 17 cities and their police chiefs, local prosecutors, and federal investigators and prosecutors to trace firearms found on youths back to the crime gun traffickers. For the first time, every time a gun is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement, it will be tracked through a national tracing system. Law enforcement will use that trace information to help identify and local illegal gun traffickers who, especially, peddle guns to kids.

GETTING TOUGH ON JUVENILE OFFENDERS WHO TEST THE SYSTEM

- **"Zero Tolerance" Gun Policy.** Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools.
- **National Gang Tracking Network.** Announced funding for the first step of a National Gang Tracking Network. This computerized network will provide federal, state, local and municipal law enforcement agencies with the ability to share and exchange gang information quickly and efficiently.
- **Juvenile Violence and Anti-Drug Legislative Package.** President Clinton has sent legislative proposals to Congress to help stop the rise of youth violence and drug use, including: [Anti-Gang and Youth Crime Control Act of 1996]
 - * Trying juvenile offenders as adults for violent and drug crimes
 - * A first-ever national strategy to stop the spread of methamphetamine
 - * Reinstating the ban on guns in schools
 - * A \$75 million grant program for juvenile drug and gun courts
 - * Increasing the penalties for drug dealers who sell drugs to children, or use children to sell drugs

PUTTING 100,000 POLICE ON AMERICA'S STREETS

Keeping the Promise

- **100,000 officers, an increase of 20% in the nation's police force.** This increase will represent an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels when fully implemented. Critics said the Clinton Administration would never fund even 20,000 cops in six years. Yet, in just two years, nearly 20,000 new police are on the beat in America's communities and funding for more than 44,000 additional police has been approved. This is unprecedented federal, state and local cooperation to give communities the crime-fighting resources they need. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **We're Ahead of Schedule.** The funding of 44,000 additional police by July 1996 is actually ahead of schedule as originally mandated by the Crime Bill which was passed by a bipartisan majority in Congress. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

THE COPS PROGRAM: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN COMMUNITIES

- **Over half of the nation's local policing agencies have benefited from COPS.** In less than two years, COPS grants have been awarded to more than half the policing agencies in the United States. As a result, the over 44,000 officers already funded will be serving 87% of the American public. Furthermore, the COPS office has outstanding requests for more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies for over 20,000 additional community policing officers. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]
- **Less Bureaucracy and More Police.** Not one tax dollar was raised to pay for putting 100,000 police on the street or for any other program or initiative in the Crime Bill. In fact, every new officer on the street is paid through the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund -- money saved by the President's efforts to cut the federal workforce by over 230,000. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]
- **GOP would have gutted effort to put law enforcement officers on the street.** The Republicans' so-called crime bill eliminated the President's plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer. The last time block grants were made available to states, some funds were misused and wasted to purchase goods and materials which were dubiously related to fighting crime, such as consultants, cars and tanks. [President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95] [need misuse cite]

The COPS Program is Already Making a Difference in America's Communities

- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
- ★ Chief Steve Olson, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin Police Department: *This is the first time in my 17-year career that I have seen the federal government put together a program that helped small police agencies that did not bury the department in paperwork and had a reasonable turn around period.* [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- ★ Robert Scully, Executive Director, National Association of Police Organizations: *"Our members find the COPS office to be one of the most efficient government programs in existence. One example of the COPS office's unprecedented proficiency can be found in the application for law enforcement agencies with jurisdictions under 50,000 residents and no resources to fill out bureaucratic documents -- the application was just one page."* [Source: Letter to Rep. Bill McCollum, House Subcommittee on Crime, 12/4/95]

BRADY LAW

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals

THE BRADY LAW IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- The Brady Law, since its enactment, has prevented 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals would be walking the streets of America with handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

BRADY LAW MOVES TOWARDS INSTANT CHECK

- Right now, the Brady Law provides for a 5 -day waiting period and background check on prospective handgun buyers, it requires that a National Instant Criminal Background Check System be established by November 1998. The Crime Bill authorized \$200 million to help states upgrade their criminal history records. Before this funding, few states had the resources to develop their own instant check system.

LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS SUPPORT THE BRADY LAW

- ★ Gilbert Gallegos, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP): *"It is clear on this second anniversary of the Brady Act that the waiting period has prevented thousands of criminals from obtaining firearms and has saved lives. Members of the FOP continue to be impressed with the cooperation between the ATF and local law enforcement in implementing the Brady Act."*
- ★ David Walchak, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP): *"The IACP strongly pushed for Congress to pass legislation allowing for a five-day waiting period to conduct thorough background checks on all prospective handgun purchasers. The IACP continues to strongly support the Brady Act."*
- ★ J. Tom Morgan, District Attorney, DeKalb County, GA: *"I believe the Brady Bill has reduced the number of crimes those felons would have committed. It shows criminals do go to stores to buy guns, and they obviously don't buy handguns to go duck hunting."* [Source: New York Times, 3/12/95]

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN: TAKING DEADLY ASSAULT WEAPONS OFF OF AMERICA'S STREETS

- In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

SUPPORTED BY EVERY MAJOR POLICE ORGANIZATION

- The Assault Weapons Ban is supported by every major law enforcement organization in the country. They know that assault weapons are the guns of choice for gangs, drug dealers and murderers, not sportsmen or hunters. Between January 1994 and September 1995, 36% of law enforcement officers who were killed with firearms that could be identified, were killed by assault weapons or guns sold with magazines affected by the assault weapons ban. [Handgun Control, Inc., "Cops Under Fire," 11/29/95]
- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95. *"No position taken by the FOP is more strongly rooted in conviction than that taken on semi-automatic assault weapons. While it is true that these weapons do not differ in terms of function and capability from other semi-automatic weapons, it is equally true that semi-automatic weapons are eight times more likely to be used in crime than conventional weapons. Therefore, in the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill..."*

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Unprecedented Efforts to Combat Violence Against Women

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

- The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]
- Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and already has provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

The Violence Against Women Act -- Working with States to Put Abusers Behind Bars

- ★ In California, Ricky Steele was prosecuted for savagely beating his girlfriend in Oregon and then forcing her to drive with him to Las Vegas. While driving through California, a witness saw the girlfriend try to escape and called 911. California Highway Patrol officers made the arrest. California officials were worried about their ability to prosecute Steele successfully, as there was no clear assault in California. Officials in Oregon indicated that Steele was not likely to get more than a year in prison if found guilty under its state law for assaults. Both states consulted federal officials and it was decided to prosecute Steele in federal court under the Violence Against Women Act. Steele was sentenced to over seven years in jail.
- ★ In Ohio, Derek Page was arrested after severely beating his former girlfriend, stabbing her with claw end of a hammer several times, breaking her femur bone, punching her with his fists until her eyes were shut and injuring her feet so that she could not walk. After the beating, Page took his victim, who was close to death, 150 miles to a hospital in Pennsylvania in order to avoid prosecution in Ohio. Local prosecutors in Ohio faced difficult evidentiary problems and in Pennsylvania, authorities could not proceed because no criminal conduct had occurred in the state. Officials in Ohio turned to federal prosecutors who prosecuted the case and obtained a conviction. Page has been held in custody without bond since his arrest nine months ago and is awaiting sentencing.

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- **Helping States Fight Domestic Violence.** In 1995, \$26 million went directly to the states through STOP grants. Every state has been awarded funds to develop and strengthen law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies and improve victims services in cases involving violent crimes against women. Approximately \$130 million more will be sent to states in FY96.

HELPING GIVE VICTIMS THE SUPPORT THEY DESERVE

- In West Jordan, Utah, Sgt. Gary Cox, a 16-year veteran police officer has been the impetus to build a shelter for victims of domestic violence in the South end of Salt Lake Valley. He is using STOP funds to hire victim advocates for the shelter.
- In Delaware, STOP grant funds are being used by the Wilmington Police Department to hire a civilian victim service outreach worker to help victims secure protection orders and to follow the victim through the prosecution phase of their case.

- **Providing Support to Women in Need.** Established the National Domestic Violence Hotline -- 1-800-799-SAFE -- to reach every community in the nation. This national toll-free hotline will serve as a lifeline to victims of domestic violence across the country, providing referral information to victims in need. In its first three months, the hotline responded to over 20,000 calls from women across the country. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

STATISTICS SHOW: VIOLENCE IMPACTS MANY WOMEN AND FAMILIES

- In 1993 and 1994, women age 12 or older annually sustained almost 5 million violent victimizations by an intimate. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- During 1992 and 1993, women annually reported to interviewers about 500,000 rapes and sexual assaults. Friends or acquaintances of the victims committed over half of these rapes or sexual assaults. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- About 60% of all violence against women was perpetrated by offenders the victim knew; about 15% of violence against women was committed by their relatives; and 30% by someone well-known to the victim. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- ★ **The Stakes Are Too High to Ignore This Problem.** A recent study found that children who are abused and who witness violence at home are substantially more likely to commit violent act themselves. [Source: American Psychological Association]

THE CLINTON RECORD ON CRIME

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration doesn't understand the crime problem. The President knows what to say, but he doesn't grasp what needs to get down.

THE FACTS: Over the past three years, the Clinton Administration has made tremendous progress in bringing crime and drug abuse under control. The violent crime and murder rates across the country are falling, tens of thousands of criminals have been prevented from buying guns, and nearly 20,000 new police are on the street. President Clinton is committed to stopping any attempts to roll back the progress we have made in reducing crime and will continue in his efforts to put more cops on the beat and take guns, drugs, and gangs off the streets.

- **The Toughest, Smartest Crime Bill Ever.** After six years of gridlock, President Clinton passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill in the nation's history. It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Sheriff's Association, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Police Are on the Street.** The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, almost 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 44,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **Taking Deadly Assault Weapons off the Streets.** The Crime Bill banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies while specifically protecting more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons. Already, in just one year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped 18%. [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]
- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]
- **Tougher Laws and More Prisons.** The Crime Bill provides for:
 - A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
 - An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
 - Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
 - Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- **Fighting to End Domestic Violence.** The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Crime Bill was oversold and is seriously flawed.

