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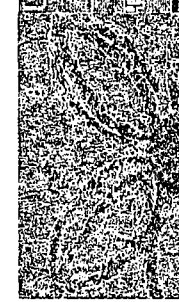
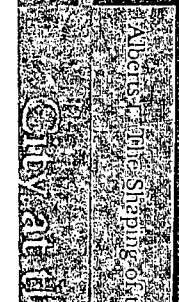
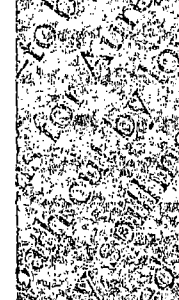
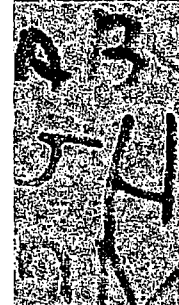
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READING TOGETHER:
CALIFORNIA CAMPUSES
AND COMMUNITIES
CONNECT THROUGH
AMERICA READS

Prepared with Support from
the James Irvine Foundation

Marsha Adler, Ph.D.
Director, Higher Education
America Reads/Counts Challenge



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

From the Collection of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library

A response from Mrs. John F. Kennedy Onassis to the National Association of English Teachers concerning children, books, and literacy

This is what I would like to say to children today:

Read for escape, read for adventure, read for romance, but read the great writers. You will find to your delight that they are easier to read than the second rate ones. They touch your imagination and your deepest yearnings, and when your imagination is stirred it can lead you down paths you never dreamed you would travel. If you read great language you will develop, without realizing it, an appreciation of excellence that can shape your life.

If you read, you may want to write. Great painters learn to paint by copying Old Masters in museums. You can learn to write by trying to copy the writers you like. Writing helps you express your deepest feelings. Once you can express yourself you can tell the world what you want from it or how you would like to change it. All the changes in the world, good or evil, were first brought about by words.

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

Overview

The National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance is a not-for-profit organization established to get and keep children reading. The NCBLA wants to act as a facilitator between the various individuals, organizations, and businesses within the children's book and literacy community and build connections with the world at large to create and enact a national campaign to educate the Americana public to the issues it must confront to get and keep our young people reading.

The NCBLA seeks to facilitate the creation of a national campaign to ensure that young people's literacy becomes a priority on the nation's agenda with a three step proposal.

1. *A national symposium* to articulate the level of crisis surrounding young people's literacy to an audience outside the traditional children's book and literacy community.
2. *A national summit* uniting the various factions within the children's literacy community with creative problem solvers, representatives from business, communications, and the advertising community, and individuals who are working directly with the young people most at risk, to develop a national umbrella campaign to get and keep kids reading.
3. *A national umbrella campaign* under which all interested parties can work together to break through and catch the nation's attention. Then, the specific campaigns of individual organizations not only heighten the nation's attention to specific problems and solutions which must be addressed to solve this problem, but also act as year long reinforcements for the umbrella goal of getting and keeping all young people reading from birth to adulthood.

The NCBLA believes that a successful campaign must be built not only on slogans, but on education and implementation. And any campaign must meet children, and the people who live and work with children, where they are at, not where we think they should be.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

BUILDING THE ALLIANCE

Planning Proposal

The National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance is a not-for-profit organization established to get and keep children reading. The NCBLA wants to act as a facilitator between the various individuals, organizations, and businesses within the children's book and literacy community and build connections with the world at large to create and enact a national campaign to educate the American public to the issues it must confront to get and keep our young people reading.

The NCBLA, in order to facilitate the creation of an alliance between the various factions in the children's book and literacy community, needs to operate under a number of assumptions. The assumptions are:

1. Issues related to getting and keeping children reading are at crisis point.
2. It would not only be beneficial for all parties involved in the children's book and literacy community to work together in a united effort, it is critical that such an effort be organized.
3. Because we live in a society where children, and the people who work with and for children, occupy the lowest rung on our societal ladder, a working alliance between the children's book and literacy community must be strengthened with support and partnerships outside the traditional children's literacy community.
4. Any alliance must make a concerted effort to move "out of house," to meet Americans where they live and work.
5. We need to begin to logically link together all issues related to young people's illiteracy in order for the American public to fully realize the deeply serious level of the problem. No one sees crisis when you limit the conversation to one aspect of illiteracy like early childhood development. If you begin to weave a picture that links lack of library funding, the deplorable condition of school libraries, the inaccessibility of most public libraries for children due to public safety reasons, inadequate teacher education, parental illiteracy, lack of early childhood education, etc., etc., the public will begin to think crisis. ***And the public will only respond to crisis.*** It can be done, just as the environmental factions united to create a movement which logically constructed a serious concern by building a multifaceted and dimensional picture of the environmental crisis of our nation. They successfully initiated both deep personal attitude changes and action among the American people. We can do that, too.
6. The unspoken underbelly of illiteracy, for both young people and adults, is inadequate writing skills. If we do not have a nation of readers, we will not have a nation of writers. **An active partnership could provide leadership to communicate to the American public that literacy is about much more than the ability to read.** It is about developing reading, writing, and communication skills for building a productive life. It is about finding avenues of pleasure and enjoyment that enhance families and communities. It is about comprehension, learning, creative thinking, and imagination. It is about young people realizing that they are not alone in the world, realizing that they have choices, realizing that they can create their own destiny.

In order to motivate the various factions within the children's book and literacy community to create a united force, inspiration and organization are required. The NCBLA, with financial support, has the ability within its stated by-laws and mission statement to make that happen.

STEP ONE: Laying the Foundation-establish that issues related to young people's literacy are at crisis point, establish that the most successful effort to address those issues is a united effort, establish that the problems are solvable.

STEP TWO: Building a United Campaign- create an opportunity for various factions within the children's book and literacy community to begin an interactive discussion and partnership; create an opportunity for interested parties outside of the traditional children's book and literacy community to interact with that community, to solve problems creatively; create an opportunity for all interested parties to devise a national campaign to get and keep young people reading.

STEP THREE: Implementation- construct a viable, active steering committee to enact a national campaign with the full help and support of all interested parties.

HOW??

Step One: NCBLA National Symposium, "Children and Books at a Crossroads," October 9, 1998, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, Boston

On October 9, 1998 the NCBLA will hold (with needed financial support), a national symposium whose focus will be children, reading, and books. The symposium is being planned: first, to establish the need as to why universal childhood literacy is vital to a healthy, productive, creative nation; second, to build a strong case to prove that issues related to getting and keeping young people reading are at a crisis point; third, to begin to reach beyond the traditional children's book and literacy community to engage the community; and fourth to prove that the problem, although multi-layered and multifaceted, is solvable, and best solved by a united effort jointly initiated by the children's book and literacy community *and* the community at large.

1. After an inspirational opening keynote speech by Maya Angelou, a morning panel will delineate the reasons why we are indeed at crisis level concerning children and reading.
2. An afternoon keynote by historian David McCullough will put these issues in historical context and articulate the reasons why making childhood literacy a national priority is essential for the future success of our nation.
3. The afternoon panel will highlight successful problem solving and raise the need for a united effort partnering the literacy community with the community at large.
4. The invited audience will consist of individuals who are not part of the traditional literacy community. The audience will consist of individuals from business, and organizations which impact children, their families, and community members.
5. The symposium will provide a logical springboard for the announcement of STEP TWO- a national summit bringing together interested parties to create a campaign and a united, organized effort to get and keep young people reading.

Step Two: National Summit, time and place to be announced

The NCBLA would like to organize, with the help of interested parties both inside and outside of the children's literacy community, a national summit which will provide the opportunity to both brainstorm and lay the organizational foundation for an annual united national campaign to get and keep children reading. The NCBLA is already investigating a number of partnership opportunities for hosting and sponsoring such a summit.

In order to build a true alliance, existing literacy organizations must have their good work and vital experience acknowledged and appreciated. They must also be included substantially in any problem solving which occurs, for if you participate in the solving of a problem, you have ownership of the solution.

Participants in the summit should be drawn from three distinct communities: representatives from the children's book and literacy community; representatives from the business community, most especially from the advertising and communications industries, and businesses which directly impact families; and individuals who work directly with the young people most at risk.

The summit should be organized for free-flowing discussion yet offer enough organization to move forward toward implementation of a campaign.

Specific goals for the summit include true brainstorming for a general reading campaign and building an organizational structure to enact the initiatives created at the summit, laying the framework for a national campaign.

Whenever and wherever the alliance summit meeting occurs, ground rules need to be established. Some suggestions as to what those ground rules might be:

1. Any individual, organization, or business who would like to join in a united effort must leave ego, preconceived notions, and specific agendas behind, and bring a spirit of cooperation to the effort. No individual, organization, or business can be defensive or self-promoting.
2. Anyone attending the meeting should agree that a general slogan under which to develop a campaign has to be comprehensive enough to include the two distinct constituencies which must be targeted in order to reach children to get and keep them reading. The first target group, for children third grade and under, is the adults who live and work with those children. This group should also include *expectant parents*. The second group, children in fourth grade through to adult, is the children and young adults themselves.
3. A national campaign is in no way meant to replace any of the incredible efforts created by any individual organization's specific campaign, projects, or programming. It is intended to enhance their efforts. A successful umbrella campaign will grab the nation's attention once a year and the individual organization's specific efforts create a natural reinforcement of the general message while adding to the layers of the nation's understanding.

4. It should be assumed that the summit will not include a debate on how to teach reading, but rather assume that reading professionals incorporate a wide range of teaching styles and techniques to meet the needs of individual students.
5. There will be no judgment calls on what young people are reading, nor any endorsements of reading curriculums.
6. And, it should be agreed, that any PR campaign is just to get people's attention. The real work to be done is in education and implementation. People need to know how to enact suggestions, how to become better informed, and how to get the children they encounter reading.
7. Since one of the main motivating forces which brings adults to literacy programs is the desire to read aloud to their own children, and since the single greatest asset a child can have in developing reading skills is having a parent read to them, it would seem logical that adult and children's literacy programs begin to work in concert with one another in order to achieve both their goals.
8. We must get out of bookstores and libraries and get to people where they are not reading. Non-readers are not walking around in bookstores and libraries.

Step Three: The Campaign

An action committee must be established, made up of representatives from the children's book and literacy community and representatives from business, advertising, etc., to carry the goals of the summit forward to enact a national campaign. A development committee must be created whose main purpose will be to gather funding to support the campaign. A national campaign will take at least a year to create and participating parties will be kept abreast of the campaign's development.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 1998

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1998

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

CHILDREN AND BOOKS AT A CROSSROADS

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

THE FIRST LADY OF THE UNITED STATES

Honorary Chair

DR. MAYA ANGELOU

DAVID MCCULLOUGH

Speakers

CHARLES OSGOOD

Panel Moderator

This symposium will bring together groups from within the children's publishing community – published authors, illustrators, academics, editors, art directors, publishers, librarians, and reviewers – to join with arts advocates, educators, government officials, members of the media, the medical community, the business world, and child and literacy advocates from all fields. Through panel discussions, meetings, and presentations, this will be an opportunity to inform the public of the need and challenges involved in getting effective books into children's hands, and to raise awareness that literacy and books need to be promoted equally to children and parents in order to get and keep children reading.

This will be the formal announcement of the creation of the NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE, a partnership between the children's publishing community and individuals and organizations who have an impact on the lives of children. The speakers will discuss literature and literacy as positive transforming agents in the lives of children, and throughout the day the work of gifted creators of children's books will be featured, as well as testimonies from people of achievement about the roles that reading and books have played in their lives.

For more information about the Symposium, please contact: Nea Savoca, Executive Director
P.O.Box 634 Franklin MA 02038-0634 508.820.9595 Fax 508.820.9184

FACTS ABOUT LITERACY

In the United States, between one person in ten and one person in five cannot read and write adequately enough to read want ads, fill out job application forms, read maps, or read story books to children.

— from Department of Education statistics

Nine in ten Fortune 1000 CEOs recognize illiteracy as a problem in the American workplace.Virtually all chief executives agree that workers' literacy levels affect productivity and profitability in general, finds a 1995 Opinion Research Corporation survey of Fortune 1000 CEOs sponsored by the Golden, Colorado-based Coors Brewing Company. The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that illiteracy costs U.S. businesses about \$225 billion a year in lost productivity. The costs stem from employee mistakes, injuries, absenteeism, tardiness, missed opportunities, and other problems associated with illiteracy. — American Demographics Magazine

More than 40% of fourth-graders read below grade level.

— National Assessment of Educational Progress 1994 Reading Report Card.

demonstrated higher reading proficiencies. There was a decline in the frequency of this activity among twelfth graders between the 1992 and 1994 assessments.

In 1994, students who reported watching less than four hours of television daily displayed higher average reading proficiencies than their peers who watched more television. At each grade, students who read five or fewer pages each day for school and homework had the lowest average reading proficiencies. Since 1992, there has been an increase in the percentage of twelfth graders who reported reading five or fewer pages each day, and a decline in the percentage who reported

In 1994, students who reported having a greater array of literacy materials in their homes displayed higher average reading achievement. Among twelfth graders, there was a decline between 1992 and 1994 in the presence of these materials at home. At all three grades, students who more frequently read for fun on their own time had higher average proficiencies. Twelfth-grade students in 1994 reported reading for fun less frequently than their 1992 counterparts.

At all three grades, students who reported more frequent home discussions about their studies

reading 11 or more pages.

Eighth and twelfth graders who reported being asked by their teachers at least once a week to explain or support their understanding of what they read had higher average reading proficiencies than students who were asked to do so less often. The reports of twelfth-grade students in 1994 indicated that they were not asked to do this as frequently as their counterparts in 1992. Eighth and twelfth graders who reported being asked by their teachers at least once a week to discuss various interpretations of what they read displayed higher average reading proficiencies than students who were asked to do so less often. According to eighth- and twelfth-grade students' reports, these discussions were less frequent in 1994 than in 1992.

— From the National Assessment of Educational Progress, 1994 Reading Report Card, evaluating the educational progress of grades 4, 8, and 12.

Reading aloud to children helps stimulate brain development, yet only 50% of infants and toddlers are routinely read to by their parents.

— Starting Points; the 1994 report of the Carnegie Corporation.

Children ages 9 to 14 spend more than 20% of their waking hours watching TV, but only 1% of that time reading.

— A Matter of Time: Risk and Opportunity in the Nonschool Hours. Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development, 1993.

ENDORSEMENTS

As of this printing

HONORARY CHAIR, NCBLA 1998 NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

Hillary Rodham Clinton *First Lady of the United States*

HONORARY BOARD

James Jeffords *United States Senator, Vermont*

Ray Mabus *Former Governor, Mississippi*

David McCullough

William F. Murdy

Charles Osgood

Jack Reed *United States Senator, Rhode Island*

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION ENDORSEMENTS

American Library Service for Children

A division of the American Library Association

Association of American Publishers

Association of Booksellers for Children

Beginning With Books

Children's Division of the Library of Congress

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators

The International Reading Association

INDIVIDUAL ENDORSEMENTS

Peggy Charren *Founder, Action for Children's Television*

Glenn Close *Actor and Arts Activist*

William D. Delahunt *Member of Congress, 10th Congressional District, Massachusetts*

Richard Gephardt *United States Representative, Missouri*

Patrick J. Kennedy *United States Representative, Rhode Island*

Patricia Schroeder *President and CEO, Association of American Publishers; former U.S. Representative*

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

GETTING INVOLVED

If you care about children, reading and books, you are already a member of the NCBLA and we need your help! Volunteer opportunities range from long-term commitments to helping with a one day special event. You can give one hour a day or one hour a month. Whether you are a student, teacher, homemaker, writer, illustrator, business person, librarian, retired professional, or active senior, whether you are 22 or 82, you and your skills are valued and needed.

What opportunities are available?

