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Subgroup/Office of Origin: Public Liaison

Series/Staff Member: Alexis Herman/Ruby Moy

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 5903

FolderID:

Folder Title:
Camille O. Cosby

Stack:

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Row:

30

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1

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2

Position:

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PM 61

Date: 5/30/95

cc Debbie

TELECOPY TRANSMISSION

The Brokaw Company

9255 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 804
Los Angeles, California 90069

To: Alexis Herman From: Toel Brokaw
Office of Public Liaison

Number of pages to follow 1 (not including this page).

If all pages do not transmit or are not legible, please contact sender at
(310) 273-2060.

Alexis
Camille asked me to fax
this letter to you.

Hope you are well

Joel

- Bph / Earl Gunes
- mch

- May 9. 11

- J
- W. L. L.

- Do Fench

- Daniel Decker

-

Camille O. Cosby
P. O. Box 4049
Santa Monica, California 90411

(310) 202-9711

May 30th, 1995

Ms. Alexis M Herman
Director, Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Alexis:

After careful consideration, Bill and I have decided to decline the offer to join the National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Council. While the broad-based aims of this new organization are admirable and crucial, we feel our commitment in both time and financial resources is best-utilized by maintaining our involvement in the programs we currently support.

As you may know, we select programs for hands-on support where the documented impact on individuals is specific, direct and substantial. Recently, Bill and I have provided major funding for Dr. Foster's program at Maharry Medical College. Additionally, we have ten young mothers currently attending college with full scholarships.

Please pass on to the President that we were very honored that he requested our participation given our strong feelings on this issue.

Thank you, again, Alexis, for your efforts on so many fronts.

Sincerely,

Camille O. Cosby
Camille O. Cosby

COC/nk

FAX!

Please Deliver At Once !

To: Mac Webster

Fax#: 456-2983

From: Jody Greenstone (202) 797-8333

Date: May 25, 1995

Pages: 1 plus cover page

**Comment: Please give this to Alexis, Ruby and
Debbie Fine -- it is for Alexis' call with Camille Cosby.
Thank you.**

Quote for the day:

*" Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence.
Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with
talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb.
Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts.
Persistence and determination are alone omnipotent. The slogan 'press
on' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race. "*

Calvin Coolidge

May 25, 1995

Dear Alexis,

Debbie Fine told me last night that Camille Cosby is interested in the Council and that you may be speaking with her again today. I wanted to offer a few more thoughts which might be helpful.

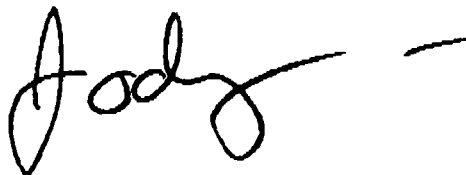
- First, the Cosby's are uniquely important to this effort. They were almost without exception the first people suggested to lead the Council by everyone I consulted. Their commitment to this issue and their support of programs such as Dr. Foster's gives them unmatched credibility. And, as a married couple they will be a powerful positive symbol.

- Second, if they have any concerns about this being too closely tied to the government, you can assure them that this will be a truly independent, genuinely bipartisan Council. As you know, even though the President and the First Lady are very supportive of this effort, the Council will not be directed by the White House. In fact, you could point out that because we all want this to be a lasting organization, it is critical that the Council *not* be seen as a "White House" initiative (Belle in particular feels very strongly about this).

- Third, if they have concerns about the extent of the commitment they would be expected to make to the Council, you could point out that they will likely be one of several Co-Chairs (if they would like to be the only Co-Chairs we could certainly try to work that out) in an organization with a strong president. Moreover, with Belle as the president, they can feel sure that the Council will be in the wise and mature hands of someone who will not unnecessarily burden them. Finally, we would be willing to accept whatever level of involvement they feel comfortable with even if it is limited to Camille's participation.

- Fourth, this is the right issue, the right mission and the right time. Teen pregnancy is arguably the biggest social problem facing the country today -- and the Cosby's have a demonstrated interest. Moreover, there is no broad, visible national leadership coming from the private sector -- they can do for teen pregnancy what Jim Burke did for drugs with the Partnership for a Drug Free America. There is a real gap this Council can fill. And, the country is focused on the problem. The President and the First Lady are interested and will be supportive and there are serious efforts springing up all over (California and Georgia both have state-wide efforts underway). This is the time for national leadership which can take advantage of this moment.

Thank you again for all of your help (Vernon and I finally hooked up and he will be calling Warren Buffett). Let me know what else I can do.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jody", followed by a horizontal line.