THE FACTS: The President's tough action to fight crime is working. Violent crime rates across the country are down after four years of increases before President Clinton took office. The rate of reported violent crimes has fallen each year of the Clinton Administration -- the first three-year consecutive decrease since 1982. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

Crime is Down Across the Country -- This is No Time to Turn Back

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of violent crimes reported to police has fallen 7.4% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

**MAYORS, POLICE CHIEFS AND COPS ON THE FRONT LINES ARE STANDING UP FOR
PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES**

- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President of Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95: *"...In the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill which you signed on September 13, 1994."*
- ★ Mayor Victor Ashe, President, U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2/1/95: *"I would like to congratulate you on the outstanding job which the Department of Justice has done in implementing the 1994 crime act ... We strongly support the COPS Program."*
- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ Patrolman John Greg says that his neighborhood in Sharon, PA, *"has quieted down immensely" and "that the biggest measure [of the precinct's] success is you have the kids out playing again and you have people sitting on their front porches again."* [Source: Herald, 7/15/95]
- ★ Police Commissioner Michael Carpentieri of the village of Pawling says, *"I was not only impressed at the speed, but happy with the way they handled it. No bureaucracy, and it was quick and decisive. This is the first time money flowed from a bill so quickly."* [Poughkeepsie Journal, 2/9/95]

FALSE CLAIM: Clinton's Crime Bill is not tough on crime. It has about \$7 billion worth of ineffective social programs like Midnight Basketball and dance programs.

THE FACTS: That simply is not true. The Crime Bill includes:

- **100,000 New Police.** Putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule, which is already helping reduce crime across the country.
- **Expanded death penalty.** Includes the death penalty for drug kingpins and murderers of law enforcement officers.
- **Tougher Punishment.** It increased penalties for sex offenders and imposed a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.
- **"Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out."** Targeted career violent offenders with a "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" policy that keep them behind bars for life after the third offense. Since its enactment, 16 career criminals in thirteen states [check] have either been sentenced to life in prison under the Three Strikes provision, or are awaiting sentencing or trial. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Prison Cells.** Provides funding for 100,000 prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **Most Comprehensive Provisions to Fight Violence Against Women.** Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and already has provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

* The Crime Bill is giving states and cities the resources they need to fight crime. But it is also giving children hope before they enter into a life of crime. So while Republicans tried to dramatically cut funding for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act, the Crime Bill:

- **Community Schools Program.** Created the Community Schools Program, which promotes constructive alternatives for young people after school, in the evening, on weekends, and during the summer to prevent involvement in and the victimization of crime.
- **Boys and Girls Clubs of America.** Providing resources to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to establish and enhance more than 300 new clubs this year throughout the United States. These Clubs are situated in at-risk communities and are expected to reach 100,000 kids through violence prevention and reduction, educational and health programs and youth leadership development. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact Sheet, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, 10/95, updated 7/30/95]
- **D.A.R.E.** Supported the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program which is equipping elementary, middle and high school students with the skills to resist drugs, violence and gangs. More than 27,000 community-oriented police officers from 7,000 communities have taught the D.A.R.E. curriculum to more than 25 million elementary school students. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Fact Sheet, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), 9/95]
- **National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign.** Supported the National Citizens Crime Prevention Campaign which is helping residents of urban and rural communities to fight crime, violence and drug use by allowing law enforcement authorities and residents across the nation to share information about effective crime prevention methods. One component of the campaign includes public service announcements, with the campaign's symbol, McGruff the Crime Dog. Efforts like these are providing information that generates both a community and an individual sense of responsibility for preventing crime. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Fact Sheet, National Citizens' Crime

Prevention Campaign, 11/95]

- **National Night Out.** Supported community-based, law-enforcement affiliated crime prevention activities, like National Night Out, which creates community support for anti-crime and anti-drug abuse prevention activities, as well as a high level of community participation. In 1995, a record 28 million people representing 8,800 communities in all 50 states participated in the National Night Out. This year, 9,000 communities across America are expected to participate. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact, National Night Out: A Community-Police Partnership Program, 11/95, updated 7/30/95]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration does not deserve any credit for crime rate reductions. Crime rates have fallen because incarceration rates are increasing. The total estimated correctional population (probation, jail, parole, etc.) has risen 7.8% since 1992.

THE FACTS: Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office -- the first time the violent crime rate has fallen three years in a row since 1982. Yet, for four years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two major reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country.

[Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

- **Community Policing is Working.** In city after city across America, crime is down.
 - ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
 - ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
 - ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]
- **Tougher Laws are Putting More Criminals Behind Bars.** With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.
 - * **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

FALSE CLAIM: If President Clinton was really serious in fighting crime, he wouldn't have vetoed a tough anti-crime bill.

THE FACTS: The President vetoed the Republican attempt to gut proven crime fighting programs because it represented an unacceptable retreat in the fight against crime and drugs. That bill was a step back, not a step forward.

- **No New Police on Our Streets.** It tried to eliminate the plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer on America's streets. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It abolished the Drug Court Program.** Drug Courts are a proven success in breaking the cycle of crime and drugs by stripping drug users of their addiction to controlled substances and thereby ending their addiction to crime. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Cut Funding for the Federal Drug Enforcement Efforts.** The Republican bill cut \$5 million from the President's request for the Drug Enforcement Agency and also cut federal law enforcement task forces (OCEDTF) of FBI, DEA, and Treasury agents who are busting drug traffickers. This bill also cut funds for the FBI, U.S. Marshals, drug prosecutors, Bureau of Prisons and other drug fighting resources. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]

FALSE CLAIM: This Administration has not provided the leadership the country needs in the fight against crime.

THE FACTS: Under President Clinton's leadership, we passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill ever after six years of gridlock. The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill, which has prevented over 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from purchasing guns. We've enacted an Assault Weapons Ban, which is taking 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies off of America's streets. This Administration has also provided:

- **Unprecedented Federal Support.** Directed more federal resources to the state and local level to help them fight crime than any other administration in history. [FY95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice funded]
- **First-Ever National Police Program.** Created the Community Oriented Policing Program which is putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule and is already helping to reduce crime across the country. The COPS program represents a 20% increase in the nations' police force levels. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **First-Ever Violence Against Women Act.** Won passage of the Violence Against Women Act which tripled funding for battered women's shelters; bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$26 million in state grants; created National Domestic Violent Hotline. The Act also established the first Violence Against Women office at the Department of Justice. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]
- **First-Ever Prison State Grant Program.** Authorized nearly \$8 billion to states to build and expand prisons. In FY96, the Justice Department will give out approximately \$400 million for prison construction grants to states. [Source: Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **First-Ever State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.** Directed more funding to states to help them incarcerate dangerous undocumented criminal aliens than any other administration. [Source: Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **First-Ever Drug Court Program.** Providing nonviolent, substance-abusing adult and juvenile offenders with sanctions and services necessary to change their destructive behaviors and keep them from cycling through our courts, jails, and probations systems. Drug Courts are a tough, effective and popular alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders. The Justice Department has already granted 64 grants in 34 states to design, implement and enhance their own Drug Courts. [Source: Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office Fact Sheet, 5/96]
- **First-Ever Boot Camp Program.** Providing prosecutors and the courts with a viable sentencing solution for youthful offenders by placing them in a military-style atmosphere that instills self-discipline and provides physical conditioning that was lacking in their lives, while freeing up conventional prison, jail and juvenile corrections space for violent offenders. The Justice Department has already awarded 43 grants to 27 states and three territories to plan and build Boot Camps. [Source: Department of Justice]

FALSE CLAIM: Juvenile crime is up substantially since President Clinton has been in office. We need to start getting tough with juvenile criminals. The President's policies are not tough enough to meet the growing problem of juvenile crime.

THE FACTS: Juvenile crime is down under President Clinton. The juvenile crime arrest rate decreased 2.9% in 1995 -- the first decline in seven years. The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2% last year -- the largest one year decrease in more than 10 years. Since 1993, the juvenile murder rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 1995 Uniform Crime Report, 8/8/96]

These are positive signs -- but we still have a long way to go in our efforts to reduce youth violence. This President is working hard to get children off the streets and into the classroom or home. We can reach kids before they turn to a life of crime. But while working to keep kids off the streets and out of a life of crime, the President is calling for the prosecution of juvenile offenders as adults -- juveniles who commit adult crimes should face adult consequences.

Keeping Kids In School and Out of Harms Way

- **Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.** Strengthened and expanded the Safe and Drug-Free School Act, which provides school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. The President successfully fought off an attempt by Congressional Republicans to dramatically cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program. [Source: Based on House-passed FY96 Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill; Department of Education release 2/9/96]
- **School Uniforms.** Encouraged school to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual to be distributed to 16,000 school districts to assist them in establishing these policies.
- **Curfews.** Encouraged cities across the country to adopt curfew programs to decrease juvenile delinquency and victimization. Curfews, when backed up by a community of support and are part of a larger plan to help fight juvenile crime, can play an important role in keeping our children safe.
- **Truancy Programs.** Providing \$10 million in grants to schools and community groups to design and operate their own truancy programs to keep our children in school and off the streets -- out of harms way.
- **Youth Crime Interdiction.** Working with 17 cities and their police chiefs, local prosecutors, and federal investigators and prosecutors to trace firearms found on youths back to the crime gun traffickers. For the first time, every time a gun is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement, it will be tracked through a national tracing system. Law enforcement will use that trace information to help identify and local illegal gun traffickers who, especially, peddle guns to kids.