- ☞ Volunteers of all backgrounds and experience are needed to help develop and organize educational and fund-raising events across the country.
- ☞ People with computer skills and knowledge are needed to help with the NCBLA Web Site.
- ☞ If you have research and organizational skills, we need you to help collect and collate information for our online information clearinghouse.
- ☞ Are you interested in being a NCBLA state chair? Then we need your skills and experience.
- ☞ We're looking for people with communication, teaching, and office skills.
- ☞ We're an organization of creative people! Volunteers with writing, design, and/or illustration skills are always welcome and needed.
- ☞ And of course, volunteers who love kids, reading, and books are always cherished and appreciated by the NCBLA.

To volunteer with NCBLA, contact Nea Savoca, our Executive Director, at:

P.O.Box 634 Franklin, MA 02038-0634

508.820.9595 Fax 508.820.9184

JOIN US!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance?

The NCBLA is a not-for-profit organization, founded by award winning children's writers and illustrators (see accompanying biographies). We work actively to redefine literacy as more than the ability to read. We work to educate the public that children who can read and choose to read books are children who can write, think creatively, and develop the skills they need to work and have a purposeful life. Nationally, only half of all third graders are reading at or above third grade level, and of those children who are reading on their own, most boys will stop by fourth grade, most girls by junior high. So literacy is not only about teaching all children to read, it's also about keeping those children reading throughout their lifetimes.

The NCBLA will act as an umbrella service organization for existing children's book and literacy organizations. We will promote organizations that are successfully confronting children's illiteracy and connecting children to books. We will act as a liaison organization, initiating partnerships between the business community, medical and social services, civic organizations, and the children's book and literacy community to create projects that will get and keep children reading. And we will serve as an information source and referral service, connecting the media to the children's book and literacy community.

Why is the NCBLA different from other existing literacy organizations?

The National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance is unique. We believe that the issue of children's literacy and the problems of illiteracy in this country merit a new, multifaceted approach if any progress is to be made. We want to create a coalition between the children's book community and parents, educators, business, government, academia, civic organizations, and medical and social services. This coalition will be able to approach the problems and initiate actions across a wide spectrum of areas, using a tremendous array of talent and input, which will get and keep children reading by drawing attention at the highest levels and providing information at the most basic levels.

How will the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance accomplish its goals?

The NCBLA is launching a national campaign to bring issues related to children's literacy and books to the forefront of our national agenda. Illiteracy is reaching critical proportions in this country, and we want to begin to work on the problem from many sides at once.

We are beginning an editorial and public affairs campaign to promote children's literacy and books by working in partnership with national magazines whose market targets children, adolescents, and/or parents. And we will work to create a partnership with the television broadcasting industry. The vast impact of television can be used to create public awareness and connect children and their families to reading and books.

The NCBLA is creating a World Wide Web site that will serve as a clearinghouse for children's literacy issues and ideas. It will include an updated listing of children's literacy and book organizations, their mission statements, web links, and addresses; a calendar of events relating to children's books and literacy; and specific practical information on how to get and keep children reading.

The NCBLA is also developing a series of LITERACY THROUGH LITERATURE interactive workshops, which will give specific information and training to individuals and organizations who have a direct impact on children and their families. The workshops will be held throughout the United States, and will focus on issues relating to the connection between children, families, and books.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NATALIE BABBITT is the acclaimed author of the contemporary children's classic, *Tuck Everlasting*. She has written a number of novels for children, including the ever popular *Kneeknock Rise*, a winner of the Newbery Honor Medal, *The Search for Delicious*, and *The Devil's Storybook*. She has illustrated her own picture books as well as collections of poetry by Valerie Worth, and her books are in print all around the world.

MARY BRIGID BARRETT is the author of the award-winning picture book, *Sing to the Stars*, and has five books scheduled for publication beginning in 1998. She is a professional educator and has taught in the illustration department at the Rhode Island School of Design. She has worked actively for children's literacy and education issues both in the Midwest and New England, and is the Chair and President of The National Children's Book And Literacy Alliance.

STEPHANIE LOER is a children's book critic who has been reviewing children's literature for print, radio and television for over twenty years. She also works as a consultant on children's literature to many educational establishments, and frequently lectures on children's books.

LOIS LOWRY is the well known author of books about Anastasia Krupnick and is one of the few children's authors to have won the Newbery Medal twice; first for her poignant novel, *Number the Stars*, the second for *The Giver*. Her book *Autumn Street*, a work of flawlessly crafted prose, stands with *To Kill a Mockingbird* in American literature. She is a much-requested speaker and travels extensively to lecture about her work and the creative writing experience.

DAVID MACAULAY is the well-known author of numerous publications, among them *Cathedral*, *Unbuilding*, *Black and White*, and *The Way Things Work*, and has garnered an impressive number of awards, including a Caldecott Medal. He is a Chevalier De L'Ordre Des Arts et Des Lettres in France and recently received the Charles Frankel Prize from the National Endowment for Humanities. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Rhode Island School of Design. David has hosted a series of programs on PBS based on his work, and lectures frequently. He is a Vice-President of The National Children's Book And Literacy Alliance.

PATRICIA MACLACHAN is the author of a number of beautifully written lyrical novels and picture books. She won the Newbery Medal for *Sarah Plain and Tall*, which was produced as an award-winning Hallmark Hall of Fame movie, starring Academy Award winner Glenn Close. Her novel *Skylark* was also made into a Glenn Close movie for Hallmark, as well as *Journey*, with Jason Robards. She has written many other books for children, including *Arthur for the Very First Time*, *Unclaimed Treasures*, and *Cassie Binigar*. A successful screenwriter, Patricia MacLachlan is also a dynamic speaker.

KATHERINE PATERSON has won two National Book Awards, and one Newbery Honor for *The Great Gilly Hopkins*. She also won two Newbery Medals for *The Bridge to Terabithia* and *Jacob, Have I Loved*, both of which have been produced by Wonderworks Inc. as movies for public television. Her books have sold around the world and have been translated into over twenty-one different languages. She has long been an activist for children's literacy, and her books of essays concerning writing for children, *The Spying Heart* and *Gates of Excellence*, are mandatory reading in many children's literature courses. Katherine is a Vice-President of The National Children's Book And Literacy Alliance.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEA SAVOCA is a graduate of Wellesley College and has worked professionally in marketing and public relations. She has spearheaded numerous volunteer activities in education and the arts. Nea is an experienced grant writer and an active advocate for public education.

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THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

Literacy Through Literature

P.O. Box 634 Franklin MA 02038-0634

T: 508.820.9595 F: 508.820.9184

WHO WE ARE

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE is a not-for-profit organization established to create and pursue a campaign to get children reading and keep children reading. The Alliance will promote existing children's book and literacy organizations, and work with them in partnership to create educational programs that will give interested parties the tools to achieve these goals. Acting as a communication and service organization, we seek to build connections between children and literacy professionals and the community at large to make issues concerning children's literature and literacy a part of our national agenda.

WHAT WE ARE ABOUT

Literacy is not just about the ability to read. It is also about comprehension, creative thinking, and writing skills. Literacy and children's literature are essentials that must be promoted equally to build a thinking, imaginative, articulate society. Organizations within the children's book and literacy community have long acted as advocates for specific issues such as parent and teacher education, library funding, early childhood reading readiness and teen literacy outreach.

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE will provide a vehicle for existing organizations to act in concert, to address issues and initiate actions related to getting and keeping children reading.

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

Mary Brigid Barrett

PRESIDENT

P.O. Box 634 Franklin MA 02038-0634
508.533.5851 Fax 508.820.9184 email mbbarrett@aol.com

PATRICIA AND FRED MCKISSACK JOIN THE NCBLA BOARD

Alone, and with her husband, Frederick, Patricia McKissack has written over fifty books for young readers, including picture books, beginning readers, information books, and biographies. Patricia and Frederick McKissack's book, *A Long Hard Journey: The Story of the Pullman Porter*, was awarded both the Coretta Scott King Award and Jane Adams Peace Award. Patricia's picture book, *Mirandy and Brother Wind*, was awarded a Caldecott Honor Medal. Patricia and Fred McKissack feel strongly that all young people need good literature by and about African Americans and have stated a dual goal of improving the self-image of African-American children and of encouraging an open attitude in all children toward cultures different from their own.

ADDITIONS TO THE NCBLA HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are pleased to announce that Pulitzer Prize winning historian David McCullough, and award winning CBS Sunday Morning host and writer, Charles Osgood, have joined the NCBLA Honorary Board of Directors. Also joining the NCBLA Honorary Board are Senator James Jeffords of Vermont and Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island. Both Senators have taken an active interests in issues related to young people's literacy and are committed to meeting the challenges of getting and keeping young people reading.

NCBLA/Seventeen Partnership

The NCBLA is working with *Seventeen* Magazine to address issues related to teen literacy. Their first joint effort is an article in the May 1998 issue of *Seventeen*. The article not only encourages teen reading but encourages teen community service in areas of literacy.

PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK AND LITERACY ALLIANCE

CONTACT: NEA SAVOCA 508.820.9595

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHORS FORM LITERACY ALLIANCE

Seek to Make Childhood Literacy a Top National Priority

Boston, MA, December 5, 1997 - A group of leading children's book authors have announced the formation of an organization that will work to raise the national profile of children's literacy issues.

The idea was immediately endorsed by the Stinky Cheese Man, Sarah Plain and Tall, Tuck Everlasting, the Giver, the Great Gilly Hopkins, and the man who knows The Way Things Work.

If you don't know who these characters are, then you have somehow missed being among the millions of American parents and children who have delighted in the works of legendary children's book authors Jon Scieszka, Patricia MacLachlan, Natalie Babbitt, Lois Lowry, Katherine Paterson, and David Macaulay.

The six authors made a rare joint appearance tonight at a celebration of children's literature held at the Boston Public Library. The event was cosponsored by the library and the newly formed National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance.

The NCBLA is a not-for-profit organization founded by Babbitt, Lowry, Macaulay, MacLachlan, Paterson, award-winning picture book author Mary Brigid Barrett, and Boston Globe children's book critic Stephanie Loer. The Alliance's mission, its creators said, is to focus attention on the broad social and economic significance of childhood reading and to supplement the work of existing children's book and literacy organizations by helping them connect with each other and their communities.

"Literacy campaigns too often end up being consigned to libraries and book stores," said Barrett, the Alliance's chair and president. "We want to help bring the message of reading out of the book stacks and into homes, schools, neighborhoods and businesses, and to give children's literacy the attention it deserves on the national agenda."

The Alliance's projects will include developing a national campaign to promote awareness of literacy issues and to guarantee children access to books, hosting a series of regional workshops, promoting organizations that successfully encourage literacy through literature, and creating a world wide web site that will act as an information clearinghouse for organizations active in issues related to childhood reading.

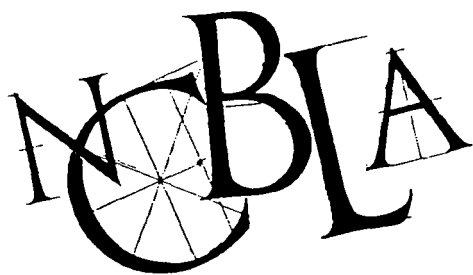
In addition, in October of next year, the Alliance will host a national conference, "Children and Books at a Crossroads," at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has agreed to serve as honorary chair for that event.

"Obviously, for a group of authors, literacy is an issue that hits us where we live," commented Macaulay, a vice president of the alliance. "But children who are taught to read and encouraged to continue reading will become lifelong learners, which is precisely what businesses need in their employees and democracy needs in its citizens."

"Reading is the basis of a functioning civilized society," added Paterson, also a vice president of the Alliance. "This should be everyone's priority."

National 'Literacy Through Literature' Campaign Launched in Boston

THE RECENTLY FORMED National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance will initiate its public relations campaign promoting "Literacy Through Literature" at the Boston Public Library on December 5. Presented in partnership with the library, the event is billed as "an evening in celebration of children and books" and features a discussion among an impressive panel of children's book authors: Natalie Babbitt, Lois Lowry, Patricia MacLachlan, Katherine Paterson and Jon Scieszka. David Macaulay will act as moderator.



Of these individuals, all but Scieszka serve on the board of directors for the Alliance, which is chaired by the group's president, author-illustrator Mary Brigid Barrett. Barrett is also the self-described "instigator" behind this not-for-profit coalition, established this fall to promote existing children's book and literacy organizations and to act as a communication and service group to make issues concerning literacy a part of the "national agenda."

Among the Alliance's goals is the creation of a national campaign to educate the public about the urgent need to get—and to keep—children reading. Barrett, who often visits elementary schools as a guest teacher of literature-based writing, lamented the double tragedy of the current status of literacy among youngsters. In her words, "It is a

Effort kicks off next month with a panel of noted authors and illustrators

BY SALLY LODGE

well-documented fact that some 50% of third- and fourth-graders in this country are reading below grade level, but what many people fail to understand is that of those who are reading at grade level, a frightening number will stop reading by the time they reach middle school. If we can reduce childhood illiteracy, we will reduce adult illiteracy, which is a critical message we need to get to the average Joe in the streets. Libraries are filled with posters promoting reading and National Children's Book Week, but that's like preaching to the choir. We need to make sure that these posters appear at bus stops, too."

Barrett, who expressed gratitude for the enthusiasm and interest that has greeted the Alliance's efforts to date, explained that the organization's plans to reach the public include editorial and public service advertising in print media, informational television and radio programming, and public service spots. The Alliance, which is currently exploring various fundraising venues, hopes to have a Web site up and running by early next year. "This will help us reach beyond the traditional children's literature community and to spread word of literacy issues and events occurring across the country," Barrett noted.

"Literacy groups are staging beautiful, small fireworks displays all over this country, but these sparks are getting lost in our media-centered culture. Our plan is to create a big bang to bring these fireworks to national attention."

The Alliance expects that an event it is hosting on October 9, 1998, will do just that. To be held at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston, a symposium on children's literacy and literature entitled "Children and Books at a Crossroads" will mark the official launch of the group's national campaign. Hillary Rodham Clinton is honorary chair and Maya Angelou is the keynote speaker of the event, which will bring together educators, librarians, community and business leaders, representatives from medical and social services and government officials involved in educational initiatives. The Alliance plans to follow up this symposium with a series of interactive workshops to be held across the country.

Those interested in obtaining additional information may contact executive director Nea Savoca at NCBLA, P.O. Box 634, Franklin, Mass. 02038-0634; (508) 820-9595.



TWENTY YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG. The Children's Book Shop in Brookline, Mass., is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year with a variety of events. The poster above was created for the store by author-illustrator Peter Sís, who attended a champagne reception there on Nov. 2.

Alliance spotlights children's literacy and literature

Gala Boston event marks public launch for National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance

More than 150 people attended a gala celebration of children and books at the Boston Public Library on December 5, 1997. The celebration marked the first public event of the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance (NCBLA), a recently formed nonprofit organization established to promote children's reading. The alliance plans to make issues concerning children's literature and literacy a part of the national agenda in the United States.

The December 5 event included a panel discussion of topics related to children and books, moderated by author/illustrator David Macaulay and featuring Natalie Babbitt, Lois Lowry, Patricia MacLachlan, Katherine Paterson, and Jon Scieszka. Babbitt, Lowry, Macaulay, MacLachlan, and Paterson serve on NCBLA's board of directors, along with Stephanie Loer and Mary Brigid Barrett. Barrett serves as chair and president.

The alliance seeks to make childhood literacy a top national priority.

The audience attending the December celebration was diverse, including representatives from literacy organizations, members of the press, teachers, librarians, pediatricians, college-age people, and a few youngsters, says Barrett. "What was delightful was that a number of people who have attended many events like this were just as excited as those who were seeing one for the first time," she adds.

Goals and objectives

NCBLA has the following goals and objectives:

- to create a national campaign to actively address issues related to children's literacy and literature.
- to create a service association to identify and promote already existing organizations and programs that are successfully addressing issues related to children's literacy and literature.
- to create educational programs to promote children's literacy through literature.
- to create a national information and education center concerning children's books and literacy, accessible to the general public.
- to create a united force to continuously identify and confront challenges to literacy and book access for children.

NCBLA recognizes that many organizations already act as advocates for specific issues within these areas. The alliance hopes to provide a vehicle for these organizations to act in concert to address issues and initiate actions related to getting and keeping children reading.

Symposium, Web site planned

NCBLA will launch its national campaign on October 9, 1998, in Boston, Massachusetts, by hosting a symposium entitled "Children and Books at a Crossroads." The purpose is to articulate the reasons literacy and literature must be promoted equally to get and keep children reading. The symposium will identify problems and obstacles, specifying constructive actions and highlighting successful programs. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has agreed to serve as honorary chair for the event.

In addition to organizing the symposium, NCBLA is developing a World Wide Web site that will promote public education concerning issues, actions, and programs related to children's books and reading. The site will list information about organizations and events related to children, books, and literacy. It will provide instructional materials for parents and educators, and it will include a magazine component with feature articles highlighting successful literacy programs and activities, along with family literacy activities.

The alliance will also conduct a series of interactive workshops across the United States. These workshops will provide specific training to individuals and organizations involved in literacy education for children and families. The workshops will be videotaped, and copies will be made available for schools and organizations throughout the country.

The alliance also plans to create and sponsor a television broadcast, or series of broadcasts, to promote children's books and reading. The program or programs will be designed for family viewing so that parents and children can explore together various aspects of children's books and reading.

"Literacy campaigns too often end up being consigned to libraries and book stores," says Barrett. "We want to help bring the message of reading out of the

book stacks and into homes, schools, neighborhoods, and businesses, and to give children's literacy the attention it deserves on the national agenda."

"Reading is the basis of a functioning civilized society," adds two-time Newbery Medal-winning author Katherine Paterson, a vice president of the alliance. "This should be everyone's priority."

Reading for the fun of it

NCBLA wants to emphasize the enjoyment that reading can bring to people of all ages. Barrett expresses concern that to many people reading is simply another task to be accomplished.

Barrett also stresses the importance of a continued emphasis on reading throughout a person's life. "While early literacy is important, it's equally important to keep young people reading," she says.

At its September 1997 meeting, the International Reading Association's Board of Directors recognized and endorsed the efforts of NCBLA. The board agreed that IRA should volunteer to serve on the honorary committee for the upcoming symposium, and further agreed that IRA should work cooperatively with the alliance in future projects designed to promote children's ability and desire to read.

For further information about the activities of the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance, contact: Nea Savoca, Executive Director, NCBLA, PO Box 634, Franklin, MA 02038-0634, USA. Telephone: 508-820-9595.

Authors unite to boost children's literacy

By Donna Milmore
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Alarmed at the crisis in children's literacy, a group of noted authors and illustrators has mobilized to make sure the benefits of reading reach beyond classrooms and libraries to football fields, boardrooms, and bus stops.

Led by an author-illustrator, the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance will go public with a "Celebration of Children's Books" on Friday at 7 p.m., at the Boston Public Library. Some 350 persons are expected to attend the kickoff, which will introduce the public to the newly formed nonprofit coalition and its "Literacy through Literature" campaign.

Committed to get - and keep - children reading, the alliance envi-

sions its role as a powerful, centralized resource to support and promote all the varied children's literacy initiatives throughout the country. Led by Mary Brigid Barrett of Franklin, an emerging author with five books due for publication next year, the Alliance's board of directors includes some of the most notable figures in the world of children's literature.

Board member and Newbery Medal winner Katherine Paterson of Barre, Vt., views the group as a "national clearinghouse" for children's literacy issues.

Though many literacy efforts are underway, those forming the alliance say they are filling a void where a single resource is lacking. To create awareness, raise funds, and respond to specific inquiries about children's literacy, the alliance plans a public relations campaign akin to the milk

companies who banded together to promote their product generically. Publicity will include public service advertising in print media, television and radio programming, and a web site.

The campaign begins with Friday's celebration, co-sponsored by the Boston Public Library. The evening will feature a panel discussion of six award-winning children's authors, a book sale, and an autograph session. Author-illustrator David Macaulay will moderate the evening's discussion with authors Natalie Babbitt, Lois Lowry, Patricia MacLachlan, Paterson, and Jon Scieszka. Proceeds will benefit the library's children's services.

Barrett came up with the idea for the alliance as a result of her frequent visits to elementary schools as a guest teacher of writing.

"Between 40 and 50 percent of

third- and fourth-graders in this country are reading below grade level," says Barrett. Even more alarming, many children stop reading altogether shortly after this point, she says.

"We're in danger of making reading seem like 'work,'" says Natalie Babbitt, based on her classroom observations. Babbitt, author of the modern classic "Tuck Everlasting," sees many changes occurring around the fifth grade and aims her work directly at this age group.

"Boys stop reading in fourth and fifth grade, and girls stop in junior high," agrees Barrett.

"Libraries are filled with posters promoting reading and National Children's Book Week, but that's like preaching to the choir," says Barrett. "We need to make sure that these posters appear at bus stops, too. And how about the teen-age



Natalie Babbitt

mom who didn't grow up with books?"

The alliance is planning an ambitious agenda, with a national launching event, "Children and Books at a Crossroads" on Oct. 9, 1998, at the John F. Kennedy Library. Hillary Rodham Clinton is honorary chairperson and Maya Angelou will be the keynote speaker. Serving as a volunteer director of the Alliance, Nea Savoca is coordinating the event. She can be called at 508-820-9595 or e-mailed at savoca@worldnet.att.net.



David Macaulay

GLOBE FILE PHOTO



Katherine Paterson

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THE BEST AND THE WORDS

By Catherine O'Neill Grace

HEALTH (Page Z18)

HOW & WHY

© The Washington Post

12/16/97 (Tuesday)

20 inches

At a library in Boston last week, a group of well-known children's authors got together to announce the formation of a new national organization dedicated to children's literacy. The group's mission is to focus attention on the importance of reading in children's lives.

What is literacy? It's the ability to read. But it's much more than that. It's the ability to understand what you read. It means developing creativity and writing skills too. It means being able to read and understand well enough to learn new things.

Literacy is a big problem in this country, even among grownups. According to the U.S. Department of Education, many adults cannot read and write well enough to look for a job, read a map or read to their children. Among children, more than 40 percent of fourth-graders read below grade level. The Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development reports that children aged 9 to 14 spend more than 20 percent of their waking hours watching TV, but only 1 percent of that time reading.

Educators report that kids who read a lot -- for schoolwork and for pleasure -- do better in school, get better jobs and become lifelong learners. Reading is very, very important.

Plus, it's fun! In books you can travel to the past or the future, to your own city or to the planets and stars; you can meet people different from yourself; you can dream.

"When you give children books, you give them the world," says writer Mary Brigid Barrett, a founder of the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance (NCBLA).

The group will host regional workshops around the country, will support other groups that help connect kids and books and plans to set up an Internet site early next year that parents and kids can visit to find out more about children's literature. The World Wide Web site will include a national monthly calendar of events related to children, books and literacy.

"Children who are taught to read and encouraged to continue reading will become lifelong learners," says author David Macaulay, a founder of the NCBLA.

The holiday season is a great time to get acquainted with books by authors such as Jon Scieszka ("The Stinky Cheese Man"), Patricia MacLachlan ("Sarah Plain and Tall"), Natalie Babbitt ("Tuck Everlasting") and Katherine Paterson ("The Great Gilly Hopkins"). Those authors, along with Lois Lowry ("Autumn Street"), Mary Brigid Barrett ("Sing to the Stars") and David Macaulay ("The Way Things Work"), had the idea for the NCBLA. You can find their books, and thousands of others, at the library or in bookstores -- or you can ask for them as holiday gifts. Before school ends for the winter break, talk with your librarian and get help making a list of books that you will enjoy. Or visit the kids' section of a bookstore and talk with someone there.

Happy holiday reading!

Tips for Parents

The new, nonprofit National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance will launch its first national campaign next fall, beginning with a symposium called "Children and Books at a Crossroads," to be held at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston on Oct. 9, followed by a series of interactive workshops to be held across the country. Want to get involved? Volunteers are needed to help organize the events. For information, write to executive director Nea Savoca at NCBLA, P.O. Box 634, Franklin, MA 02038-0634. In the meantime, if you need guidance choosing books for your children this holiday season, try these resources: - "Choosing Books for Children: A Commonsense Guide" by Betsy Hearne (Delacorte) - "Comics to Classics: A Guide to Books for Teens and Preteens" by Arthea J.S. Reed (Penguin Books) - "The New Read-Aloud Handbook" by Jim Trelease (Penguin Books) - "The New York Times Parents' Guide to the Best Books for Children" by Eden Ross Lipson (Times Books)

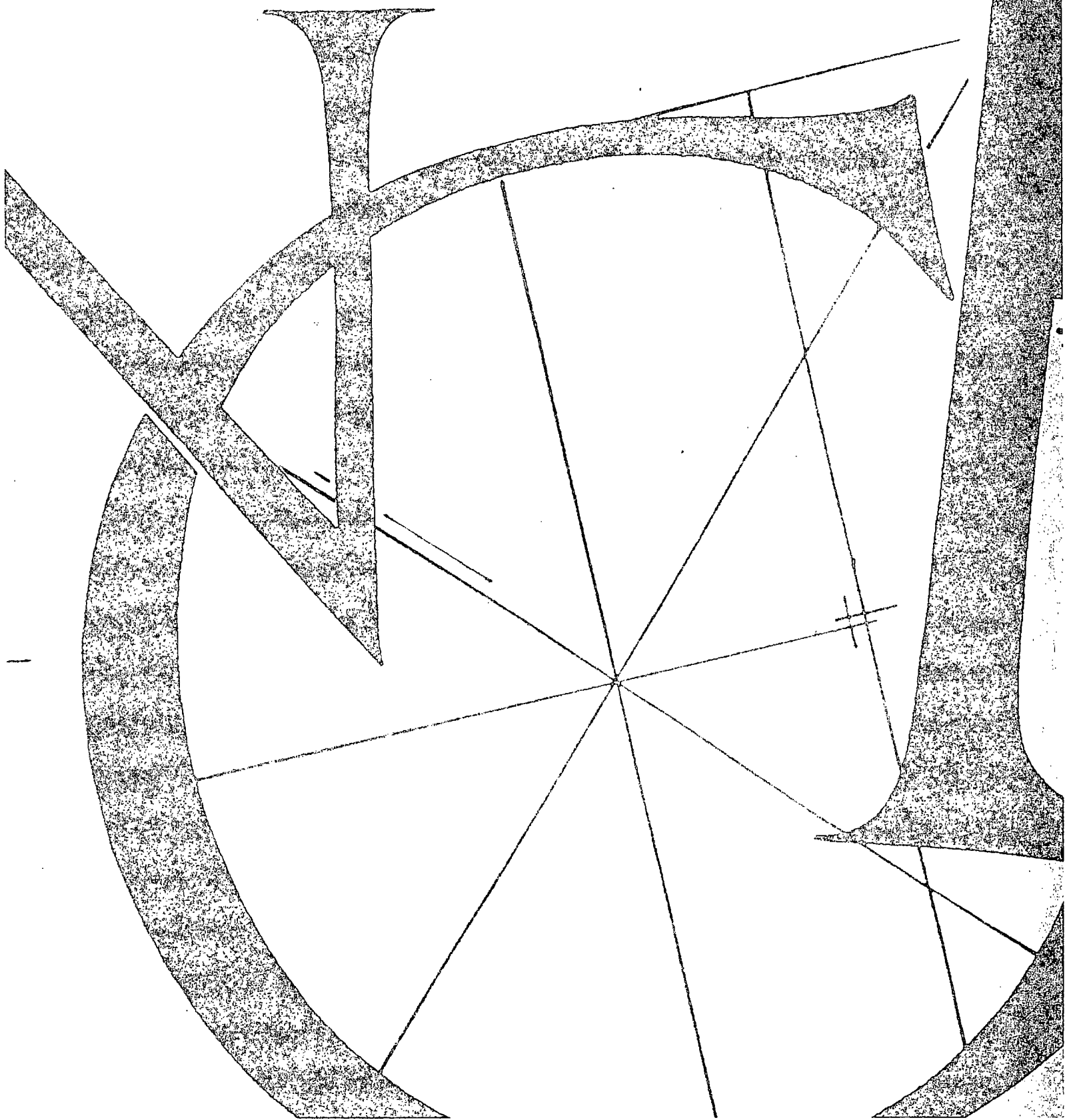
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For You to Do

Having trouble deciding what to read? Adults often choose books that have won major awards such as a National Book Award or a Pulitzer Prize. A good bet for kids' books is to try Newbery Medal winners. In 1997, that honor went to E.L. Konigsburg for a book called "The View From Saturday." (Konigsburg also wrote a famous book, "From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler," which won the Newbery Medal 29 years ago!) "The View from Saturday" is about a powerhouse sixth-grade academic quiz team that beats out team after team of seventh- and eighth-graders. It's also about learning to be kind and care for others. Many readers have said the book is not just for kids. So here's an idea: Get the book and read it yourself. Then write a review of it, fold your review inside a holiday card, and give the card and the book to an adult you care about. Include a promise to read the book aloud to the adult. After all, grown-ups need to be literate too!

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



FYI... from ellen lovell

Jenn:

Is there a discussion about
a new National Health Museum?
Here is an interesting thought
from the National Park Service.

We are working with Dr. Koop
on the National Health Museum.
I think they intend to locate it
here in D.C. Do you have

something else in mind?

Jen

Response: 5/25

yes - the Park
Service is interested
in exploring whether the
So. side of Ellis Island -
the old hospital building -
might be a site for a
National Health Museum.
Ellen

Neera -

Keep this on your
radar screen.

Jen



The Other Ellis Island

The court battle for bragging rights obscures an important fact:
Nearly half of this national treasure lies in ruins.

Photographs by Stephen Wilkes

Text by Clyde Haberman

Mention Ellis Island, and many people think only of the main hall on the north side, lovingly and expensively restored a decade ago and reopened in 1990 as a wonderful museum. It's understandable why that part of the island gets all the attention. That main hall was the immigrant experience; just about everyone landing on the island had to pass through it. What better place to teach millions of tourists a year about the hardships, hopes and indeed the raw courage of those who left everything in the old country to build a new life from scratch.

No, here we're talking instead about the south side, or as some call it, the "sad side." It usually receives little attention, even though it lies at the heart of the fight over whether Ellis Island belongs to New York or to New Jersey, a territorial dispute now before the United States Supreme Court.

In its time, the south side was a medical campus of 29 buildings and connecting corridors, a sprawl of contagious-disease wards and isolation rooms, where those too sick to be whisked immediately into the United States were sent to get better.

Or sometimes to die. At least 3,500 people never made it off the island alive. Some, before being carted off to a potter's field, were taken to an

autopsy amphitheater on the south side, so medical students could watch as forensic surgeons dissected the bodies, studying diseases rarely seen in the United States.