Getting Tough on Juvenile Offenders Who Continue to Test the System

- **"Zero Tolerance" Gun Policy.** Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools.
- **National Gang Tracking Network.** Announced funding for the first step of a National Gang Tracking Network. This computerized network will provide federal, state, local and municipal law enforcement agencies with the ability to share and exchange gang information quickly and efficiently.
- **Juvenile Violence and Anti-Drug Legislative Package.** President Clinton has sent legislative proposals to Congress to help stop the rise of youth violence and drug use, including: [Anti-Gang and Youth Crime Control Act of 1996]
 - * Trying juvenile offenders as adults for violent and drug crimes
 - * A first-ever national strategy to stop the spread of methamphetamine
 - * Reinstating the ban on guns in schools
 - * A \$75 million grant program for juvenile drug and gun courts
 - * Increasing the penalties for drug dealers who sell drugs to children, or use children to sell drugs

100,000 POLICE

FALSE CLAIM: President Clinton has not put anywhere close to 100,000 police on the street. The Administration has grossly exaggerated the number of actual police on the street.

THE FACTS: We are keeping our promise to add 100,000 new police on the street. This increase will represent an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels when fully implemented. Critics said the Clinton Administration would never fund even 20,000 cops in six years. Yet, in just two years, nearly 20,000 new police are on the beat in America's communities and funding for more than 44,000 additional police has been approved. This is unprecedented federal, state and local cooperation to give communities the crime-fighting resources they need. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

- **We're Ahead of Schedule.** The funding of 44,000 additional police by July 1996 is actually ahead of schedule as originally mandated by the Crime Bill which was passed by a bipartisan majority in Congress. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **We're Working Hard to Put the Most Qualified and Well-Trained Police on the Street.** Some conveniently forget that it does take time to find qualified professionals to be community policing officers, to engage in necessary background checks and to rigorously train these crime-fighters.

The COPS Program is Already Making a Difference in America's Communities

- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]

FALSE CLAIM: Nearly 60 percent of eligible communities chose not to apply for the COPS program, citing their inability to pick up the cost of the program after the three-year grant comes to an end. This program is just another unfunded federal mandate.

THE FACTS: The widespread impact of the COPS program is obvious to almost everyone. In less than two years, COPS grants have been awarded to more than half the policing agencies in the United States. As a result, the over 44,000 officers already funded will be serving 87% of the American public. Furthermore, the COPS office has outstanding requests for more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies for over 20,000 additional community policing officers. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

This is not an unfunded mandate. Localities have the option of participating in the COPS program. The federal government does not force them to apply. But over half of all law enforcement agencies in the country did choose to apply and now have new police on their streets. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

FALSE CLAIM: Clinton's COPS program is just another example of wasteful bureaucratic spending.

THE FACTS: Not one tax dollar was raised to pay for putting 100,000 police on the street or for any other program or initiative in the Crime Bill. In fact, every new officer on the street is paid through the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund -- money saved by the President's efforts to cut the federal workforce by over 230,000. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

- **No New Cops.** The Republican's so-called crime bill eliminates the President's plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer. The last time block grants were made available to states, some funds were misused and wasted to purchase goods and materials which were dubiously related to fighting crime, such as consultants, cars and tanks. [President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95] [need misuse cite]

★ Chief Steve Olson, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin Police Department: *This is the first time in my 17-year career that I have seen the federal government put together a program that helped small police agencies that did not bury the department in paperwork and had a reasonable turn around period.* [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]

★ Robert Scully, Executive Director, National Association of Police Organizations: *"Our members find the COPS office to be one of the most efficient government programs in existence. One example of the COPS office's unprecedented proficiency can be found in the application for law enforcement agencies with jurisdictions under 50,000 residents and no resources to fill out bureaucratic documents -- the application was just one page."* [Source: Letter to Rep. Bill McCollum, House Subcommittee on Crime, 12/4/95]

* The Clinton Administration has directed more resources at the state and local level to help cities fight crime than any other Administration in history. [Source: FY 95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice Funded]

FALSE CLAIM: The few Clinton cops that are out there, aren't even patrolling the streets, but parks and marine sanctuaries or coral reefs, instead. This is not crime-fighting.

THE FACTS: This is nonsense. No Clinton cops are guarding coral reefs. Less than two-tenths of one percent of the number of new police funded through the Crime Bill patrol parks. And, the few that do patrol camps are protecting campers, hikers, boaters and families simply enjoying a day at the park. These are sworn law enforcement officers who have full arrest authority. They are serving a vital function. [Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services]

- **Unfortunately, Violent Crime Does Occur in our Parks.** In 1993, a young child was brutally killed at a campsite in a Florida park. Recently, two women were murdered in Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. It is these types of violence that Park Patrol guards against, as it seeks to ensure that state parks are safe and secure.
 - * Senator Dole recently visited Redondo Beach, CA to praise community policing efforts in ridding Perry Park of criminals and drug dealers.
 - * The 1996 Florida State Law Enforcement Officer of the Year was a marine patrol officer who was involved in a shooting outside Miami.

BRADY LAW

FALSE CLAIM: The Brady Law and gun control, in general, does not stop crime. It's ineffective.

THE FACTS: If it wasn't for the Brady Law, an additional 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals would be walking the streets of America with handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

- **Brady Law Moves Towards Instant Check.** Right now, the Brady Law provides for a 5-day waiting period and background check on prospective handgun buyers, it requires that a National Instant Criminal Background Check System be established by November 1988. The Crime Bill authorized \$200 million to help states upgrade their criminal history records. Before this funding, few states had the resources to develop their own instant check system.

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

- **Law Enforcement Leaders Support the Brady Law.**

- ★ Gilbert Gallegos, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP): *"It is clear on this second anniversary of the Brady Act that the waiting period has prevented thousands of criminals from obtaining firearms and has saved lives. Members of the FOP continue to be impressed with the cooperation between the ATF and local law enforcement in implementing the Brady Act."*
- ★ David Walchak, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP): *"The IACP strongly pushed for Congress to pass legislation allowing for a five-day waiting period to conduct thorough background checks on all prospective handgun purchasers. The IACP continues to strongly support the Brady Act."*
- ★ J. Tom Morgan, District Attorney, DeKalb County, GA: *"I believe the Brady Bill has reduced the number of crimes those felons would have committed. It shows criminals do go to stores to buy guns, and they obviously don't buy handguns to go duck hunting."* [Source: New York Times, 3/12/95]

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

FALSE CLAIM: The Assault Weapons Ban is not taking assault weapons off the streets. Manufacturers are just reconfiguring them. The solution is not to ban them, but to provide instant background checks.

THE FACTS: In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

- **Supported by Every Major Police Organization.** The Assault Weapons Ban is supported by every major law enforcement organization in the country. They know that assault weapons are the guns of choice for gangs, drug dealers and murderers, not sportsmen or hunters. Between January 1994 and September 1995, 36% of law enforcement officers who were killed with firearms that could be identified, were killed by assault weapons or guns sold with magazines affected by the assault weapons ban. [Handgun Control, Inc., "Cops Under Fire," 11/29/95]
- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95.. *"No position taken by the FOP is more strongly rooted in conviction than that taken on semi-automatic assault weapons. While it is true that these weapons do not differ in terms of function and capability from other semi-automatic weapons, it is equally true that semi-automatic weapons are eight times more likely to be used in crime than conventional weapons. Therefore, in the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill..."*
- **Assault Weapons Need to be Banned, Not Run Through Background Checks.** Assault weapons are the guns of choice for drug dealers and gang members, not sportsmen or hunters. They are designed for one reason only: close-quarter, rapid-fire killing. Too many police officers have lost their lives outgunned by violent criminals armed with assault weapons. Too many children have been killed by violent criminals spraying a rain of bullets from these weapons.

FALSE CLAIM: The Assault Weapons Ban merely keeps law abiding citizens from purchasing firearms they are entitled to buy under the 2nd Amendment.

THE FACTS: Not one sportsmen or hunter has lost their rifle because of the Assault Weapons Ban. The Ban specifically exempts more than 650 types of hunting and sporting weapons so that the rights of law abiding citizens to own guns for legitimate purposes is protected. Cop killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs -- not hunters and sportsmen.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

FALSE CLAIM: The Violence Against Women Act sounds great, but it hasn't done much. There have only been 18 federal prosecutions since the Act has been in existence. States should be handling these crimes, not the federal government.

THE FACTS: The fact of the matter is that the vast majority of violence against women cases are already brought at the state and local levels. That's why the Administration provided \$26 million in FY95 and \$130 million more in FY96 in state grants to support state and local law enforcement.

[Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

- **Without the Law, Some Criminals Would Go Unprosecuted.** In some instances, criminals travel across state lines and the federal government has an obligation to use its jurisdiction to bring that criminal to justice. Already under the Act, a domestic abuser was sentenced to life in prison for interstate domestic violence and kidnapping. Without the Act, this case would have likely gone unprosecuted. [Source: Statement of Janet Reno, Attorney General Before the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate Concerning the Violence Against Women Act, May 15, 1996; Violence Against Women Act News, Vol. 1: July 1996, Violence Against Women Office]

The Violence Against Women Act – Working with States to Put Abusers Behind Bars

- ★ In California, Ricky Steele was prosecuted for savagely beating his girlfriend in Oregon and then forcing her to drive with him to Las Vegas. While driving through California, a witness saw the girlfriend try to escape and called 911. California Highway Patrol officers made the arrest. California officials were worried about their ability to prosecute Steele successfully, as there was no clear assault in California. Officials in Oregon indicated that Steele was not likely to get more than a year in prison if found guilty under its state law for assaults. Both states consulted federal officials and it was decided to prosecute Steele in federal court under the Violence Against Women Act. Steele was sentenced to over seven years in jail.
- ★ In Ohio, Derek Page was arrested after severely beating his former girlfriend, stabbing her with claw end of a hammer several times, breaking her femur bone, punching her with his fists until her eyes were shut and injuring her feet so that she could not walk. After the beating, Page took his victim, who was close to death, 150 miles to a hospital in Pennsylvania in order to avoid prosecution in Ohio. Local prosecutors in Ohio faced difficult evidentiary problems and in Pennsylvania, authorities could not proceed because no criminal conduct had occurred in the state. Officials in Ohio turned to federal prosecutors who prosecuted the case and obtained a conviction. Page has been held in custody without bond since his arrest nine months ago and is awaiting sentencing.