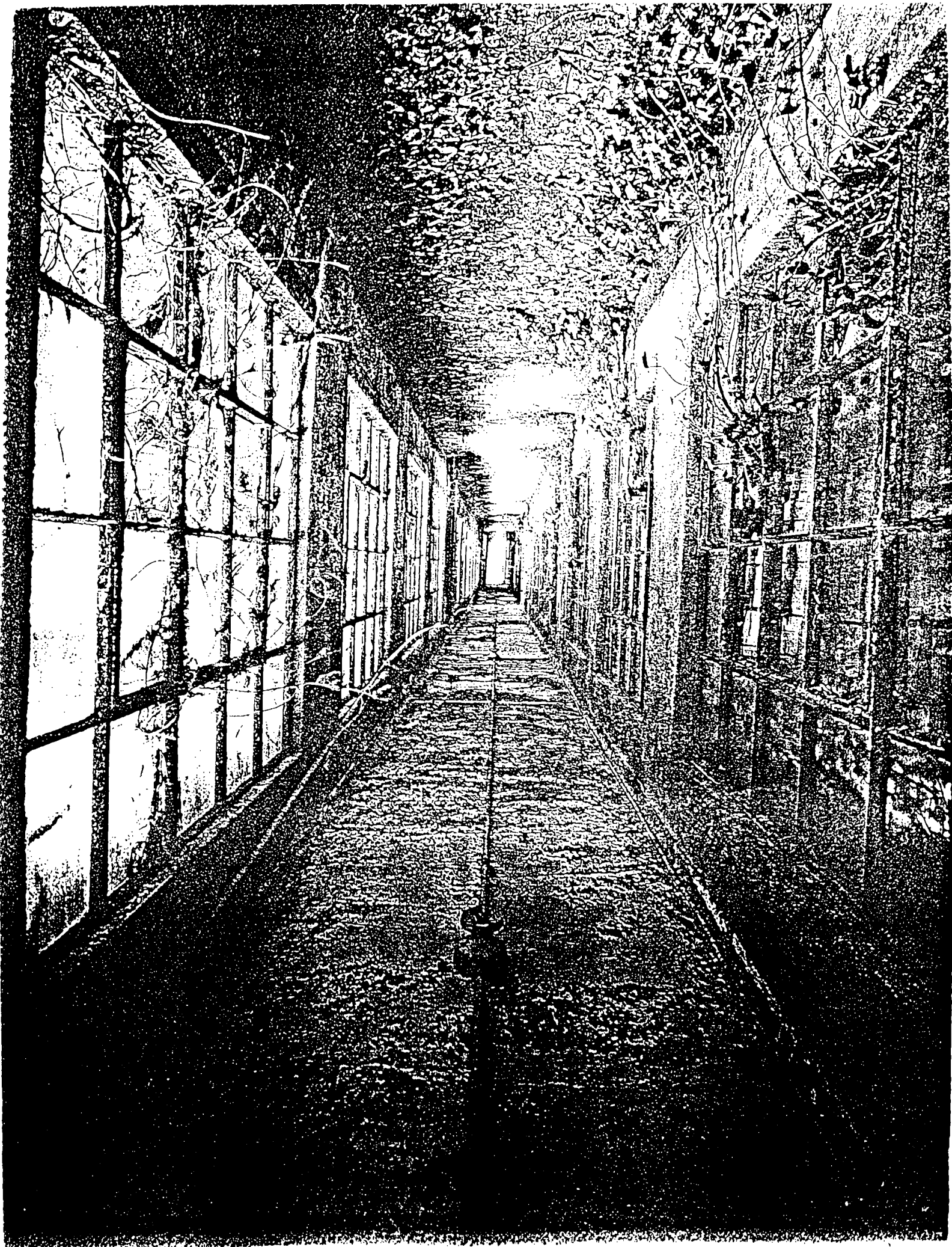
Roughly 20 percent of the 12 million immigrants who passed through Ellis Island were held there for days or weeks because of medical or legal problems. When you consider that, overall, only 2 percent were shipped back where they came from, you can appreciate the quality of the care they received. Richard Wells, a National Park Service officer who is the island's director of planning and development, is not embarrassed to admit that he gets a lump in his throat when thinking about it. "At the turn of the century," he says, "America treated its immigrants far better than it does today."

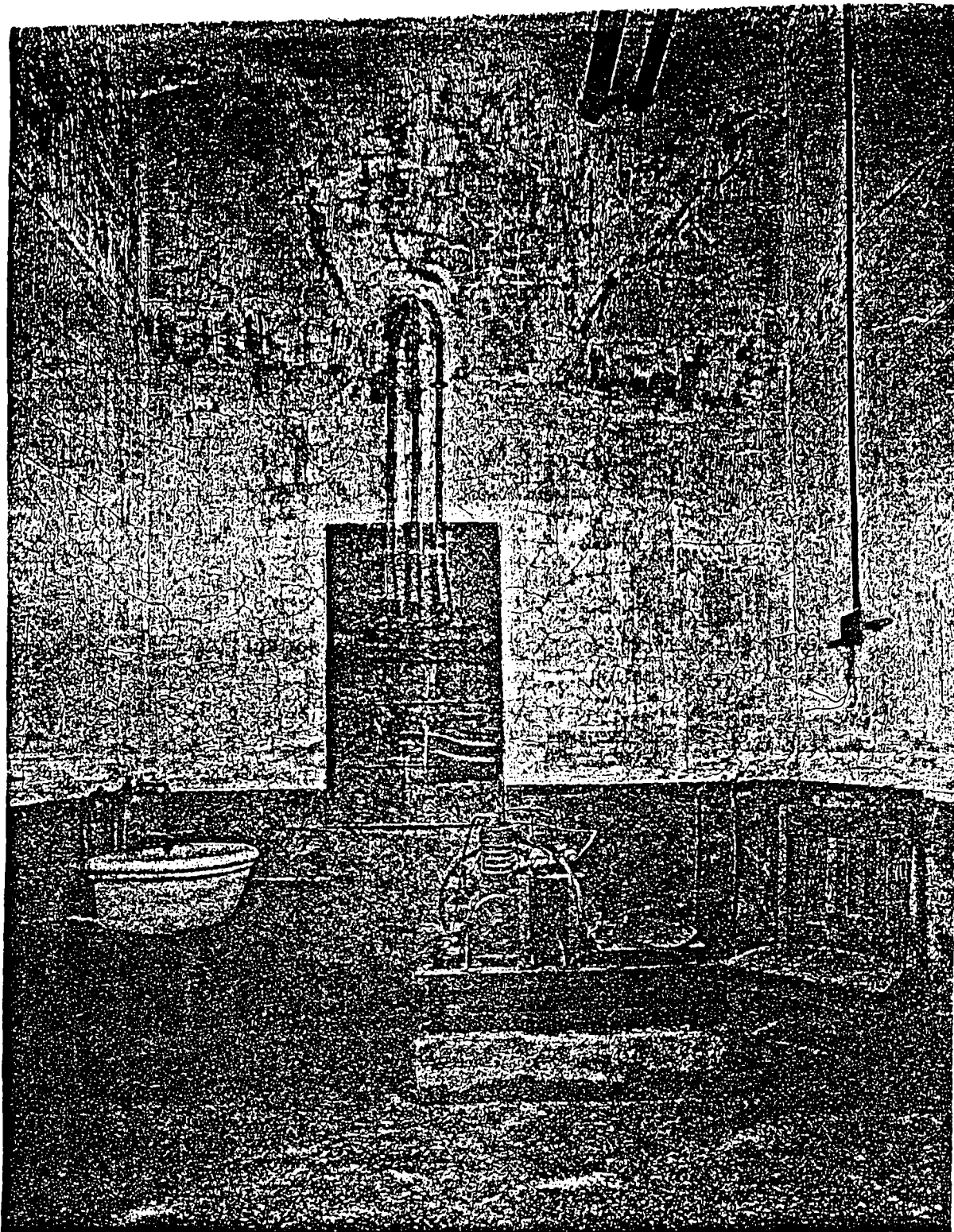
That legacy lies in shambles, the victim of 44 years of near-total neglect. Rain cascades from broken skylights. Weeds thick as tree branches poke through floors and walls. Veils of ivy shroud entire sections of the hospital in permanent darkness. Four decades of bird droppings and fallen plaster carpet stairways. Chunks of masonry have fallen off exterior walls, and steel beams are so rusted that the buildings they support may soon collapse.

Why little was done to preserve the complex is hard to fathom. The Park Service says it needs \$3.1 million to stop further deterioration, plus another \$3.5 million to go the extra step of cleaning up asbestos and other hazardous materials. This is peanuts, and the reclamation project being discussed

Stephen Wilkes is working on a book of photographs of burned objects. Clyde Haberman writes the NYC column for The New York Times.

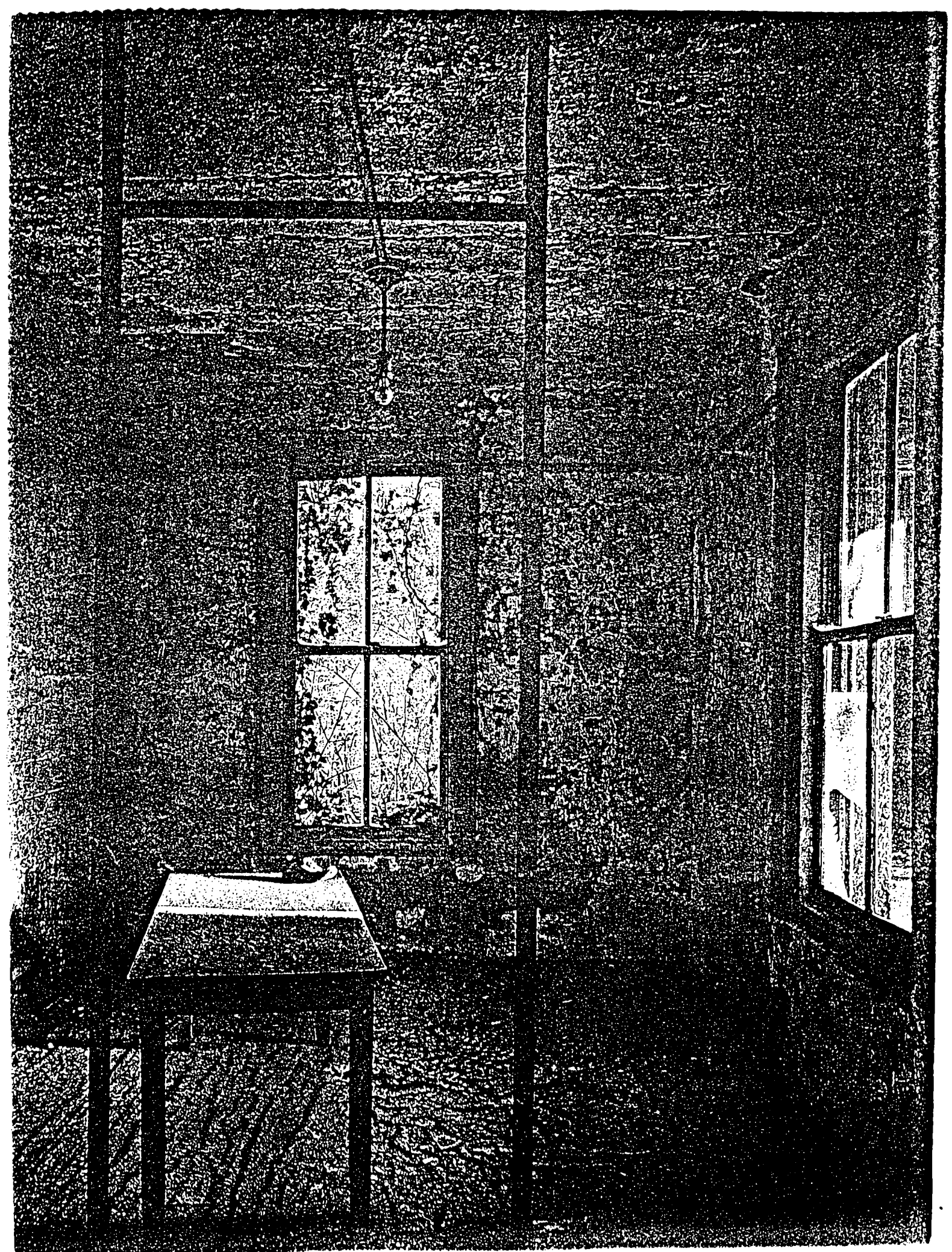
The Main Corridor Rusting and rotting from long neglect like everything else around it, this 500-foot-long passageway formed the spine of the hospital complex, linking isolation wards and offices with facilities like the kitchen, powerhouse and laundry.





The Morgue The scrub room in the morgue still has remnants of the electrical system that powered the refrigeration unit where corpses were stored. At least 3,500 immigrants died on the island, and some were autopsied in the morgue

An Administrator's Office This room off the main corridor was one of many where decisions were made about what to do with immigrants. New immigrants were tested for mental incompetence as well as for physical ailments, and the hospital housed people with a medical manual's assortment of maladies.





A Hospital Extension This was a ward for women and girls deemed too ill to enter the country immediately. The entire hospital had a capacity of 500 beds. "It is at once a maternity ward and an insane asylum," a long-ago visitor is reported to have said.

is modest; nobody proposes a restoration on the grandiose scale of Ellis Island's north side. Yet Congress has provided not a penny. And while it dithers, the south side has landed on a list of the 11 "most endangered historic places" put together by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

One building stands out because it is in somewhat better shape than the others. It once housed offices and laboratories. To show what a little cash can do — and perhaps also to try shaming the Federal Government into action — preservationists from the New York Landmarks Conservancy spent \$39,000 recently to patch the building's roof, line its gutters and install special window protectors.

Peg Breen, the conservancy's president, warns that this beginning will prove to be a false start unless the Government starts putting real money into a reclamation project. So much energy has been poured instead into the battle between New York and New Jersey that the entire nation's stake in preserving the south side has been obscured.

Don't forget, 40 percent of Americans trace their roots to someone who came to America by way of Ellis Island. As Breen puts it, "Ellis Island is the closest thing we have to a national shrine."

In that shrine, at every turn, wisps of a vibrant past brush you as you walk through old isolation wards and white-tiled operating rooms.

The late-afternoon sun casts a bright red light on the steel door of the autoclave, where jets of steam used to purge mattresses of bacteria and vermin. Not many yards away, a coal-burning boiler stands majestically, looking as though it could be fired up in minutes. In an examination room, a wooden chair is turned to a window facing the Statue of Liberty, so close you can practically reach out and touch her.

From the floor of a ward for measles patients, you pick up a yellowing scrap of newspaper dated Oct. 21, 1954, a remnant of the old *Daily Mirror*, which itself died nine years later. It is a haunting reminder of what used to be: something to hold on to briefly, yet, all the same, one more ghost. ■



FAX COVER SHEET

U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development
Neighborhood Networks
9300 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031

Date:	11/12/99	Number of Pages:	46
To:	Jennifer Klein	Recipient's Fax:	
From:	Don Evans	Sender's Fax:	(703) 934-3156
		Sender's Phone:	703-218-2597

Message:

This is the location where we will hold a CHIP outreach enrollment event in mid-February. I look forward to giving you a personal tour of the development and Neighborhood Networks Center.

Thanks!

Don

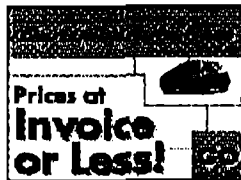
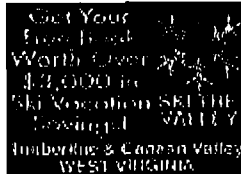
Neighborhood Networks is a community-based HUD initiative that helps low-income housing residents achieve self-sufficiency by providing job training, educational opportunities, microenterprise development, health care, child care, transportation and other support services. Visit www.NeighborhoodNetworks.org or call 1-888-312-2743 for more information.



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Edgewood Terrace Undergoes a Rebirth

By Jacquelyn Powell
Washington Post Staff Writer
Saturday, January 9, 1999; Page G10

First there's the bold and cheerful color, beckoning all who pass by. Then there's the sign, "The Vantage and the Parke." Combined, they signal the reincarnation of Edgewood Terrace, a moderate-income rental community in Northeast Washington that fell victim to such colossal decline that its value was reduced to \$1 in a 1995 foreclosure sale.

Today the Vantage (a seven-story mid-rise) and the Parke (six garden-apartment buildings) flaunt their make-over with a comfortably appointed model apartment. But during the 1980s and the early 1990s, they fell victim to the financial mishaps (their Seattle owners, who used them as a tax write-off, defaulted on the mortgage) and social woes of the period (they lost tenants and turned into an open drug market).

The buyer at the 1995 foreclosure sale was Community Preservation and Development Corp., a Bethesda nonprofit that buys distressed properties and works with tenants to revitalize them.

Leslie A. Steen, president of CPDC, recalled that tenants were clearly against condominium conversion. "We came to the residents with a proposal for homeownership," Steen said. "We actually got a planning grant from HUD," which had subsidized the building of the complex.

The tenants said no. Rogerline Nicholson, who moved to Edgewood Terrace shortly after it opened in 1971 and today is president of the residents association, said that many of them were seniors and didn't want the burden of ownership. "Only two people wanted to [buy]," Nicholson recalled. "I had retired in 1989 and I thought that was a bit too much." The poorest tenants, she added, would have been forced out.

HUD then ordered a survey to assess tenants' needs. Steen recalled, "They said, 'We want our housing fixed, and we want jobs.' "

Many of the people who had choices left the buildings. But a core group chose to stay and work to revive their homes if CPDC bought the property and lived up to its promise.

Nicholson declared the collaboration a success. "I think they did a

fantastic job," she said of CPDC. "They worked very well with the association and the residents, and we have tried to support one another."

The fancy paint job and different name herald an amazing rebirth made possible by tenant-owner efforts and \$17 million in public and private funding.

The first challenge was to clean and rehabilitate much of the 16-acre, 884-unit site between the Brookland and Rhode Island Avenue Metro stations after its decade as a crime zone. There are two other components of the Edgewood Terrace complex, a public-housing cluster, now owned by CPDC and scheduled for senior housing conversion, and an 11-story building that remained stable and today is owned by a limited partnership.

Erasing that image required astute marketing. The leasing center was made into bright modern offices and a computer training center -- the core of CPDC's economic empowerment program for tenants. The complex offers both day care and after-school programs run by nonprofit organizations.

The leasing staff shows an attractive model unit, a standard marketing tool for upscale complexes but "unusual for this kind of community," Steen said. The rooms are large, carpeted and wheelchair-accessible. They are outfitted for the disabled, and there is a strobe-light system for the hearing-impaired.

Seeing the model did the trick for Frances Crawford, who recently braved a freezing morning to fill out an application. "I was just very impressed," Crawford said. "I've never seen carpet in places for people of lesser means, and it's there."

Dorothy Tucker, director of resident services for CPDC, said that with 60 percent market-rate apartments and 40 percent subsidized units, the population is stabilizing with "two-parent families" and "individual singles, many of whom are middle-income folks."

Although serving all types of tenants is the common goal, Nicholson believes that senior citizens deserve priority. "We really would like to have a nice place for the senior citizens . . . We need things for the teenagers, but without the senior citizens, this [renovation] would not have happened," she said.

And as for the new name, many are still proud of the old one. "We want the name Edgewood," Nicholson said. "We know it was a terrible place to live for a while, but we've done something about that. We didn't mind adding 'the Vantage and the Parke,' but please don't leave Edgewood off."

THE VANTAGE AND THE PARKE AT EDGEWOOD TERRACE

601 Edgewood St. NE

Washington, D.C. 20017

202-832-0400

* Application fee:\$25; a \$100 holding fee is applied to the first month's rent

* Security deposit: \$300

* Lease term: One year

* Utilities: Not included

* Amenities: On-site computer training classes; Internet access; laundry centers; day-care facilities; after-school programs

* Parking: Rear lot with free, uncovered spaces or covered spaces, \$25 a month

* Pet policy: No pets

APARTMENT SIZE QUANTITY SQUARE FEET MONTHLY RENTAL

Efficiency or 1BR 101 430 to 620 \$480 to \$535

2BR or 2BR/Den 119 808 to 972 610 to 700

3BR or 3BR/Den 72 972 to 1,133 700 to 825

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COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

FINANCIALLY SOUND AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

MISSION

Community Preservation and Development Corporation (CPDC), a non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, creates affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents. CPDC develops partnerships with residents to establish community service programs that strengthen the community and provide opportunities for individual growth.

CPDC's philosophy of combining physical rehabilitation, resident involvement, and ongoing community service programs ensures that affordable housing communities return and remain a healthy part of the social and economic mainstreams.

CPDC OVERVIEW

- Founded in 1989
- Operating in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia
- Leslie Steen, President
- Acquired 13 properties, with 1847 units; 7 properties with community service programs and The Gateway

CPDC'S PARTNERS

Residents
Public Bodies
Churches
Private Enterprise
Property Managers

Lenders
Employers
Non-profits
Police

Foundations
Community Groups
Social Service Agencies
Educational Institutions

PORTFOLIO OF PROPERTIES

With Gateway Projects

Washington, DC

Edgewood Terrace
Southern Ridge

Maryland

Essex House
Admiral Oaks
Central Gardens
Windsor Valley *(future)*

Virginia

Buckman Road

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

4340 East-West Highway • Suite 201 • Bethesda, Maryland 20814

main 301.986.1600 • fax 301.986.9450

www.cpdc.org cpdc@cpdc.org

EDGEWOOD TERRACE OVERVIEW

- 884 Unit apartment complex
- Built in 1971
- 1992 - subject of Congressional Hearings
- 4 Phase Project
- Phase I owned by CPDC, Phase II & III owned by DC Public housing authority, Phase IV privately owned
- Phase I (292 units) scheduled completion and rent up- December 1998
- Phase I is a Neighborhood Network property, funded by HUD to wire all apartments for a network and to equip computer labs. Multiple partners will work with this infrastructure to enable CPDC to create **EDGENET**, an electronic village with a community web site
- Phase II, family garden apartments, construction scheduled to begin Fall 1998
- Phase III, senior housing, planned construction start in 1999, significant senior services to be added to address aging-in-place issues
- Funded by HUD and other combinations of financing

EDGEWOOD STATISTICS V. WARD 5 STATISTICS

Through 1997

Edgewood

- Median income- \$7,000
- Avg. Household income- \$10,000
- No High School Diploma- 41%
- Unemployed - 47%
- TANF recipients - 45%

Ward 5

- Median Income-\$26,874
- Unavailable
- No High School Diploma - 34%
- Unemployed -10.7%*
- TANF recipients - 12%

* 3 times the national average

THE GATEWAY

Computer Learning Center

- Adult Employment Classes, 3 cycles per year of Computer and Office Skills Employment Program and numerous adult single application classes in Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint and Access during the day and evening
- Classes for Kids, to increase critical thinking and ability to reason, analyze and create, using educational and Microsoft Office software and internet
- Classes for Seniors include basic introduction, internet, email, Microsoft Word, Excel, and budgeting and finance
- Approximately 16-20 per month attend the Kids classes, 8 per month attend the Seniors classes, and Adult classes average 12 per month or cycle.

Bookends Of Service

- Human Services Assessment
- Vocational Evaluation
- Vocational Enhancement
- Professional and Personal Enhancement Program
- Career Development Counseling
- Employee Support Program
- Career Placement
- Alumni Job Club

Job Skills Training

- COSEP:Computer & Office Skills Employment Program*
- Property Maintenance
- Construction Skills
- HTML (future)
- @ Home-On-Campus (future)

*Operating since 1995, 31 graduates to date, 52 graduates in 1998

Re edits noted by line at left margin + in boldface

Stopping Youth Smoking: Every day, 3,000 children become regular smokers, and 1,000 have their lives shortened because of it. Almost 90 percent of adult smokers began smoking by age 18 and today, 4.5 million children aged 12 to 17 -- 37 percent of all high school students -- smoke cigarettes. Tobacco is linked to over 400,000 deaths a year from cancer, respiratory illness, heart disease and other problems. To end this public health crisis, we must have a focused public health effort to reduce youth smoking. The 1998 State Attorneys General Tobacco Settlement was an important step in the right direction, as the tobacco industry affirmed its responsibility to pay for health care costs caused by tobacco, but more must be done to protect our children and preserve public health, hold the tobacco industry accountable. The Administration is continuing its efforts to create a national program that will reduce youth smoking. is pursuing a two-pronged approach believes a few key additional steps to reduce youth smoking must be taken at the national level:

Raise the price of cigarettes, so fewer young people start to smoke. Public health experts agree that the single most effective way to cut youth smoking is to raise the price of cigarettes. ~~For every 10 cents additional per pack, estimates show that 270,000 fewer teenagers will begin smoking over the next five years -- and more than 90,000 premature deaths will be avoided as a result.~~ Last year, the President called for an increase of \$1.10 per pack (in constant dollars) to help cut youth smoking in half within five years. This year, we can build on the increases already agreed to between the tobacco companies and the states and those already legislated by the Congress. As a result, we can reach the target with a legislated increase of half this amount. ~~and As a result, we can work with the Congress and, with a single propose an increase of only half this amount, reach the target this year.~~

The funds that result from this policy will cover tobacco-related health care costs. Each year, the Federal government spends billions of dollars treating tobacco-related diseases -- in for our armed forces, our veterans, and our federal employees ~~others~~. It is fitting that the tobacco industry reimburse US taxpayers for these costs, just as it has already agreed to do for the states.

***Give** Reaffirm the Food and Drug Administration's full authority to keep cigarettes out of the hands of children.* The Administration will again propose legislation that confirms the FDA's authority to regulate tobacco products in order to halt advertising targeted at children, and to curb minors' access to tobacco products. ~~make sure that cigarettes are not sold to them.~~ While the state settlement limits tobacco advertising, it still allows certain marketing practices targeted at children, including newspaper and magazine advertising and retail signs near schools. Moreover, only by reaffirming FDA's authority can Congress ensure that America's children are protected from the next generation of tobacco industry marketing. We should take this matter out of the courts and ensure that the FDA -- the nation's leading health consumer protection agency, providing oversight over food, drugs, and medical devices -- has full authority to protect our children from tobacco.

Support critical public health efforts to prevent youth smoking. To help support tobacco prevention programs in states and local communities, the Administration's budget will double the funding for the Food and Drug Administration's tobacco budget to \$68 million and increase funding for the Centers for Disease Control's tobacco control efforts by one-

this is a powerful claim. We shouldn't give it up.

third, from \$73 to \$100 million. In addition, the Administration will continue to support measures to hold the tobacco industry accountable for reducing youth smoking.

Protect farmers and farming communities. The Administration remains committed to protecting tobacco farmers and their communities, and is monitoring closely on-going efforts by state, farmer, and industry representatives to provide funding and purchase commitments to tobacco farmers. The Administration will look forward to working with all parties, as needed, to ensure the financial well-being of tobacco farmers, their families, and their communities. Farmers never marketed cigarettes to children; they should be protected.

Since US taxpayers paid a substantial portion of the Medicaid costs that were the basis for much of the state settlement with the tobacco companies, Federal law requires that the Federal government recoup its share. However, the Administration will again support legislation to waive direct Federal recoupment, if states agree to use a portion of funds from the settlement for programs currently financed by Federal taxpayers. is open to will working with the states and the Congress to enact tobacco legislation that, among other things, resolves these federal claims in exchange for a commitment by the states to use tobacco money to fulfill national commitments for efforts to reduce youth smoking, public health and children's programs, and affected rural communities.

In addition to these Medicaid costs, tobacco-related health problems have cost the Medicare program billions of dollars over the last three decades. To recover these losses, the U.S. Department of Justice intends to bring suit against the tobacco industry, and the new FY 2000 budget will contain \$20 million to pay for necessary legal costs. The Administration will propose that all recoveries will be used to preserve and protect Medicare for future generations.

[NOTE: THIS LAST PARAGRAPH MAY NEED TO BE DROPPED]

~~Tobacco is linked to over 400,000 deaths a year from cancer, respiratory illness, heart disease, and other health problems. Each year, a million young people become regular smokers, 300,000 of whom will die earlier as a result. The budget includes \$61 million of additional funds for tobacco related activities in the CDC and the FDA. \$27 million of which will pay for expanding CDC's existing State based tobacco prevention activities, and \$34 million of which will support FDA's outreach and enforcement activities.~~

6-2878



Executive Office of the President
Office of Management & Budget

To: **Bruce Reed, Elena Kagan**

Fax 6-2878

Pages (inc cov): 2

From: **Joshua Gotbaum**
Executive Associate Director
OEGB Room 254
Washington, DC 20503

January 12, 1999 11:57 AM

(202) 395-9188 Fax (202) 395-4995

Re: **Tobacco Language**

Please review the attached (re)edits. In particular, on page 1, I think we're giving up a lot by not mentioning tying youth smoking in half to the \$1.10. Since the states have done much of the lifting, it doesn't seem a contradiction that we can finish the job for 55 cents.

We also (a) modified the language on recoupment on page 2 to fudge, but not eliminate, the notion that the states must assume "national commitments" (by which we mean assume what are currently Federal programs); and (b) softened the former language a bit (since we're not doing anything in the budget to help).

We're now on deadline, so please respond within the hour.

c: Cynthia Rice

IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS IN ERROR, PLEASE CALL US IMMEDIATELY AT (202) 395-9188
Copying or reproduction of this message in any way is absolutely prohibited.

Back-seat Rider Takes on Car Maker

Ask Elizabeth Harris why she took on one of the nation's largest corporations, and she'll tell you about her dog.

"It's ridiculous," Harris says. "The dog gets to sit in the front of the van, and I have to sit in the back.

Harris, 39, has temporal lobe epilepsy. She can't ride in the front seat of her 1997 Chrysler Plymouth Voyager because, during a seizure, she often grasps and manipulates objects within reach—including car door handles—in a random, unconscious fashion. The vehicle's front doors can be unlocked merely by pulling on their handles, so Harris has to ride in the back seat, where she's protected by the van's more-difficult-to-open, child-proof doors.

"Usually I know when I'm going to have a seizure," Harris said. "But even with a warning it's sometimes difficult

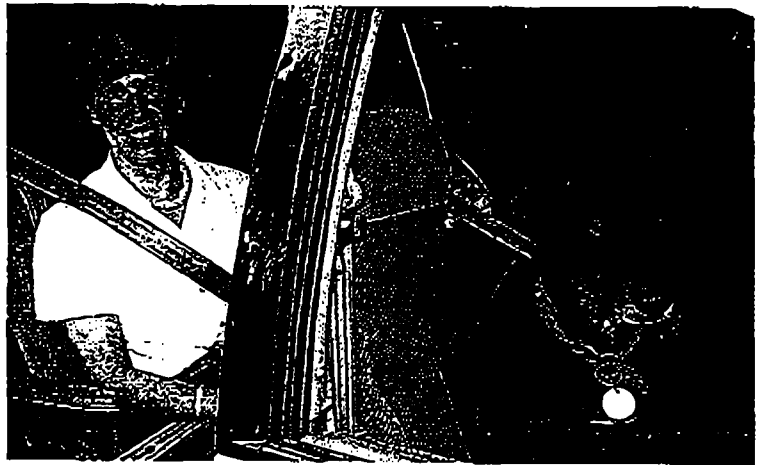
for my husband to pull over at 60 miles per hour. So if I'm in the front seat I'm putting both our lives in jeopardy."

But Harris doesn't want to be a back-seat rider.

"I should be able to ride in the front seat of my car just like any other adult," she said.

Now, after pressing Chrysler for more than a year, Harris will be able to do just that.

Some legal issues still remain, but Harris says the corporation has finally



Elizabeth Harris and friend, Mooch, have changed places.

modified her van's front door to prevent her from pulling open the lock.