The Violence Against Women Act Will Continue to Make a Difference

- **Helping States Fight Domestic Violence.** In 1995, \$26 million went directly to the states through STOP grants. Every state has been awarded funds to develop and strengthen law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies and improve victims services in cases involving violent crimes against women. Approximately \$130 more will be sent to states in FY96.
- **Giving Women in Need the Help They Need.** Established the National Domestic Violence Hotline – 1-800-799-SAFE – to reach every community in the nation. This national toll-free hotline will serve as a lifeline to victims of domestic violence across the country, providing referral information to victims in need. In its first three months, the hotline responded to over 20,000 calls from women across the country. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: This Administration is not serious about protecting women from violence. More than halfway through 1996, it only released \$473,000 of the \$175 million appropriated by Congress for FY96.

THE FACTS: Shutting the government down twice in one year is going to have ramifications on government programs. The \$174.5 million in STOP and other Violence Against Women grants was appropriated in each of the seven continuing resolutions passed between October, 1995 and April, 1996. Almost all of the FY96 grant programs could only be implemented once the Omnibus Budget Bill was passed and signed by the President on April 26, 1996.

- **Releasing the Funds After Each Continuing Resolution Would Have Been Costly and Burdensome.** It would have been nearly impossible to begin the FY96 grant-making process until the budget was resolved. It would required the Department of Justice to make as many as seven different grants to the states to account for the seven continuing resolutions. This would have been an extremely costly and burdensome process for both the states and Justice Department as each state would have been saddled with filling out paperwork with each separate application and each separate Continuing Resolution.
- **The Justice Department Has Already Provided Nearly Half of the FY96 Violence Against Women Funding to States.** Since the FY96 budget was passed and signed into law, the Clinton Administration has announced that more than \$77 million in STOP grants to combat domestic violence and sexual assault have gone to 30 states and five territories. These grants will be used to train police, hire new prosecutors and provide assistance to victims. [Source: Department of Justice, Violent Against Women Office, Release, 8/9/96]

FALSE CLAIM: The Violence Against Women Act is a pork program. Of the \$1.6 billion allocated over five years, only \$200,000 of it will go to research on national trends in domestic abuse.

THE FACTS: The Violence Against Women Act's priority has been to make a difference in the lives of women and families across the country. We have worked hard to provide prosecutors with the tools needed to prosecute domestic violence and sexual assault.

Research remains vital to creating new and innovative solutions to violence against women. The fact is that the Act required that nine studies be conducted in the area of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Already six of those reports have been completed and transmitted to Congress.

HELPING GIVE VICTIMS THE SUPPORT THEY DESERVE

- In West Jordan, Utah, Sgt. Gary Cox, a 16-year veteran police officer has been the impetus to build a shelter for victims of domestic violence in the South end of Salt Lake Valley. He is using STOP funds to hire victim advocates for the shelter.
- In Delaware, STOP grant funds are being used by the Wilmington Police Department to hire a civilian victim service outreach worker to help victims secure protection orders and to follow the victim through the prosecution phase of their case.

FALSE CLAIM: According to the FBI, 1,500 women are killed in domestic disputes each year -- not the 4,000 as claimed by some Violence Against Women advocates.

THE FACTS: Even one death is one too many. And violence against women comes in many tragic forms.

• **Violence Impacts Many Women and Many Families**

- * In 1993 and 1994, women age 12 or older annually sustained almost 5 million violent victimizations by an intimate. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- * During 1992 and 1993, women annually reported to interviewers about 500,000 rapes and sexual assaults. Friends or acquaintances of the victims committed over half of these rapes or sexual assaults. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- * About 60% of all violence against women was perpetrated by offenders the victim knew; about 15% of violence against women was committed by their relatives; and 30% by someone well-known to the victim. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]

★ **The Stakes Are Too High to Ignore This Problem.** A recent study found that children who are abused and who witness violence at home are substantially more likely to commit violent act themselves. Given these high stakes, we must make every possible effort to reduce domestic violence in America. [Source: American Psychological Association]

FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW OF YOUTH DRUG USE IN THE UNITED STATES

December 17, 1999

The 1999 MTF data were the first to be collected during the nation-wide implementation phase of the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. Other national drug surveys tend to corroborate the main findings of MTF. In the context of other sources of data on youth drug use, the following observations can be made:

- **The increasing trend in youth drug use observed in the 1990s has been arrested:** In addition to MTF, the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) is the other major federal source of drug use and attitude data, which includes a youth subpopulation (ages 12-17). Since the data collection period for the latest NHSDA data — CY 1998 — is earlier than the 1999 MTF, which was done in the Spring of 1999, the latest Household Survey data should be compared with last year's MTF results. For 1998, the NHSDA reported a 13% decline in the use of any illicit drug among 12 to 17 year olds. The 1998 MTF reported a significant decline among 10th graders (9% decline in past year use of any illicit drug) but little change for 8th and 12th graders. SAMHSA explains the difference in findings mostly in terms of differences in methodology. In addition, they suspect that the major reason for the difference in findings is that the MTF is collected in the first part of the year (February through May 1998), while the NHSDA is collected year-round. Most of the decline reported in the 1998 NHSDA was detected in the second half of the year.
- **Use of specific drugs have either leveled off or shown some decreases:** **Marijuana** use, which accounts for a major proportion of all illicit drug use, remained essentially unchanged among youth based on 1998 Household Survey findings. This level trend is generally consistent with 1998 MTF findings, with no significant changes observed except among 10th graders and appears to be carried over to the 1999 MTF, where no significant changes in marijuana use were observed. For **inhalants** in particular, the 1998 Household Survey found a significant decrease in past year and current use, consistent with 1998 MTF findings for 8th graders. It appears that this trend has been sustained into 1999 based on new MTF data showing significant declines among 10th and 12th graders.
- **MTF findings on drug use are generally consistent with other data sources.** The 1999 MTF's results are echoed by the recently released 1999 Teen Partnership Attitude Tracking Survey produced by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, which also found that drug use was essentially unchanged between 1998 and 1999.
- **Trends in attitudes towards drug use as well as in disapproval of drug use are improving:** MTF findings are consistent with both NHSDA and PDFA results. Perceived risk of harmfulness among youth in the Household Survey shows either no change or an increase in perceived risk for specific types of drug use. PDFA also

found that teen attitudes toward drugs are improving -- disapproval of drugs is increasing, as is knowledge of the risks of using drugs.

- Although some variation exists in specific findings from different data sources, the overall trajectory of drug use in the past 3 years has become level instead of upwards as in previous years, and the direction of youth attitudes is towards increasing risk perception and disapproval of drug use.

June 23, 2000

FACTSHEET ON KIDS AND DRUGS

Two major national data sets that report on drug use among youth, both sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services. The first, the **Monitoring the Future Study (MTF)**, provides the greater level of detail about youth drug use, reporting on the use of those in the 8th, 10th, and 12th grades and following youth use on into early adult life. The second, the **National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA)**, provides drug use data on Americans living in households, including those aged 12 to 17.

The data collection period for the latest NHSDA covers Calendar Year 1998, before the MTF, which was done in the Spring of 1999. This timing shift may account for some differences in results among youth. The NHSDA is a nationally representative household survey and includes the population aged 12 and above, which is roughly comparable in age to the school-based MTF. Key findings from both studies follow:

I. Monitoring the Future Study (MTF)

Data from the 1999 *Monitoring the Future* (MTF) indicate that we are holding the line against drug use. Data from the 1999 MTF indicate that use of most illicit drugs among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders remained unchanged from 1998. This is the third year in a row that drug use rates have leveled or declined since their rapid rise in the early 1990s. However, increases in use were found for the prime “club drug” MDMA (Ecstasy) among 10th and 12th graders and for steroids among 8th and 10th graders. The MTF also indicates a continued improvement in some anti-drug attitudes among youth with significant increases in perceptions of harmfulness of marijuana use among 8th graders.

Key Findings

- Among 8th graders, the rate of past year use of **crack cocaine** declined 14 percent (from 2.1% to 1.8%). This was the first such decline in the 1990s. The rate of past month use of **cigarettes** dropped 8 percent (from 19.1% to 17.5%).
- Among 10th graders, the rate of past month use of **crack cocaine** declined 27 percent (from 1.1% to 0.8%).
- Among 12th graders, the rate of past year use of **ice** (crystal meth) declined 37 percent (from 3.0% to 1.9%). The rate of daily use of **alcohol** dropped 13 percent (from 3.9% to 3.4%).

- Among 8th graders, **disapproval of trying marijuana once or twice** increased 2 percent (from 69.0% to 70.7%) and disapproval of **trying inhalants** increased 3 percent (from 83.0% to 85.2%).
- Among 10th graders, the perceived **harmfulness** (i.e., great risk) of trying **inhalants** once or twice increased 5 percent (from 45.8% to 48.2%), accompanied by an increased in perceived harmfulness of regular use of inhalants of 4 percent (from 73.3% to 76.3%). Disapproval of trying **inhalants** once or twice increased 3 percent (from 85.6% to 88.4%) and disapproval of regular use increased slightly (from 91.1% to 92.4%).
- Among 8th graders, those who reported **marijuana** was fairly easy or easy to get dropped 4 percent (from 50.6% to 48.4%). A 3 percent decline was reported for **cigarettes** (from 73.6% to 71.5%).
- Among 12th graders, declines in the perceived availability were reported for the following drugs: 10 percent for **heroin** (from 35.6% to 32.1%); 8 percent for **LSD** (from 48.8% to 44.7%); 13 percent for **PCP** (from 30.7% to 26.7%); and 10 percent for **tranquilizers** (from 36.2% to 32.7%).