"It's been frustrating," she said. "But I'm glad I saw this thing through. There are other people with

continued on page 2

Back Seat Rider *continued from page 1*

the same problem, and I wanted to show them that they don't have to accept things the way they are."

Harris started with her dealership, which passed her along to the main office. Officials there referred her to the company's regional manager, who sent her back to the dealer.

"I was getting the runaround," she said. "I couldn't get a straight answer from anyone."

She was sure she had found some help when she saw an article in the Chicago Tribune describing Chrysler's Automobility Program, which modifies

the company's cars to accommodate people with disabilities. The program, however, turned out to be another

—
"It's ridiculous. The dog
gets to sit in the front of the van, and
I have to sit in the back."
—

Elizabeth Harris

dead-end. According to Harris, officials told her they catered mainly to people with wheelchair disabilities and suggested she take up the matter with

the federal government. With the support of the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago, she contacted the Department of Transportation, where she found people willing to take her case. Officials at Chrysler suddenly were willing to help.

Thanks to Harris' determination, the modifications have finally been completed by Chrysler. She says her mixed-breed Labrador retriever has to start sitting in the back seat for good.

This is an edited version of a story that originally appeared in the Spring 1998 issue of Epigram, the newsletter of the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago.



June 10, 1998

Ms. Marsha Berry
Press Secretary to the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Berry:

I hope you have received (and had an opportunity to read) the proposal sent to your attention regarding *Listen To Our Voices*. I wanted to share some letters with you that students from Seaton Elementary School (in Washington, D.C.) have written to the First Lady and The President of The United States about how they would solve the problem of youth violence in America.

Ms. Berry, I do understand that the President and First Lady's time is very limited, however, I strongly believe that the issue of youth violence in America needs to be addressed on a national level. We have a crisis going on in our country involving kids killing kids, and we cannot continue to watch America's future self-destruct. We owe it to the young people in society today to proclaim that violence is not the answer to their problems.

It has taken three years to research, develop and create *Listen To Our Voices*. The topic of youth violence in America was introduced as a result of surveys taken by children and young adults throughout the nation. The tragedies that have occurred in our nation's schools and communities are unfortunate and heartbreaking, however, it is up to us to not let the lost lives of these innocent children and young adults be in vain. The timing to stop the violence is **NOW!**

We are working with principals and administrators from schools that have experienced violence and tragedies. Some of these schools include West Side Middle School in Jonesboro, Arkansas, Pearl High School in Pearl, Mississippi, Heath High School in Paducah, Kentucky, Thurston High School in Springfield, Oregon, Jenner Elementary School in Chicago, Illinois, Seaton Elementary School in Washington, D.C. and a New York City Public School. The purpose is to have five young people from each school (who have been affected by violence) along with their principals, come together at The White House and talk with the First Lady and possibly The President of The United States about solutions that will aid in the prevention of violence. The goal is to allow their voices to be heard and an anti-violence message to prevail. In order to combat the problem of youth violence in America, we must start with our youth.

Ms. Berry, it is interesting to know that three years of research has gone into the development of this program and today it is very much needed. I am so pleased to be able to introduce *Listen To Our Voices* to The White House, as well as to NBC. If *Listen To Our Voices* can prevent just one violent tragedy, we will have made a difference. I look forward to talking with you again about this exciting opportunity. Please call me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joelle Mireille Goode". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'J'.

Joelle Mireille Goode
Executive Producer



TIME LINE ON YOUTH VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

1. February 19, 1997 in Bethel, Alaska, a 16-year-old student armed with a shotgun opens fire at school killing the principal and a student.
2. October 1, 1997 in Pearl, Mississippi, a 16-year-old boy is accused of killing his mother, then going to school and shooting nine students, killing two.
3. December 1, 1997 in Paducah, Kentucky, a 14-year-old boy is accused of killing three students and wounding five others while they take part in a prayer service before class.
4. March 24, 1998 in Jonesboro, Arkansas, two students ages 11 and 13 armed with shotguns, kill four girls and a teacher, wounding ten.
5. April 24, 1998 in Edinboro, Pennsylvania, a 14-year-old student kills a science teacher at a graduation dance.
6. April 28, 1998 in Pomona, California, a 14-year-old boy is charged with shooting and killing two kids as they played basketball on their school playground.
7. May 19, 1998 in Fayetteville, Tennessee, three days before graduation, an 18-year old honor student kills a classmate for dating his ex-girlfriend.
8. May 21, 1998 in Springfield, Oregon, a 15-year-old boy shoots his parents to death, then goes to school and opens fires during a senior breakfast, killing two students and wounding twenty two others.

Today, these tragedies have all received national attention, tomorrow, think about the ones that won't! We must find a way to ***STOP THE VIOLENCE AND INCREASE THE PEACE.....***

\$600 million
See #1
four:

U.S. Department of Education
Office of the Under Secretary, Planning and Evaluation Service
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Room 6W318, FOB-6
Washington, D.C. 20202

FAX COVER SHEET

Fax Number: (202) 401-3036

To: Neelva TanderFax No.: 456-2878(Number of pages, including cover sheet: 3)From: Adriana de Ventr

Phone No.: _____

Message: Technical Assistance
Workshops -

21st Century Community Learning Centers

Regional Workshops to Offer Technical Assistance for Potential Grantees

The U.S. Department of Education, with the National Community Education Association (NCEA) and the National Center for Community Education (NCCE), is offering a series of one-day regional workshops to assist people who may apply for grants under the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. The workshops will help potential applicants plan and implement high-quality after-school programs, and will feature:

- Technical assistance – tips on how to prepare the grant application
- Research results
- Examples of high-quality after school programs and activities in the region.

The conferences are being sponsored by the C.S. Mott Foundation and are free of charge to participants. Unless noted otherwise, each workshop will begin at 9:30 am and conclude at 4:00 pm. Please note the dates and locations below and complete the registration, *which must be received by NCEA no later than January 9, 1999.*

Regional Workshop			
Please Print: Registration Form – 21st Century Community Learning Center Program			
Please check the site of you choice: ☐ Reno, NV ☐ Providence, RI ☐ Billings, MT			
☐ Minneapolis, MN ☐ Portland, OR ☐ Washington, DC ☐ Omaha, NE			
☐ Philadelphia, PA ☐ Flint, MI ☐ Houston, TX ☐ Atlanta, GA ☐ Boise, ID			
Name: _____		Title: _____	
Organization: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____ Zip: _____	
Phone: _____		Fax: _____ E-mail: _____	
Registrants who submit this form to NCEA on or before January 9 will received a complimentary lunch. Forms can be faxed to 703-591-2949 or 703-359-0972, or sent by e-mail to ncea@ncea.com , or mailed to NCEA at: 3929 Old Lee High way, Suite 91-A, Fairfax, VA 22030			
For additional information on the conference, you may call NCEA at 703-359-8973			

Questions about the Application Package or the competition should be directed to the U.S. Department of Education by e-mail (21stCCLC@ed.gov), fax (202-219-2198) or phone (202-219-2089 or 202-219-2180).

**21st Century Community Learning Centers
1999 Regional Bidders Workshops**

January 11, 1999 Reno, NV Atlantis Casino Resort Reno, NV 89502 702-825-4700	Providence, RI The Westin One W. Exchange St. Providence, RI 02905 401-598-8000
January 12, 1999 Boise, ID (Note: Scheduled for 12 noon--5 pm) Doubletree Hotel Downtown 1800 Fairview Ave. Boise, ID 83702 208-383-4910	
January 13, 1999 Billings, MT (Note: Scheduled for 12 noon-5 pm) Billings Hotel 1223 Mullowney Lane Billings, MT 59101 1-800-537-7286	Minneapolis, MN Radisson Hotel South 7800 Normandale Blvd. Minneapolis, MN 55439 612-835-7800
January 15, 1999 Portland, OR Embassy Suite Hotel Airport 7900 NE 82 nd Ave. Portland, OR 97220 503-460-3000	
January 16, 1999 Washington, DC Crystal Gateway Marriott 1700 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Arlington, VA 22202 703-920-3230	
January 20, 1999 Omaha, NE Embassy Suite 555 S. 10 th St. Omaha, NE 68102 402-346-9000	Philadelphia, PA Valley Forge Convention Center 1160 First Ave. King of Prussia, PA 19406 610-337-2000
January 21, 1999 Flint, MI Riverfront Hotel Riverfront Center West Flint, MI 48502 810-239-1234	
January 30, 1998 Houston, TX Ramada Plaza 12801 Northwest Freeway Houston, TX 77040 713-462-9977	Atlanta, GA Omni Hotel 100 CNN Center Atlanta, GA 30335 404-659-0000

Good Housekeeping

959 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10019 • 212-649-2200 • FAX 212-265-3307

December 27, 1998

Neera Tanden
Associate Director for Domestic Policy
The White House
Second Floor, West Wing
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Neera:

I'd like to update you on some exciting developments in our colon cancer campaign. We've received more than 30,000 coupons from readers who support our lobby to require insurance coverage of colonoscopy--the best screening test--in people over 50 at average risk for the disease and in younger people at high risk. Senator Ted Kennedy has agreed to sponsor legislation in the Senate, and Representative Connie Morella and Representative Louise Slaughter have agreed to co-sponsor legislation in the House. We're getting ready to draft a bill.

I'm optimistic about the possibility of legislation that would increase public access to this important test, and will keep you posted. Hope you're having a wonderful holiday season!

Best,



Deborah Pike
Health Editor

cc: Marsha Berry
Melanne Verveer





Understanding Changes in Young Metropolitan Men's Sexual Activity: 1979-1995

by

Leighton Ku
Freya Sonenstein
Laura Lindberg
Carolyn Bradner
The Urban Institute

Scott Boggess
Georgetown University

Joseph Pleck
University of Illinois at Urbana

The nonpartisan Urban Institute publishes studies, reports, and books on timely topics worthy of public consideration. The views expressed are those of the authors, and should not be attributed to The Urban Institute, its trustees, or its funders.

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Note: The full report is available in PDF format, and is useful when printing.

Survey data collected from the 1950s through the 1980s indicate that the proportion of teenagers who are sexually experienced has increased steadily.(1) However, recent studies show that the proportion who are sexually active began to decline during the 1990s.(2) Among teenage males, for example, those who had ever had sex decreased from 60% in 1988 to 55% in 1995.(3) In addition, condom use among sexually active youths increased during the 1980s and 1990s,(4) while pregnancy rates and birthrates among teenage women have decreased over the last several years.(5)

Taken together, these findings appear to signal a change in adolescents' sexual and reproductive risk-taking behavior. These changes are particularly noteworthy, given that concerns about adolescent pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and AIDS have led private behaviors such as these to be of consequence to public policy and public health.

What might account for these shifts in sexual behavior? Changes in teenagers' behavior may be related to shifts in their attitudes about sex and pregnancy, reflecting changes in broader societal norms about sexual behavior. Alternately, public concern about AIDS, STDs and adolescent pregnancy, which has resulted in heightened levels of education around these issues, may have played a role in reducing sexual activity. It is often difficult to discern the true root causes of such social phenomena, however.

In this article, to examine how attitudes and educational experiences might influence sexual behavior, we analyze three cohorts of unmarried metropolitan teenage males: those aged 17-19 in 1979, in 1988 and in 1995. These time frames capture a period of increasing (1979 to 1988) then decreasing (1988 to 1995) sexual activity. By examining time periods with reversing trends, we have a relatively strong framework within which to understand factors related to both increased and decreased sexual activity.

Methods

Sources of Data

Our data come from three nationally representative household surveys of young men: the 1979 National Survey of Young Men (NSYM)(6) and the 1988 and 1995 waves of the National Survey of Adolescent Males (NSAM-88 and NSAM-95, respectively).(7) In addition, we also use some data from a 1991 follow-up of the 1998 cohort. Each survey involved a multistage national probability sample of households in the coterminous United States, and each included weights that adjusted for sampling, nonresponse and poststratification to correspond with census targets. Each survey involved both in-person interviews and self-administered questionnaires and asked questions specifically concerning the sexual and contraceptive behaviors of adolescents; each included attitudinal and demographic measures as well.

Each survey included a slightly different age range, and the NSYM surveyed only residents of metropolitan areas.(*). We aligned populations and questions that were common across each of the surveys, excluding men aged 20-21 in the NSYM and those aged 15-16 in the NSAM-88 and the NSAM-95, deleting nonmetropolitan youths in both NSAM surveys and omitting ever-married respondents in the NSYM and the NSAM-95. (Only never-married males were interviewed in the NSAM-88.) The resulting pooled data set included 2,087 never-married males aged 17-19 living in households in metropolitan

Context: *Changes in the sexual behavior of teenagers can have a significant impact on levels of adolescent pregnancy and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Understanding the role played by attitudes and educational efforts will provide critical prevention information.*

Methods: *Data on the sexual behavior, sexual attitudes, educational experiences and demographics of 2,087 never-married metropolitan males aged 17-19 from the 1979 National Survey of Young Men and the 1988 and 1995 waves of the National Survey of Adolescent Males were analyzed through multivariate methods to examine factors that predict sexual behavior as well as those that predict sexual attitudes.*

Results: *The percentage of males aged 17-19 who had ever had sex increased from 66% in 1979 to 76% in 1988 and then decreased to 68% in 1995. The frequency of sexual intercourse in the year prior to the survey increased significantly over time, although the lifetime number of sexual partners did not. Acceptance of premarital sex increased significantly from 1979 to 1988, then decreased significantly from 1988 to 1995. Over time, young men were increasingly likely to prefer having and supporting a baby to marriage, abortion or adoption as the resolution to a nonmarital pregnancy. Trends in attitudes were strongly associated with sexual behaviors, with more conservative attitudes predicting less sexual activity. AIDS education, which was nearly universal in 1995, was associated with decreased sexual activity, although not among black youths.*

Conclusions: *More conservative sexual attitudes and increased exposure to AIDS education are key predictors of decreased sexual activity among adolescent males. However, broader societal factors, such as fear of AIDS and increased awareness of problems associated with teenage pregnancy and STDs, may underlie both attitudinal and behavioral changes.*

Family Planning Perspectives, 1998,
30(6):256-262

areas of the contiguous United States in one of the three survey years. For the 1991 follow-up survey, we reinterviewed 1,676 of the original 1998 respondents, as described previously.⁽⁸⁾ Race and ethnicity information was limited in the 1979 survey, so respondents are identified as being either black or nonblack. The unweighted sample sizes and the weighted percentage distributions are shown in [Table 1](#). All data presented in this article are weighted.

There were some important methodological differences between the surveys. In the 1979 NSYM, data about heterosexual behavior were collected with a self-administered questionnaire, while in the NSAM-88 and NSAM-95, most data were collected from personal interviews. Prior methodological research⁽⁹⁾ indicates that questions about most heterosexual behaviors are not highly sensitive and that responses obtained in interviews are not significantly different from those obtained from self-administered questionnaires. Thus, we believe that data from the three surveys are comparable. Nonetheless, we controlled for year of survey in our multivariate analyses as a further analytic safeguard against potential bias.

Variables

We selected variables on the basis of two criteria: their theoretical applicability, as reflected in prior research, and the availability of comparable data for the 1979, 1988 and 1995 cohorts. The latter criterion ultimately was much more constraining; while the 1988 and 1995 data sets overlapped extensively, both had limited comparability with the 1979 survey. Therefore, factors such as the number of sex partners in the last 12 months and maternal employment, which were not available from the 1979 data set, could not be included as variables in the analyses.