However, not all the findings from the 1999 MTF are positive. Use of drugs among all grades remains at unacceptably high levels. In 1999 approximately one in four 12th graders (25.9%), one in five 10th graders (22.1%), and about one in eight 8th graders (12.2%) used an illicit drug in the past 30-days. The most frequently used illicit drug among all three grades was marijuana (past 30-day use: 23.1% for 12th graders; 19.4% for 10th graders; and 9.7% for 8th graders). These rates are unchanged from 1998. The increase in MDMA (Ecstasy) usage rates among 10th and 12th graders is of concern. The documented increase in this so-called “club drug” corroborates other recent indicators, including ONDCP’s *Pulse Check* and underscores the importance of NIDA’s new research initiative on club drugs announced earlier this month. Increases in the use of steroids highlights the need for the international sports community to serve as an example and educate youth about the dangers of steroids and other performance enhancing drugs. Specific unfavorable changes compared to 1998 include:

- Among 10th graders, annual use of **MDMA** increased 33 percent (from 3.3% to 4.4%).
- Also among 10th graders, past 30-day **steroid** use increased 50 percent (from 0.6% to 0.9%) and past year use increased 42 percent (from 1.2% to 1.7%).
- Among 12th graders, use of **MDMA** increased in all three use categories: 38 percent for lifetime use (from 5.8% to 8.0%); 56 percent for annual use (from 3.6% to 5.6%); and 67 percent for past 30-day use (from 1.5% to 2.5%).
- Among 8th graders, past 30-day **steroid** use increased 40 percent (from 0.5% to 0.7%) and past year use increased 42 percent (from 1.2% to 1.7%).

- Among 12 graders, the perceived harmfulness of trying **crack** once or twice dropped 8 percent (from 52.2% to 48.2%) – 12th graders were the only students who did not report a decline in past 30-day use of crack cocaine.

II. National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA)

- According to the most recent **NHSDA**, drug use continues to be a serious problem in America, particularly among youth. The data indicate that the problem is especially severe among the youngest ages (12-15); among white youth, in general; and increasing in small metropolitan areas. White youth also were the only age/race/ ethnicity group to show an increase in past month cocaine use and a lessening of the perceptions of risk of using it.
- This year's big news – and it's good news – is that the rate of **past month use of any illicit drug** among 12-17 year olds declined by 13 percent, from 11.4 percent in 1997 to 9.9 percent in 1998. This decline is the first statistically significant drop in four years.
- The decline in the rate use of **any illicit drug** among 12-17 year olds reverses a significant increase observed in this age group from 1996 to 1997. This decline was found not only in **past month use**, but also in **past year use** (from 18.8% in 1997 to 16.4% in 1998).
- The decline in past year use was largely driven by declines in the subgroup aged 6-17, whose rate of past year drug use declined significantly (from 30.7% to 26.8%). Lifetime use for this age group also declined significantly from the previous year (from 23.7% to 21.3%).
- Although current drug use among youth was significantly lower in 1998 compared to the prior year, the latest rate (9.9%) is still significantly higher than those observed in 1991 through 1994 (ranging from 5.3% to 8.2%).

Youth Drug Use (ages 12-17)

- The most essential finding is that current use of any illicit drug among 12-17 year olds declined significantly from 11.4 in 1997 to 9.9 percent in 1998.
- There were 2.1 million new marijuana users in 1997 (the last full year available from the 1998 survey). This is lower than in 1996, when 2.5 million persons started using marijuana. In addition, the average age at first use for marijuana increased from 16.6 years in 1995 and 1996 to 17.1 years in 1997.
- Current use of inhalants dropped significantly among youth from 2.0 percent in 1997 to 1.1 percent in 1998. However, use of marijuana in this age group was essentially unchanged from 1997. Use of any illicit drug **other** than marijuana dropped significantly from 5.2 percent in 1997 to 4.0 percent in 1998.

- Methamphetamine use in the age group 12-17 was significantly lower in 1998 (0.6% in 1998 compared to 1.2% in 1997).
- Perceptions of risk among youth (age 12-17) showed a significant decline—those reporting great risk of smoking marijuana once or twice a week declined from 57.1 percent in 1996 to 54.4 percent in 1998. Risk perceptions for cocaine also declined significantly between 1994 and 1998. Ongoing efforts to impact youth attitudes still require sustained effort—declining perceptions of risk of using marijuana and cocaine are a cause for concern.

Drug Use Among Young Adults (ages 18-25)

- For those aged from 18 to 25, the current rate of any illicit drug use in 1998 (16.1%) did not significantly change from 1997 (14.7%). However, current use in 1998 is still significantly higher than 1994 (when it was 13.3%). This indicates a gradual increase in drug use over the last four years. Cocaine use, in particular, increased significantly, from 1.2 percent to 2.0 percent from 1997 to 1998.
- The 18 to 25 age group includes many of those who started using drugs in the early 1990s. This cohort experienced high drug use rates when they were younger (aged 12-17 in Household Surveys of the past few years), and may be expected to continue to show a relatively higher rate of use as they age. This clearly indicates the need for continued efforts to improve and expand prevention efforts.
- Bottom line findings from this year's Household Survey are that we are seeing a notable improvement among the youngest age group (aged 12-17). However, there is still a serious problem among young adults (aged 18-25).

CLAIM: From 1991 to 1997, the percentage of prisoners receiving drug treatment in federal prisons decreased from 15.7 percent to 9.2 percent – a cut of over one-third. Currently, over 70 percent of the federal prison population are past drug abusers. [U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Special Reports: Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997, Released January 1999]

FACTS: **Drug Treatment Available for All Federal Prisoners**
Because of President Clinton's 1994 Crime Bill, the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) has been required to provide drug treatment to 100 percent of willing and eligible prisoners since FY1997. [Substance Abuse Treatment Programs in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Report to Congress, 1/99] In addition, all federal inmates must participate in drug education if alcohol or drugs contributed to their offense. [Federal Bureau of Prisons, Inmate Programs <http://www.fbi.gov/ipapp/ipaprover.html>] The BOP also supplies Community Transition for former inmates in halfway houses or on probation. [Substance Abuse in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Report to Congress, 1/99]

in Federal Prisons More Than Doubles
provided drug treatment, education or transition services to 33,997 there were just 14,412 prisoners receiving treatment and education Abuse Treatment Programs in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Report to Congress,

only 15 residential treatment programs in the entire federal Today there are 42 residential programs and non-residential ng is available in all 96 federal institutions. [US DOJ, State of the Bureau Substance Abuse Treatment Programs in the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Report to

Prison Population Data Contradicts Survey Results

A count of federal prisoners enrolled in drug treatment programs suggests that it is impossible for 15.7 percent to have received treatment in 1991. According to the Bush Justice Department, just 1,236 inmates were enrolled in actual drug treatment programs in 1991 – less than 3 percent of all federal prisoners. [US DOJ, State of the Bureau of Prisons 1991]. The report cited above is based on a poll of 4,041 federal prisoners rather than actual statistics of enrolled federal prisoners. [BJS, Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners 1997, 1/99 p.14].

Under the survey, treatment encompasses a wide variety of programs, including self-help and peer-group sessions. [BJS, Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners 1997, 1/99 p.10].

Increased Drug Testing for State and Federal Prisoners and Parolees

Drug testing parolees reduces the problem of drug use in prison and encourages inmates to receive drug treatment. Convicted offenders who undergo drug testing and treatment while incarcerated and after release are approximately twice as likely to stay drug- and crime-free as those offenders who do not receive testing and treatment.

President Clinton signed the first executive memorandum requiring drug testing of Federal arrestees and proposed an succeeded in passing new legislation requiring states receiving federal prison funding to submit test inmates and parolees and develop plans

7 1/2 times greater
recidivism rate
BOP

1/2 from above

for intervention and treatment of inmates. [Memorandum for the Attorney General December 18, 1995; FY1997 Consolidated Appropriations]

Clinton-Gore Drug Courts Cut Drug Use and Recidivism

President Clinton's 1994 Crime Bill also instituted federal grants to establish drug courts across the country to give non-violent offenders an opportunity to stay out of jail as long as they stay off drugs. Drug courts in all 50 states have enrolled 175,000 drug dependent offenders and 70 percent are still enrolled or have graduated clean and sober. Recidivism for graduates are below 4 percent – compared to an estimated 45 percent recidivism rate for all defendants convicted of drug possession. [OJP, Looking at a Decade of Drug Courts, 6/98; DOJ Release, 6/3/99]

Clinton-Gore Prison Drug Testing and Treatment Strategy is Working

Not only are more prisoners receiving drug treatment, but early indications are that drug treatment now works to cut recidivism and drug use rates of former prisoners. A study of recidivism during the late 1980s found that "*Recidivism rates for releasees with a history of substance abuse were the same regardless of whether they had participated in a drug treatment program.*" [BOP, Recidivism Among Federal Prisoners Released in 1987]. And in 1986, probationers who completed conditions requiring drug treatment were just 13 percent less likely to be re-arrested, [Drug and Crime Facts 1994, p.26] By contrast, a 1998 study of drug treatment programs implemented by the Clinton-Gore Administration found that treated prisoners were 73 percent less likely to be re-arrested and 44 percent less likely to use drugs. [Bureau of Prisons Release, 9/8/98]

Attacks on the Clinton-Gore Anti-Crime Record

GENERAL LINES OF ATTACK

- ✓ The Administration's focus on gun control as an answer to the violence that is plaguing our nation's schools and neighborhoods is wrong. Safety locks, background checks, and buyback programs are more PR than effective crime-fighting methods. Rather than focusing on measures making it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to buy guns, the Administration should enforce the gun laws already on the books and begin to address the cultural problems which are turning some children into violent criminals.
- ✓ In many areas, the Clinton-Gore Administration has shown a disregard for the rule of law. Gun laws are not forced, obscenity cases are not prosecuted, convicted FALN terrorists are released, and activist judges too often grant lenient sentences to violent criminals -- who later don't even serve the full sentence and move right back on the street.
- ✓ The Administration pushes Washington solutions to what are local problems and does not allow communities the flexibility to address the problems in their neighborhoods. The COPS program in particular dictates to communities how to spend money and even forces them to contribute their own money if they want to hire additional officers -- regardless of whether hiring officers is in fact their top priority.
- ✓ The Clinton-Gore Administration is losing the war on drugs. Drug use is up, yet funding and staff for ONDCP has been cut. The Administration is not addressing the international drug problem. Support for needle exchange and legalization of marijuana show that the Administration is sending our children mixed messages and is not serious about fighting illegal drug use.