We used four measures of heterosexual activity as outcome variables: ever having had sex; having had sex in the last four weeks; lifetime number of sex partners; and number of acts of intercourse in the last 12 months. Data for lifetime partners and acts of intercourse in the last 12 months were highly skewed. Therefore, we capped the variables at a maximum of 20 lifetime partners and 100 acts of intercourse in the past 12 months. In the 1979 survey, the number of acts of intercourse in the last 12 months was estimated based on responses to a specific question, while in the 1988 and 1995 survey, estimates were computed based on partner-by-partner data.⁽¹⁰⁾ The 1995 survey also included a direct question about the number of acts of intercourse, which could be compared with the computed estimates. The self-reports and computed estimates converged nicely; the means were not significantly different and the correlation coefficient was 0.86, suggesting that the accuracy of the 1979 data was comparable to that of the 1988 and 1995 surveys

We used two measures to examine youths' attitudes about sex: a question measuring support for premarital sex, and one examining how the respondent might resolve a nonmarital pregnancy. The wording of the premarital sex question was "Which one of these statements best describes how you feel about sexual intercourse before marriage: (1) Sexual intercourse before marriage is okay even if the couple has no plans to marry, (2) sexual intercourse before marriage is okay but only if the couple is planning to marry, (3) sexual intercourse before marriage is never okay."^(†)

The question about nonmarital pregnancy resolution posed the following scenario: "Consider the case of a young man who has made an unmarried girl pregnant. He likes her but does not love her." Responses concerning how to resolve the situation were grouped into four categories: (1) get married, (2) have the baby and support it, (3) suggest abortion and (4) suggest adoption/other. (This last option included giving the baby to a relative to raise, and also allowed for open-ended responses.)^(‡)

Receipt of three types of school-based sex education was examined: education about birth control (whether respondents were instructed about contraceptive methods or about where to obtain them); education about AIDS (either general information or information about how to prevent HIV infection through safer sex); and education about STDs (referred to as "venereal disease" in the 1979 and 1988 surveys). Variables about parental communication or other instructional areas, such as how to say "no" to sex and how pregnancy occurs, were not

available in all three years. There were no education questions regarding HIV or AIDS in the 1979 survey (AIDS education did not exist before the 1980s).

The multivariate analyses included a number of control variables that prior research suggests are related to sexual behavior.⁽¹¹⁾ Family structure, which may have an impact on social stress and degree of parental supervision, includes the following options: mother and father; mother and her partner (not the father); mother only; and other family type. Region of residence, which may be associated with distinct cultural norms, was also included.

Religiosity, a measure of the importance of religious and moral beliefs, was coded on a four-point scale, with higher values indicating a greater importance of religion. Although research suggests that adherence to fundamentalist Christianity is associated with changes in sexual behavior,⁽¹²⁾ religious affiliation was excluded due to survey and coding incompatibility that would have biased our results. However, we anticipated that religiosity would capture much of the same effect. Maternal education was included as a proxy for socioeconomic status, and was coded on a four-point scale, with higher values indicating more education.

Analytic Methods

In the bivariate analyses, we compared changes in key variables across time. We tested for global differences among the 1979, 1988 and 1995 cohorts, as well as for pairwise differences between the 1979 and 1988 cohorts and between the 1988 and 1995 groups. For categorical variables, we used chi-square tests, while we used analysis of variance (with the Tukey method for pairwise comparisons) for continuous measures.

Our main interest in the multivariate analyses was the effect of cohort year, attitudes and education on two measures of sexual behavior: having had intercourse in the last four weeks; and number of acts of intercourse in the 12 months prior to the survey. We used logistic regression to estimate the model for recent intercourse; a tobit model was used for number of acts of intercourse in the last year because of the large number of individuals who had never had sex or had not had sex in the last year.^(**)

Results

Trends in Sexual Activity

Trends in sexual activity are presented in Table 2. (Unless stated otherwise, all results discussed are statistically significant at $p \leq .05$ and refer to comparisons across all three cohorts.) The proportion of never-married 17-19-year-old urban males who had ever had sexual intercourse with a female increased from 66% in 1979 to 76% in 1988 and then decreased to 68% in 1995. These changes were confined to nonblack males; rates of sexual experience among black adolescent men increased between 1979 and 1988, and remained relatively constant between 1988 and 1995.

Recent sexual activity is an important measure of current behavior. Among all youths, the percentage of respondents who had had sexual intercourse in the four weeks prior to the survey increased from 40% in 1979 to 45% in 1988 and then decreased to 39% in 1995. The change in the proportion of teenagers having had recent sexual activity between 1988 and 1995 was significant only among nonblack youths; among black youths, the small increase in this variable was not statistically significant.

The average number of lifetime female sex partners among all youths in all three cohorts was four (range of 3.6-4.1). The average number of partners decreased significantly among nonblack adolescent men, from 3.8 in 1979 to 2.9 in 1995, while the mean increased among black teenagers, from 5.1 in 1979 to 6.9 in 1995.

The average frequency of heterosexual intercourse among all teenage males in the 12 months prior to the survey increased significantly overall, from 14 acts per year in 1979 to 17 per year in 1988 and to 21 acts per year in 1995.^(††) The overall change in frequency among nonblack

youths paralleled the findings among all youths. Among black adolescents, however, there was no change in the frequency of intercourse between 1979 and 1988, whereas between 1988 and 1995 average frequency increased from 13 acts per year to 24 acts per year.

In each time period, black adolescent males were more likely to have ever had sex and to have had more lifetime partners than were nonblack males. However, the average annual frequency of intercourse was similar between black and nonblack teenage men.

Trends in Attitudes and Education

The proportion of adolescent men who approved of premarital sex when a couple does not plan to marry increased from 55% in 1979 to 80% in 1988 and then decreased to 71% in 1995 (Table 3). The pattern and distribution of attitudes were similar between black and nonblack respondents. However, there was a significant decrease between 1988 and 1995 in the percentage of nonblack teenagers approving of premarital sex; a similar change did not occur among black youths.

There was a large and significant increase in the percentage of adolescent males who, when faced with a hypothetical nonmarital pregnancy, endorsed having the baby and supporting it: This choice was selected by 19% of youths in 1979, 37% in 1988 and 59% in 1995. All other alternatives-getting married, suggesting adoption or suggesting abortion-became less popular over time. The distribution of attitudes was similar between black and nonblack adolescent men in 1995, but differed markedly by race in earlier time periods. In 1988, for example, blacks were almost twice as likely as nonblacks to endorse having the baby and supporting it, while nonblacks were nearly twice as likely as blacks to support either abortion or adoption.

As shown in Table 4, instruction in topics concerning birth control, STDs and AIDS became increasingly common between 1979 and 1995. Receipt of AIDS education was nearly universal among all youths (96%) in 1995, and a majority of teenage males in 1995 reported being taught about both birth control and STDs (87% and 88%, respectively).

Multivariate Models

Effects on behavior. We used multivariate models to examine whether changes in attitudes or education might explain differences in sexual behavior. We examined only those outcome variables that might correspond with attitudes held and education received relatively close in time to the date of interview. Thus, for this analysis, we examined only sexual intercourse in the four weeks prior to the survey and frequency of intercourse in the 12 months prior to the survey.

The goal of these analyses is to understand how factors affecting sexual activity change over time. Both direct and indirect temporal effects may become evident in the regression model. If, for example, cohort year is correlated significantly with behavior, then we could conclude that there are behavioral changes over time that cannot be explained by the other factors in the model. However, attitudes, educational experiences and other personal traits may also change over time. Therefore, if sexual attitudes become significantly more conservative over the same time period during which behaviors change, we might not find significant direct effects for time, since changes over time will be captured by shifts in attitudes. Finally, the relationship of attitudes or of other factors to sexual behavior might change over time; some factors might be more strongly associated with a behavior at one point in time than at another. We investigated this by systematically interacting the cohort year with all attitude and sex education variables. Any significant main effects were tested for interactions; we tested for race interactions as well. In our final models, we eliminated interaction terms that were not significant at $p < .05$.

We did not restrict the analyses to sexually active respondents. Insofar as there are changes in the proportion of sexually active young men over time, including only sexually active respondents could have created a selection bias.

The results of the logistic regression model for having had sex in the four weeks prior to the survey are presented in the first column of Table 5 (page 260). Cohort year was not

significantly associated with recent sexual activity, indicating that cohort effects present in the bivariate analyses are primarily mediated by other variables.

Attitudes about premarital sex were strongly correlated with recent sexual activity. Adolescent males who completely disapproved of premarital sex were far less likely to have had sex recently than were those who approved of it. Attitudes toward the resolution of nonmarital pregnancy also were related to recent sexual behavior: Teenagers who favored marriage as the resolution for a nonmarital pregnancy were significantly less likely to have had sex in the four weeks prior to the survey than were adolescents who endorsed having the baby and supporting it or those who preferred abortion. Although the odds ratio for adoption was not significant, its value was similar to the odds ratios for both the "have baby, and help support it" and the "suggest abortion" responses.

Respondents who had received education about AIDS or STDs were significantly less likely than others to report having had sex in the four weeks prior to the survey. Those receiving birth control education were no more likely to report recent sexual behavior than were youths who had not received such instruction, however.

After controlling for traits such as family structure and educational attainment, we found that race was not significantly related to recent sexual activity. More religious respondents were significantly more likely than less religious respondents to have had recent sexual activity. (***) Being older, being behind in school and growing up either with only the mother present or with the mother and another adult (but not the father) present also were associated with a greater likelihood of recent sexual activity. Maternal education and region of residence were not significant factors.

Interaction effects for sex in the four weeks prior to the survey indicate that receipt of AIDS education was associated with a decrease in recent sexual activity only among nonblack youths. Receipt of STD education was not associated with a decrease among respondents in the 1979 cohort.

To demonstrate the impact of attitude change on sexual behavior, we estimated the proportion of teenage males who would have had sex in 1995 if they held the average attitudes about premarital sex of the 1988 cohort. We entered the mean value of all variables in the 1995 cohort into our regression equation to determine the predicted value for the percentage of males who had had sex in the last four weeks. We then recalculated the regression, substituting the mean value for attitude toward premarital sex in 1995 with the mean value in 1988. Using the 1988 attitude value predicted that an additional 4% of young men would have had sex in the last four weeks. The actual difference between the 1988 and 1995 cohorts in the percentage of males who had intercourse in the four weeks prior to the survey was 6%. Thus, the change in attitudes explains a majority of the difference.

Results of the tobit model for the number of acts of sexual intercourse in the last 12 months are presented in the second column of Table 5. (****) Even after controlling for other factors, being a member of the 1979 cohort was associated with a significantly lower frequency of intercourse than was being a member of the 1988 cohort, while being a member of the 1995 cohort was associated with a higher frequency of intercourse than being in the 1988 cohort. (†††)

More permissive attitudes about premarital sex were strongly associated with higher rates of intercourse. The preference for marriage as a response to a nonmarital pregnancy was significantly associated with less frequent intercourse in the 12 months prior to the survey, compared with the rates associated with the other possible resolutions. Receipt of AIDS education was significantly associated with less frequent intercourse, whereas receiving birth control or STD education were not.

Several significant interaction effects emerged from the analysis of frequency of sex in the 12 months prior to the survey. Having received AIDS education and having the attitude that

premarital sex is never okay were both associated with significantly lower rates of sex among nonblack youths than among black youths. Receipt of birth control education was associated with higher levels of sex in the 1979 cohort, but not in the 1988 or 1995 cohorts.

Effects on attitudes. In the final models, we examined influences on changes in attitudes over time. The first column of Table 6 presents an ordered logistic regression in which attitude about premarital sex is the dependent variable. In this model, a larger odds ratio is associated with greater disapproval of premarital sex.

Cohort year 1979 was significantly associated with greater disapproval of premarital sex. Education about STDs was associated with less disapproval of premarital sex, but education about AIDS and about birth control were not. Several demographic variables were significantly associated with less disapproval of premarital sex: black race, older age and a family structure that included either the respondent's mother and another adult or no mother. Further, the significant interaction of religiosity and the 1995 cohort indicates that religiosity became more strongly linked to conservative sexual attitudes in 1995. Although the mean level of religiosity did not rise from 1988 to 1995, religious youths became more disapproving of premarital sex in the 1990s.

The second column of Table 6 presents the binary logistic regression model showing the probability of endorsing getting married as a response to a nonmarital pregnancy, compared with all other measured responses. Cohort year was correlated strongly with this attitude: Respondents in 1979 were significantly more likely to support getting married than were those in 1988, and respondents in 1995 were significantly less likely to support marriage than were those in 1988. (††) Receipt of birth control education was associated with less support for getting married, while receipt of STD education was associated with more support for getting married when faced with a nonmarital pregnancy.

The significant interaction term for religiosity and 1995 cohort indicates that while overall attitudes toward getting married in response to a nonmarital pregnancy waned in 1995, religious youths in this cohort strongly endorsed marriage as the preferred response to a nonmarital pregnancy. Finally, the significant interaction term for race and 1979 cohort indicates that black adolescent males were more likely to endorse marriage in response to a nonmarital pregnancy in 1979 than they were in later years.

Reciprocity between attitudes and behaviors. Data from the 1991 NSAM follow-up survey were used to examine whether sexual attitudes predict behaviors or whether the reverse is true. Among 15-19-year-old virgins who in 1988 believed that premarital sex was never okay, 37% became sexually active by 1991 (not shown). In contrast, 72% of those who believed that premarital sex was okay even if the couple do not plan to marry became sexually active by 1991. Slightly more than half (56%) of those who approved of premarital sex if the couple planned to marry (the intermediate attitude) became sexually active by 1991 ($p < .001$). In addition, males who became sexually active between 1988 and 1991 developed more permissive attitudes: Among those who had been virgins in 1988 but became sexually active by 1991, 67% had approved of sex even if the couple did not plan to marry in the 1988 survey; by 1991, the proportion was 84%. Males who remained virgins had attitudes in 1991 similar to those held in 1988.

Discussion

Teenagers' sexual behavior has changed from the 1970s to 1995, paralleling trends in attitudes. Annual surveys of college freshmen, for example, demonstrate that casual sex has become less acceptable in recent years among both male and female students. (13) Moreover, these surveys suggest that such changes reflect a growing trend and not merely a unique fluctuation in the sexual beliefs of American youth.

The results presented here suggest that shifting attitudes and an increase in educational

efforts targeted toward stemming the AIDS epidemic are key factors associated with recent decreases in sexual behavior among adolescents. Attitudes toward premarital sex have a strong and consistent association with sexual activity: Youths with more conservative attitudes are less likely to have sex, and are likely to have fewer acts of intercourse, than are those with more permissive attitudes.

Sexual attitudes and behaviors should not be viewed as all-inclusive indicators of teenagers' social or moral values, however. For example, 12th-graders' attitudes about marijuana use grew more conservative during the 1980s, and this decline was associated with a decrease in reported use. In the 1990s, however, drug-related attitudes became permissive, and marijuana use increased.⁽¹⁴⁾ These trends in adolescents' drug-related attitudes and behaviors are roughly the reverse of those relating to sex.

Although this analysis shows that attitudes and behaviors are strongly correlated, we cannot ascertain whether the attitudinal shifts led to the behavioral trends, or whether the reverse is true: While teenagers who disapproved of premarital sex were less likely to engage in that behavior, those who were sexually active were unlikely to express disapproval. Thus, attitudes about premarital sex predicted future behaviors, but behaviors also predicted attitudinal changes.

Because of the reciprocity of attitudes and behaviors, we only demonstrate that attitudes and behaviors are strongly associated, both cross-sectionally and over time. In all likelihood, factors such as fear of AIDS, increased public awareness about teenage pregnancy and other societal trends are underlying factors in both the attitudinal and behavioral changes examined here. Regrettably, the data sources we used did not contain sufficient information to allow us to rigorously examine all of these possibilities.