GUN CONTROL

- ❑ **Fails to prosecute gun crimes:** The Clinton-Gore Administration does almost nothing to enforce gun laws already on the books. Prosecutions dropped from 7,048 during the Bush Administration to 3,807 last year. The Clinton Administration prosecuted just ten persons for the illegal "straw man" gun purchases nationwide in 1998. And of the 6,000 young people caught with guns at school the past two years, only 13 were prosecuted. Only one person was prosecuted under the Brady Law.
- ❑ **More laws won't deter criminals:** There are already 20,000 gun control laws on the books. One more won't make any difference, and wouldn't have prevented the tragedy at Columbine.
- ❑ **Violate the Second Amendment:** Waiting periods, gun bans, taxes on ammunition and strict transfer laws infringe on the right of honest citizens to bear arms and are the first step down the road to a nationwide registration system. Gun control won't stop criminals from finding guns -- it will only leave the majority of the population defenseless.
- ❑ **Safety locks don't work:** Mandatory safety locks are meaningless, unless the government then wants to go door-to-door to make sure people are using them. Also, they are not childproof

Attacks on the Clinton-Gore Anti-Crime Record

and are no guarantee that they will stop a child from using a gun. The government should not dictate how people should store their guns in their own homes.

- ❑ **Background checks have limited effectiveness:** In order for background checks to work, we need to automate records and make instant checks possible. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut funding for instant background checks. Furthermore, most people who buy guns in a store are law-abiding citizens, not criminals.
- ❑ **Gun buybacks don't work:** Clinton-Gore has spent millions on gun buyback programs that do not disarm criminals. The guns collected are mostly junk weapons and the persons turning in guns are not likely to be the ones who would use them.

RESPONSE TO SCHOOL VIOLENCE

- ❑ **Politicizing tragedy:** Using senseless tragedies as platforms to call for more gun control is offensive and wrong.
- ❑ **Need to address values/cultural issues:** Instead of responding to incidents of school violence with calls for gun control, America should go back to the basics -- prayer in school, mothers at home, role models children can respect. This is a values and cultural problem, not a gun problem.

ANTI-CRIME BUDGET

- ❑ **Small investment in law enforcement:** Clinton proposed \$1.6 billion for local crime and law enforcement, then vetoed a bill that would spend \$3 billion.
- ❑ **DC-focused budget:** Clinton-Gore want to dictate to local communities, instead of giving them the flexibility to spend funds in a way that will best address crime problems in their neighborhoods.

LENIENT SENTENCES

- ❑ **Revolving-door justice system:** Violent criminals are back on the streets too quickly, getting lenient sentences, then don't even serve the full time.

CLEMENCY TO FALN TERRORISTS

- ❑ **Sends wrong message to criminals:** Clinton pardoned convicted FALN terrorists. This sends a message to terrorists -- and any criminal -- at home and abroad that the United States will not follow through on a strong punishment if you attack our citizens.
- ❑ **Hurts fight against global terrorism:** The clemency was dangerous to national security, no one involved in conspiracies against U.S. government or terrorist organizations should receive clemency.

ANTI-OBSCENITY RECORD

- ❑ **No obscenity prosecutions:** Conservatives contend the Clinton-Gore Administration is "weak on pornography." The Administration has not opened one new obscenity case.

COPS

- ❑ **Did not reduce crime:** The COPS program did nothing to bring about the drop in crime rates we

Attacks on the Clinton-Gore Anti-Crime Record

see now. Crime rates have fallen thanks to the Republican focus on tougher penalties, crackdown on violent crime, and anti-drug agenda.

- ❑ **Did not put 100,000 officers on the street:** An Inspector General's audit report found that by 2000, the COPS program will put less than 60,000 officers on the street, not 100,000.
- ❑ **Doesn't put officers where they're needed:** Grants distributed at Attorney General's discretion, not on basis of crime rates. Many communities that don't have big crime problems have gotten officers through the program.
- ❑ **Communities can't keep up with funding:** The program does not fund the full cost of the officers' salaries, and many communities can't afford the additional burden. Many communities did not apply for COPS grants because they could not come up with the matching funds; others who have received funding have no plans on how they will continue to pay the officers once federal funding is gone.
- ❑ **Imposes a Washington solution:** A law enforcement block grant, that would allow communities the flexibility to meet their own individual needs would be more effective than imposing a requirement to hire new personnel -- which may not be a community's number one need.

HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

- ❑ **Hate crimes legislation unnecessary, infringe on free speech:** All crimes are hate crimes, and all crimes should be vigorously prosecuted. Hate crimes laws infringe on free speech and on civil rights since people who hold moral objections to homosexuality can be prosecuted for hate. Hate crimes laws are a backdoor attempt to bestow special rights on a group.
- ❑ **Federal Protection for Sexual Preference:** The Hate Crimes Prevention Act would make sexual orientation a federally protected civil right. It's only a matter of time before people who object to homosexuality based on moral, religious, or personal beliefs will be prevented from freely exercising their faith and beliefs.

WAR ON DRUGS

- ❑ **Drug use up:** Drug use is on the rise among American teens, with overall drug use among 12-17 year olds up 78% since 1992, and marijuana use up 141%. The Clinton-Gore Administration has done little to stem the tide.
- ❑ **Poor national drug control strategy:** Despite the rise in drug use, the Clinton-Gore Administration cut funding for the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) by 83% and reduced staffing from 146 to 25 employees. Set weak goals for reducing drug use.
- ❑ **Not addressing international drug problem:** The drug trade is a key element in international crime, yet Clinton-Gore have done little to address the problem. U.S. dollars are used by Colombian drug cartels to sponsor the largest guerilla movement in this hemisphere. The Clinton-Gore Administration has cut international interdiction programs by \$1 billion since 1993. An October 1997 GAO study found that since 1996, the amount of drugs smuggled and counternarcotics capabilities have remained unchanged.
- ❑ **Needle exchange programs encourage drug use:** President Clinton vetoed the FY99 District of Columbia Appropriations Bill because he wants to spend taxpayer dollars to give needles to drug addicts. Studies have not proven that needle exchange programs reduce the risk of HIV, and money would be better spent funding treatment programs.

Attacks on the Clinton-Gore Anti-Crime Record

- ❑ **Legalizing marijuana:** President Clinton also vetoed the FY99 District of Columbia Appropriations bill because he supports the legalization of marijuana. The President's own Drug Czar has said that marijuana should not be used as medicine and has no curative impact. Legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes undercuts the "just say no" message we should be sending to our children. The Administration claims they do not support legalization, yet they continue to request money to "study" the effectiveness of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

- ❑ **Activist judges who are weak on crime:** The Clinton-Gore Administration has appointed numerous judges who show an undue bias toward defendants and leniency in sentencing. Many of these judges are exercising an authority they do not have in overturning laws and legislating through their decisions.

LAW ENFORCEMENT GROUPS

Group Name

Work Phone

Major Cities

(410) 516-0789/ 516-0869 (F)

Mark Spurrier
201 N. Charles Street, Suite 320
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Federal Law Enforcement Officers Assoc. (FLEOA)

(212) 264-8400

Richard Gallo, President
7708 Colonial Road
Brooklyn, New York 11209

Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

(202) 547-8189

Jim Pasco, Executive Director
Gil Gallegos, President
309 Massachusetts Ave NE
Washington, DC 20002

International Association Of Chiefs (IACP)

*Dan Rosenblatt
Gene Voegtlin, Legislative Counsel
515 N. Washington St
Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 836-6767/ 836-4543 (F)
(703) 836-6767 ext. 211

International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO)

Chris Donnellan, Legislative Director
317 South Patrick Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 519-0300

International Union of Police Associations (IUPA)

Arther Reddy, International Vice President
Melissa Trotter, Government Relations
1421 Prince Street, Suite 330
Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 549-7473
(703) 683-9048 (F)

National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO)

Robert Scully, Executive Director
Thomas J. Scotto, President
Jody Hede~~m~~an Couser, Communications Director
750 First Street NE Suite 920
Washington, DC 20002

(202) 842-4420/ 842-4396 (F)
(212) 587-1000
(202) 842-3560

National District Attorneys Association (NDAA)

Newman Flanagan, Executive Director (703) 549-9222
James Polley, Director, Government Affairs (703) 519-1651/ 836-3195 (F)
99 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 510
Alexandria, VA 22314

National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)

Robert Stewart, Executive Director (703) 658-1529
4609 Pinecrest Office Park Drive, Suite F
Alexandria, VA 22312

National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)

Sheriff Pat Sullivan, Legislative Chair (303) 457-3575
A.N. (Bubby) Moser, Executive Director (703) 836-7827
1450 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

National Troopers Coalition (NTC)

James Rhinebarger, Chairman (317) 776-0053
Johnny Hughes (301) 489-1795
Washington Baltimore HIDTA
7500 Greenway Center Drive, Suite 900
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

Policy Executive Research Forum (PERF)

Chuck Wexler, Executive Director (202) 466-7820
Baltimore Commissioner Thomas Frazier, President
1120 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 930
Washington, DC 20036

Police Foundation

Hubert Williams, President (202) 833-1460
1201 Connecticut Ave NE, Suite 200
Washington DC 20036

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund

Craig Floyd, Chairman (202) 737-3400/ 737-3405 (F)
605 E Street NW
Washington DC 20004

EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1999 at 6:00pm

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The preliminary 1999 Uniform Crime Report released by the FBI today shows that we are making enormous progress in our national strategy to fight crime. America continues to experience the longest continuous decline in crime on record. Overall crime fell another 10 percent in the first six months of this year as compared to the first half of 1998. This is twice as large as any other six-month drop in a decade. We have the lowest crime rate in 25 years. We have the lowest homicide rate in over 31 years. In every region of our nation, neighborhoods are safer now, and Americans families are more secure than they have been in a generation.

But to keep crime rates down we must keep our vigilance up. Since I took office, my Administration has focused on a simple but effective crime-fighting strategy: 100,000 more police officers, fewer guns in the hands of criminals. Today's report shows that our strategy is making a difference. That is why I am pleased that the budget agreement reached last week will extend our successful COPS initiative into the 21st Century – helping put up to 50,000 more police officers on our streets, creating new community prosecutors, providing more resources for crime-fighting technologies. Congress must do its part now to reduce gun violence and crime, by making the passage of common-sense gun laws the first order of business when it reconvenes.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Nicholas M. Gess
Associate Deputy Attorney General

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room 4220
Washington, DC 20530
Telephone: (202) 514-0835



TO: Leanne S.
CC: Ian Alberg
OFFICE NUMBER:
FAX NUMBER:
FROM: Nicholas M. Gess
DATE/TIME: October 18, 1999

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS SHEET:

TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT UPON RECEIPT:

* * * FAX NUMBER: (202) 514-9368 PHONE NUMBER 202-514-0835 * * *

REMARKS: Leanne - Attached are a number of other items which you could add to your youth violence "accomplishments" document. Please call me if you have any questions.

Under Goal One, under Next Steps:

Encouraging Communities to Take a Comprehensive Approach to Gun Violence Prevention.

The Justice Department, in an effort to support communities across the country have faced in their efforts to focus on the problem of gun violence, have provided guidance to communities to help them craft effective, locally developed solutions. *Promising Strategies to Reduce Gun Violence*, which was released in February 1999, encourages criminal justice practitioners, educators, elected officials, and other community leaders to collectively develop a strategic approach to gun violence reduction. The document includes a blueprint for communities to develop their own comprehensive violence reduction plan and a wealth of practical information on demonstrated and promising gun violence reduction strategies.

Either Under Goal 2 or 3:

Identifying and Responding to Youth in Need of Mental Health Services. In June 1999, President and Mrs. Clinton and the Vice President and Mrs. Gore convened the first White House Conference on Mental Health, where they unveiled a number of initiatives, including efforts to encourage the criminal justice system to better serve individuals with mental health needs. The Justice Department has undertaken a number of projects to respond to this concern, such as: convening a forum, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services, to examine strategies to improve the justice system's response to the mentally ill who come in contact with the justice system; pilot testing and supporting the replication of promising cross-disciplinary and community-based programs that identify troubled youth early and provide them appropriate services to prevent them from acting out; and supporting the implementation of other community-focused strategies, such as the *Safe Futures* initiative and the *Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders*, which encourage the implementation of a comprehensive approach to juvenile justice by promoting delinquency prevention, appropriate services to and sanctions for first time offenders, and the creation a system of graduated sanctions for more seriously involved youth.

Studying the Problem of School Violence and Providing Assistance to the Field in Implementing School Violence Prevention Programs. The Justice Department has been a leader in identifying the challenges associated with implementing school safety programs and providing assistance to educators, community leaders, and justice practitioners in implementing promising programs. It supports a number of research endeavors, including programs to identify and evaluate promising strategies for school violence prevention supported under the *Safe Schools/Healthy Students* program, as well as an evaluation of school-based gang prevention and intervention programs. In addition, the Department of Justice has joined with other federal partners to assist states and local governments in implementing school-based prevention programs, such as truancy prevention and conflict resolution, and has partnered with the Harvard University School of Public Health to create a series of interactive satellite training broadcasts for school and community violence prevention personnel, health care providers, and justice practitioners that focus on violence prevention strategies that are promising or effective.

For the past six years, the Clinton Administration has made it a priority to reduce the number of firearms crimes and gun-related injuries and deaths. Recognizing that no single law or initiative will end such violence, the Administration has supported a comprehensive approach that addresses the illegal acquisition, possession, and use of firearms, as well as the underlying causes and consequences of violence.

- ☐ The Brady Law and National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). The Clinton Administration has increased dramatically the effectiveness of current federal laws that are designed to prevent guns from falling into the hands of felons, fugitives, stalkers, and those who are under a restraining order or have been convicted of a domestic violence misdemeanor. Until 1993, gun sales operated on the "honor" system. A licensed dealer would sell the gun if the buyers certified that they did not fall into any prohibited category, and no one checked to see if they were telling the truth. The Clinton Administration recognized that when it came to buying a gun, the honor system was not good enough. The Administration won passage of the Brady Bill to require background checks on gun purchasers. By imposing a minimal inconvenience on gun purchasers and requiring them to go through a background check, the Brady Law has kept guns out of the hands of more than 250,000 felons and other prohibited people, preventing untold crimes and violence.
- ☐ Assault Weapons Ban. In 1994, the Administration successfully fought for the Assault Weapons Ban, which prohibits the manufacture and importation of the 19 deadliest assault weapons, copies of those weapons, and large capacity ammunition clips that hold more than 10 rounds of ammunition.
- ☐ Youth Handgun Safety Act. In 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Youth Handgun Safety Act, which bans possession of handguns by juveniles under the age of 18, and prohibits adults from transferring handguns to juveniles.
- ☐ Enhanced federal law enforcement. When people violate our federal firearms laws, the Clinton Administration has been committed to bringing them to justice. Federal, state, and local law enforcement have worked together closely, and have significantly increased the overall number of firearms prosecutions in this country. Since 1992, the combined number of federal and state firearms convictions is up sharply – and about 25 percent more criminals are sent to prison for state and federal weapons offenses than in 1992. The number of federal cases in which the offender gets five or more years in prison is also up by more than 25 percent. This increased collaboration among federal, state, and local law enforcement has resulted in: (1) a more efficient distribution of prosecutorial responsibilities, (2) a steady *increase* in firearms prosecutions on a cumulative basis, and most important, (3) a sharp decline in the number of violent crimes committed with guns.
- ☐ Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative. The Administration has launched the Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, a national program to trace the guns that are used in crimes to their illegal sources through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms'

(ATF's) National Tracing Center. Comprehensive crime gun tracing enables law enforcement to detect patterns of illegal trafficking in guns and identify the criminals who use a crime gun by tracing the history of the gun from the manufacturer down through all of the subsequent, known purchasers.

- ☐ Community-based partnerships to reduce gun violence. The Administration has pursued a strategy of collaborative partnerships between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to bring all resources to bear on violent crime, including gun crime. These effective and sensible partnerships allow each community to identify its unique firearm and other violent crime problems and to implement the techniques that are most likely to have a positive impact on these local problems. Because of these efforts, gun crime and violence has dropped by up to 70 percent in cities such as Boston, Massachusetts, Richmond, Virginia, and Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- ☐ Training and technical assistance for communities. Through the Partnerships to Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence Program, the Comprehensive Communities Program, the Strategic Approaches to Community Safety Initiative, the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative, and other programs administered by the Department of Justice, the Administration has supported numerous innovative programs that break the chain of causation that leads to gun violence. The Justice Department and ATF have offered training and technical assistance to numerous communities to reduce the demand for and availability of guns and to reduce violence on our Nation's streets and in our schools. As part of its commitment to address the escalating problem of youth violence, the Department has provided funds to communities to enhance and coordinate prevention, intervention, and suppression strategies by developing partnerships between community residents, law enforcement, and the juvenile justice system.
- ☐ Identification of best practices. The Justice Department has developed a "tool box" approach for communities to use in implementing effective programs to reduce violence. In 1998-1999, the Department of Justice examined over 400 gun violence reduction programs in communities across the country. These included federal, state, and local law enforcement programs, and programs started by schools, hospitals, courts, businesses, and non-profit organizations. DOJ published *Promising Strategies to Reduce Gun Violence*, which presents practical information about 60 of these programs that have had a measurable impact on reducing gun violence.
- ☐ Research. Through its research branch, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the Justice Department also has supported many research projects that have improved our understanding of both the nature of gun violence and the effectiveness of various law enforcement strategies. For example, NIJ has sponsored studies of the illegal acquisition, possession, and use of firearms, as well as trends in gun injury, fatality, and crime. NIJ-sponsored studies have also examined illegal firearms markets, sources of guns to juveniles and criminals, and patterns of firearms use and possession by high school students and gang members, and evaluated the effectiveness of various prevention and

intervention programs. This research has supported the traditional enforcement activities of federal, state and local law enforcement officials, as they seek to address the root causes of gun violence by disrupting the progression of events and conditions that lead to gun violence.

Next steps: [add to bottom of page 1 of current draft]

- ☐ Trace all guns recovered in schools. The Departments of Treasury, Justice and Education are developing a plan to trace all firearms recovered from students in schools.

DRAFT - DRAFT

PREVENTING VIOLENCE IN OUR NATION'S SCHOOLS
Accomplishments and New Initiatives Proposed by President Clinton

We know the vast majority of our schools are safe, but we can't forget the communities in cities, suburbs and rural areas that have a serious problem with school violence. And we can't forget that even one incident of school violence is one too many.

-President Clinton, September 11, 1999

Goal: Getting Guns Out Of The Hands Of Juveniles And Away From Schools.

Signed into Law the Youth Handgun Safety Act. In 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Youth Handgun Safety Act, which generally banned the possession of handguns or handgun ammunition by juveniles under the age of 18, and made it a Federal offense for adults to transfer handguns to juveniles, with limited exceptions. In 1997, the President directed the Treasury Department to require that signs be posted on the premises of Federal firearms licensees and that written notification be issued with each handgun sold to non-licensees to help ensure compliance with the Youth Handgun Safety Act.