Our research examined self-reported sexual behaviors, which may be prone to misreporting. A reasonable question, then, is whether these behavioral trends are real. Even if behaviors are misreported at one point in time, trends may still be accurate if the level of over- or underreporting is consistent across time. We found that attitudes about premarital sex became more liberal in 1988 and more conservative in 1995. It is possible that these attitudinal shifts led to biases that affected behavioral reports.

Vital statistics and epidemiologic data confirm, however, that adolescent sexual behaviors became more conservative during the 1988-1995 period. For example, teenage women's birthrates and pregnancy rates declined during the 1990s,⁽¹⁵⁾ and rates of gonorrhea among both male and female adolescents decreased as well.⁽¹⁶⁾ Attitudinal, behavioral and clinical indicators are strikingly consistent in demonstrating that American teenagers moved toward safer sexual behaviors (reduced sexual activity and increased contraceptive and condom use) during the 1990s.

We found that male adolescents are more likely now than in previous years to identify marriage and support of the child as their preferred solution to a nonmarital pregnancy. Clearly, though, these opinions do not necessarily mean that teenagers endorse regular financial child support for out-of-wedlock births. Nonetheless, this attitudinal change is broadly consistent with recent social movements, represented by groups such as the Promise Keepers or events like the Million Man March, which emphasize greater male responsibility for children, and which bear promise for public policy efforts to heighten fathers' emotional and financial involvement with their children.

Our other key finding concerns the relationship between sex education and level of sexual activity. The receipt of AIDS education was associated with a reduction in sexual activity, an outcome that replicates the findings from other research.⁽¹⁷⁾ Given that attendance in sex education classes is generally required by schools and therefore not a choice for most students, it is unlikely that less sexual activity among those receiving risk-reduction education is because only less-permissive students enroll in these courses. Certainly, these findings should be interpreted cautiously, but they suggest that AIDS education has contributed to

safer behaviors, including reduction of sexual activity, among teenagers.

An increase in the average frequency of intercourse for the 1995 cohort compared with other cohorts remained significant even after we controlled for a variety of factors. This result is all the more striking since fewer teenage men were having sex in 1995 than in previous years. The analyses do not provide much insight about these opposing trends. Changes in attitudes or exposure to AIDS education may have delayed sexual activity for those who were already at relatively low risk, while increasing sexual activity among those who were at higher risk. Alternately, shifting attitudes or educational exposure may signal a trend toward stronger or steadier relationships, of which increased frequency of sexual activity may be a part. For example, the number of cohabiting couples under age 25 doubled from 1980 to 1996.⁽¹⁸⁾ In any case, if a smaller group of young men is engaging in more sex than before, then this group's potential exposures to HIV and other STDs and to pregnancy may have increased, even as the number of people at risk (i.e., those sexually active) has declined. On the other hand, NSAM data also reveal that use of condoms increased during the 1990s, which may mitigate the risks associated with higher levels of intercourse.⁽¹⁹⁾

The reasons for the attitudinal trends are somewhat enigmatic. Our study confirms prior research indicating that religiosity is associated with less-permissive sexual attitudes and behaviors.⁽²⁰⁾ This association became stronger in 1995 than in previous decades: An adolescent in 1995 who said that religion was very important to him had more conservative sexual attitudes than a teenager in 1988 with the same level of religiosity. In the 1990s, some religious beliefs may have become more strongly linked to conservative sexual values. For example, conservative Christian groups created the True Love Waits movement in the 1990s to encourage teenagers to pledge abstinence until marriage, and millions of teenagers are reported to have taken virginity pledges.⁽²¹⁾ Indeed, a recent study found that fundamentalist religious affiliation was more strongly related to a female remaining a virgin in 1988 than it was in 1982, indicating that during the 1980s the association of religion with sexual attitudes and behavior grew increasingly important.⁽²²⁾

Although black teenagers' attitudes about premarital sex became more conservative between 1988 and 1995, their behaviors did not. Equally problematic, AIDS education is associated with reduced sexual activity for nonblack males, although this is not so for black males. The apparent resistance of black males' behaviors to risk-reducing attitudes or education is distressing, and suggests that researchers and educators have not fully understood the factors that motivate young black men.

Overall, a large share of the reduction in sexual activity over time, specifically among nonblack males, is related to a shift toward less permissive attitudes about sex and an increase in the prevalence of AIDS education during the 1990s. The reasons for the increase in the level of AIDS education are well-known: Public policies have promoted AIDS education in school to reduce the threat of the HIV epidemic.

This study demonstrates that religiosity is part of the reason for the shift in attitudes. However, other factors that might influence attitudinal changes could not be identified, suggesting that broader normative forces may play an important role in determining beliefs about sexual behavior. Growing public awareness of issues such as teenage pregnancy, child support, male responsibility and sexual harassment all may have been relevant. The questions for the future are how can we improve upon these changes, and, in particular, how can we promote safer behaviors among black youths?

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Notes

(The following notations refer to the notes in the body of the text and *not* those in the tables)

* Metropolitan areas, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, include cities and their surrounding suburbs.

† In the 1988 and 1995 surveys, the most permissive response to this question was subdivided into two responses: "Sexual intercourse before marriage is okay as long as the couple is close, even if they don't plan to marry," and "Sexual intercourse before marriage is okay if both people agree to it." For these analyses, we collapsed these two responses and treated them as equivalent to the first response.

‡ In the 1988 and 1995 surveys, the original responses were: "(1) suggest she end the pregnancy, (2) suggest she have the baby and he will help support it, (3) suggest she have the baby and put it up for adoption, (4) suggest she have the baby and give it to a relative to raise, (5) marry her; or (6) other." In 1979, the fourth category was not offered, but the specific response "not take any responsibility" was. In that survey, respondents could also offer open-ended responses, which included "her decision," "joint decision," "leave her" and "don't know."

** Tobit is comparable to a combination of logistic and ordinary least squares regression; it simultaneously estimates the probability that an event occurs (i.e. having had sex) and, for those who have had sex, it estimates the number of acts of intercourse. (Source: Maddala GS, Limited Dependent and Qualitative Variables in Econometrics, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1983.)

†† We also used data from the 1988 and 1995 surveys (data were not available for 1979) to examine changes in the number of sexual partners in the 12 months prior to the survey and in the number of acts of intercourse per partner in that time period. Among those who had had sex in the last year, the mean number of partners was not significantly different (2.1 in 1988 vs. 2.4 in 1995), but the mean number of acts of intercourse per partner increased from 16 in 1988 to 22 in 1995 ($p < .001$). Blacks had fewer acts of intercourse per relationship than did nonblacks ($p < .001$).

*** When attitude measures were excluded from the model, religiosity was associated with a decreased likelihood of having had sex recently ($p < .05$). Religiosity is generally correlated with more conservative attitudes; while attitudes mediate some of this association, when they were controlled for in the regression model, the measure was associated with increased sex. While a person with greater religiosity is, in general, more likely to have conservative attitudes and less likely to have had recent sex, the analyses suggest that if we compare religious and nonreligious youths who are matched for attitudes, religious respondents are more likely to have had sex. Excluding the attitudes did not substantially change the correlation of other variables.

**** Negative tobit coefficients indicate a reduction in the dependent variable, while positive coefficients indicate an increase. For each independent variable, the tobit coefficient expresses the relative strength of the effect of different levels of that variable on the value of the dependent variable. Tobit coefficients cannot be used to compare relative effects across variables.

††† In a version of this model that excluded attitude measures, the coefficient for the 1995 cohort was smaller and not significant. Therefore, including attitudes in the model increased the association between frequency of

intercourse and 1995 cohort.

‡‡ The odds ratio for 1995 is surprisingly small (0.01). This result is partly induced by the inclusion in the model of the interaction term between 1995 and religiosity, which had a strong effect in the opposite direction (i.e., in support of marriage). When we excluded this term, the odds ratio for 1995 was 0.8. This result suggests that nonreligious youths were less supportive of marriage in 1995, while religious youth were more supportive.

Tables

Table 1

Table 1. Percentage distribution of never-married metropolitan males aged 17-19, by selected characteristics, according to year of survey, National Survey of Young Men (NSYM) and National Survey of Adolescent Males (NSAM)

Characteristic	1979 NSYM	1988 NSAM	1995 NSAM
Race			
Black	17.7	16.9	17.1
Nonblack	82.3	83.1	82.9
Age			
17	36.6	37.5	35.6
18	33.9	36.6	32.9
19	29.5	25.9	31.5
Region			
South	26.0	30.1	37.1
North	22.8	23.9	15.6
Midwest	33.1	24.2	20.2
West	18.1	21.7	27.2
Family structure at age 14			
Mother and father	70.4	60.3	70.1
Mother and other adult	6.1	7.6	6.3
Mother only	16.1	16.7	14.6
No mother present	7.4	6.4	9.0
Education			
Behind in school	17.8	15.9	18.3
Not behind in school	82.2	84.1	81.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sample N (unweighted)			
Total	609	745	733
Unweighted blacks	257	288	221
Unweighted nonblacks	352	457	512

Table 2

Table 2. Selected measures of sexual activity among never-married males aged 17-19, by race, according to year of survey

Measure	1979 NSYM†	1988 NSAM†	1995 NSAM	p§
All				
% ever had sex	65.7***	75.5**	68.2	.001
% had sex in last four weeks	40.0	44.8*	38.7	.044
Average no. of lifetime partners	4.1	3.8	3.6	ns
Average no. of acts of intercourse in last 12 months	14.0	17.1*	20.9	.001
Black				
% ever had sex	71.1***	87.8	87.6	.001
% had sex in last four weeks	47.3**	60.0	62.5	.001
Average no. of lifetime partners	5.1	6.2	6.9	.009
Average no. of acts of intercourse in last 12 months	12.3	12.5***	24.2	.001
Nonblack				
% ever had sex	64.5**	73.0**	64.2	.006
% had sex in last four weeks	38.5	41.7*	33.8	.038
Average no. of lifetime partners	3.8	3.3	2.9	.016
Average no. of acts of intercourse in last 12 months	14.3	18.1	20.2	.017

†ps .05, **ps .01, ***ps .001. ‡Significant difference refers to comparison between 1979 and 1988. §Significant difference refers to comparison between 1988 and 1995. §Refers to difference across all survey years.

Table 3. Percentage distribution of never-married metropolitan males aged 17-19, by attitudes about premarital sex and nonmarital pregnancy resolution, according to respondent's race and survey year

Attitude	1979 NSYM†	1988 NSAM‡	1995 NSAM	p§
PREMARITAL SEX				
All				
Okay if couple doesn't plan to marry	54.8***	80.2***	71.1	.001
Okay only if couple plans to marry	30.8	10.7	14.9	
Never okay	14.4	9.1	14.0	
Black				
Okay if couple doesn't plan to marry	58.6***	78.2	74.3	.001
Okay only if couple plans to marry	29.0	10.3	12.7	
Never okay	12.4	11.6	13.0	
Nonblack				
Okay if couple doesn't plan to marry	54.0***	80.6***	70.4	.001
Okay only if couple plans to marry	31.2	10.8	15.4	
Never okay	14.8	8.6	14.2	
NONMARITAL PREGNANCY RESOLUTION				
All				
Get married	19.1***	9.9***	8.0	.001
Have baby, and help support it	19.1	36.9	59.3	
Suggest abortion	24.8	19.8	14.2	
Suggest adoption/other	38.2	33.5	18.6	
Black				
Get married	3.6***	10.5**	4.3	.001
Have baby, and help support it	9.6	61.8	71.4	
Suggest abortion	26.5	13.6	17.3	
Suggest adoption/other	60.0	14.1	7.1	
Nonblack				
Get married	21.2***	9.8***	8.8	.001
Have baby, and help support it	21.1	31.7	59.7	
Suggest abortion	24.4	21.0	13.5	
Suggest adoption/other	33.4	37.5	21.0	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	

*p<.01, **p<.001, †Significant difference refers to comparison between 1979 and 1988, ‡Significant difference refers to comparison between 1988 and 1995, §Refers to difference across all survey years.

Table 4

Table 4. Percentage of never-married metropolitan males aged 17-19 who received sex education, by type of education and by race, according to survey year

Type of education	1979 NSYM†	1988 NSAM‡	1995 NSAM	p§
All races				
Birth control	62.4***	81.6**	87.3	.001
STD	72.9***	84.1*	87.9	.001
AIDS	0.0***	64.0***	95.8	.001
Black				
Birth control	67.2***	81.0***	92.0	.001
STD	79.8***	83.6	88.7	.001
AIDS	0.0***	76.3***	97.4	.001
Nonblack				
Birth control	61.4***	81.7*	86.3	.001
STD	73.4***	84.1	87.8	.001
AIDS	0.0***	61.5***	95.5	.001

*ps .05, **ps .01, ***ps .001. †Significant difference refers to comparison between 1979 and 1988. ‡Significant difference refers to comparison between 1988 and 1995. §Refers to difference across all survey years.

Table 5

Table 5. Odds ratio showing likelihood of having had sex in the last four weeks and tobit coefficients showing likely change in number of acts of intercourse over the last 12 months, by selected characteristics of never-married metropolitan males aged 17-19

Characteristic	Sex in last 4 weeks	Acts of intercourse
Cohort year		
1979	0.93	-21.13***
1985	0.98	6.73**
1988†	na	na
Premarital sex attitudes		
Premarital sex okay		
if plan to marry	0.30***	-18.83***
Never okay	0.09***	-48.82***
Okay even if don't plan to marry†	na	na
Nonmarital pregnancy resolution attitudes		
Have baby, and help support it	1.53*	11.69***
Suggest abortion	1.59*	15.92***
Suggest adoption/other	1.38	12.90***
Get married†	na	na
Sex education		
Birth control	1.35	-3.56
AIDS	0.53***	-10.02***
STD	0.58**	-2.86
Personal characteristics		
Black	0.93	-9.11*
Age in years	1.34***	10.62***
Behind in school	1.62***	8.56***
Religiosity	1.15*	0.95
Region of residence		
North	0.97	-3.75
Midwest	0.83	-2.48
West	0.88	-2.91
South†	na	na
Family background		
Family structure growing up		
Mother only	1.61***	5.09*
Mother and other adult	1.54*	11.66***
No mother present	1.22	7.12*
Mother and father†	na	na
Maternal education	0.99	-2.97**
Maternal education missing	1.27	0.93
Interactions		
Black X AIDS education	3.32***	12.95**
Black X premarital sex never okay	na	20.62**
1979 X STD education	1.82*	na
1979 X maternal education	0.75*	na
1979 X have baby, and help support it	1.81*	10.57*
1979 X birth control education	na	16.49***
N	2,027	2,014
Model chi-square	388.87	na
df	26	na
Intercept	na	-173.95***
Sigma	na	36.97
Log-likelihood ratio	na	-6,772.64

*ps .05, **ps .01, ***ps .001. †Reference category. Note: na=not applicable.

Table 6

Table 6. Odds ratio showing likelihood approval of premarital sex and of end of marriage as a resolution for a non-pregnancy, by selected characteristics of never-married metropolitan males age

Characteristic	Disapproval of premarital sex	End of marriage
Cohort year		
1979	3.40***	
1985	0.19**	
1988†	na	
Sex education		
Birth control	1.08	
AIDS	1.19	
STD	0.69*	
Personal characteristics		
Black	0.71*	
Age in years	0.85*	
Behind in school	0.81	
Religiosity	1.91***	
Region of residence		
North	0.85	
Midwest	0.90	
West	1.04	
South†	na	
Family background		
Family structure growing up		
Mother only	0.79	
Mother and other adult	0.54**	
No mother present	0.53**	
Mother and father†	na	
Maternal education	0.92	
Maternal education missing	1.19	
Interactions		
1985 X religiosity	1.33***	
1979 X Black	na	
Black X STD education	na	
N	2,051	2,047
Model chi-square	324.06	11
df	18	1

*ps .05, **ps .01, ***ps .001. †Reference category. Note: na=not applicable.



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