Enforcing Zero Tolerance for Guns and Other Weapons in Schools. In October 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Gun-Free Schools Act, requiring school districts to expel students who bring guns to school. The President issued a Presidential Directive later that month to enforce the "zero tolerance" policy for guns in schools, consistent with the Gun-Free Schools Act. In school year 1997-98, the U.S. Department of Education estimates that, under zero tolerance policies, nearly 4,000 students were expelled from public schools for bringing a firearm to school.

*stat
indicating
success, even
if not pros
#5. #6. #7.
kids bring
guns to
school?*

*Some mention of alternative policies,
or efforts to find some...?*

Introduced the Youth Gun Crime Enforcement Act. In April 1999, President Clinton unveiled his omnibus gun legislation to strengthen the Brady Law and the assault weapons ban, restrict access to guns by our youth and crack down on illegal gun traffickers. The President's proposed bill will: (1) raise the age of the youth handgun ban from 18 to 21 years of age; (2) ban youth possession of semi-automatic assault rifles; (3) prohibit violent juveniles from ever owning guns; (4) require child safety locking devices for guns; (5) reduce illegal gun running by limiting the purchase of handguns to no more than one per month per person; (6) halt the importation of large capacity ammunition magazines; (7) require Brady background checks for the purchase of explosives and at gun shows; and (8) help law enforcement trace more crime guns to their source.

Next Steps:

President Clinton Urges Congress to Act on Gun Legislation. In his September 11, 1999 radio address, the President urged Congress to complete work on the juvenile crime legislation and pass a final bill that includes common sense gun provisions proposed in his gun legislation and passed in the Senate, including measures to: closing the gun show loophole; requiring child safety locks for handguns; banning the importation of large capacity ammunition clips; and banning violent juveniles from owning guns for life.

Goal: Providing The Best Information To School Administrators, Teachers, Parents And Students On Preventing Youth Violence And Creating Safe, Disciplined, And Drug-Free Learning Environments.

Responding to the Early Warning Signs of Troubled Youth. President Clinton directed the Secretary of Education and the Attorney General to develop a guide to help teachers and principals identify and respond to the early warning signs of troubled youth that can lead to school violence. In August 1998, the Departments of Justice and Education released *Early Warning, Timely Response: A Guide to Safe Schools*. This guide provides schools and communities with information on how to identify the early warning signs and take action steps to prevent and respond to school violence. More than 400,000 copies of the guide have been distributed to every school in the country and to youth organizations throughout, and additional copies may be obtained through the websites of the Departments of Education and Justice.

Helping Students Take a Stand Against Violence. In October 1998, the President kicked-off a partnership between the Federal government and MTV to engage youth in solutions. The MTV year-long media campaign -- "Fight For Your Rights: Take A Stand Against Youth Violence" -- is designed to give young adults a voice in the national debate on school and youth violence. In partnership with the Department of Justice and Education, and the National Endowment for the Arts, MTV created and is distributing a Youth Action Guide and CD-Rom that aim to engage youth in mentoring, conflict resolution, and other positive solutions to violence. The guide is available through a 1-800 number at the Justice Department and through MTV.

can we just give the # ?

Next Step??

Goal: Helping Communities Coordinate Their Efforts To Identify Troubled Young People, Prevent Them From Acting Violently And Respond When Violence Does Occur.

Supporting a Community-Wide Response to School Safety and Youth Violence. To help communities throughout the country promote a coordinated, comprehensive response to school safety, last year at the White House Conference on School Safety, the President launched a Safe Schools/Healthy Students initiative designed to help communities develop and implement community-wide responses to school and youth violence. It empowers parents, principals, police, and others to collaborate on local solutions. In September 1999, the President announced over \$100 million in Safe Schools/Healthy Student grants for 54 school districts. The grants will support coordinated and comprehensive school safety plans that include anti-truancy initiatives, mentoring, mental health services, conflict resolution programs, school resource officers, and more -- helping to promote healthy development and to prevent youth violence before it occurs.

encourage?
requires
work & they
always
empowered?

Providing Safe After-School Opportunities for More than a Million Children a Year. Last year (FY99), the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program was expanded to \$200 million. This funding is already supporting hundreds of school-based after-school programs in rural and urban schools in 44 states and the District of Columbia, including weekend and summer programs. This year, the President proposed to triple this initiative -- to \$600 million -- to provide safe and educational after-school opportunities for up to 1.1 million school-age children in communities across the country. In addition, the Education Department released a report in June 1998, titled *Safe and Smart: Making the After-School Hours Work for Kids*. This report shows that after-school programs can lower juvenile crime and improve academic performance. *Safe and Smart* was sent to every school district in the country.

Forging School-Based Partnerships Between Schools and Law Enforcement. Under the School-Based Partnerships grant program, the Clinton Administration has provided \$30 million to 275 policing agencies to work with schools and community-based organizations to address crime at and around schools. This initiative emphasizes using principles of community policing and problem-solving methods to address the

causes of school-related crime. The grants will help forge or strengthen partnerships between local law enforcement and schools to focus on school crime, drug use and discipline problems.

Next Steps:

Creating a New Federal Response for Violent Deaths in Schools. President Clinton has proposed \$12 million in his FY 2000 budget for School Emergency Response to Violence -- or Project SERV -- to help schools and local communities respond to school-related violent deaths, such as those that occurred last school year in Jonesboro, Arkansas; Paducah, Kentucky; Pearl, Mississippi; and Springfield, Oregon. Developed with input from local officials and educators in these and other communities, Project SERV will enable the Federal government to assist local communities in much the same way that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assists in response to natural disasters. *Columbus?!*

Helping to Make All Schools Safe, Disciplined and Drug-Free. In 1994, President Clinton expanded the Drug-Free Schools Act into the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act, making violence prevention a key part of this program. Safe and Drug-Free Schools currently provides support for violence and drug prevention programs to 97 percent of the nation's school districts. At the White House Conference on School Safety, President Clinton announced his plan for a significant overhaul of this nearly \$600 million Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program (SDFSC). Under the President's proposal to reauthorize the SDFSC Program, schools will be required to adopt rigorous, comprehensive school safety plans that include: tough, but fair, discipline policies; safe passage to and from schools; effective drug and violence policies and programs; annual school safety and drug use report cards; links to after school programs; efforts to involve parents; and crisis management plans. *NDCP Ad Campaign*

Hiring School Resource Officers, Targeting Assistance to Schools with Serious Crime Problems. To help give schools with crime problems the tools they need to put the security of our children first, at the White House Conference on School Safety, the President announced an initiative to put more community police and School Resource Officers to work in schools -- and to train police, educators and other members of the community to help recognize the early warning signs of violence. Under the COPS in Schools Initiative, the Justice Department has provided \$145 million for 649 communities to hire 1,350 officers to work in schools. *✓*

Goal: Creating A National Dialogue Around Preventing Youth Violence.

President Hosted a White House Conference on School Safety. In October 1998, President and Mrs. Clinton hosted the first-ever conference on school safety to provide an opportunity for Americans to learn more about how they can make their own schools and communities safer. Students, parents, teachers, principals, law enforcement, ministers, and other experts from across the country participated in the Conference, and hundreds of communities and schools were linked by satellite. At the conference, the President presented information from the First Annual Report on School Safety -- a report intended to give parents, principals and policy makers an accurate, yearly snapshot of school crime, as well as to provide information on what practical steps they can take to make their schools safer. The President also announced a number of new resources and partnerships to give communities new tools to prevent school and youth violence. *non cap*

President and Mrs. Clinton Held a White House Strategy Session on Youth Violence after the Littleton Tragedy. In May 1999, President Clinton and the First Lady held a strategy meeting to discuss the problem of youth violence and develop a strategy for a national campaign to address this problem. The meeting included a broad cross section of Americans, including parents and children, teachers and religious leaders, law enforcement and government officials, gun manufacturers and sportsmen, and representatives of the entertainment industry. The President unveiled several initiatives to address the *hosted? (sn't the second report due soon?)*

problem of youth violence, including a Surgeon General's Report on Youth Violence, gun industry support for gun legislation in five important areas, and public and private commitments to ensure the effective implementation of the V-Chip.

Next Steps:

Establishing a National Campaign Against Youth Violence. The President called for a National Campaign Against Youth Violence and recently announced its formation. The campaign will be an independent, national, non-partisan campaign that will address the problem of youth violence by: (1) serving as an information clearinghouse to share what programs work in one community with communities all over the country; (2) securing commitments from all sectors of society to do their part to help reduce violence; and (3) helping give parents more tools to protect their children from violence.

Network Anti-Violence Roadblock. At the White House Strategy Session on Youth Violence in May 1999, the President challenged the entertainment industry to do its part to combat youth violence. In August, the President announced that an extensive coalition of broadcast and cable networks have joined together in an unprecedented effort to air simultaneously the prime time debut of public service ads on the theme of "Talking with Kids About Violence." The ads, which feature children and the President talking about the need for parents to talk to their kids about violence, will air between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. on August 18. This first-ever Ad Council television "roadblock" will include ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, UPN, WB, A&E, Animal Planet, BET, CNN, CNN Airport, Comedy Central, Country Music Television, Discovery Channel, Discovery Digital Networks, FOX Family Channel, Headline News, the History Channel, the Learning Channel, Lifetime, MTV, the Nashville Network, Nickelodeon, TBS, TNT, Travel Channel, TV Land, Univision, VH-1, and FasTV.com, a website with video streaming capability, which will provide the spot online. The public service ads were sponsored by the Kaiser Family Foundation, the Advertising Council, and Children Now. A free booklet has been developed for parents on how to talk about violence and is available at www.talkingwithkids.org, or by calling 1-800-CHILD44.