



The National Association of Secondary School Principals

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April 4, 2000

Mr. Andy Rotherham
Domestic Policy Council
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Andy,

I hope the arrival of spring finds you well and that you had time to take a short break to enjoy the cherry blossoms.

I am writing today to ask your help. Every year, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (MetLife) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) honor the State and National Principals of the Year. The awardees are chosen by their respective states, and then a national panel of judges selects the National Winner. This will be the first year that states will be able to select both a middle level and a high school principal, thus doubling the pool of awardees to approximately 106.

As you are well aware, both the National and State Teachers of the Year and the Blue Ribbon Schools are annually honored at a special White House ceremony. On behalf of NASSP and our 42,000 members (principals and assistant principals at middle level and high school), I ask you to consider the following question: Isn't it appropriate and necessary to honor our nation's principals in a similar way? After all, school improvement efforts cannot happen without the support of a strong school leader. We believe the President supports this idea due to his \$40 million budget request addressing school leadership needs.

We would be very honored if President Clinton, in his last year in office, would host a special ceremony for middle level and high school principals during the time period of October 7-10, 2000. At the very least, we would like to request that the National High School Principal of the Year and the National Middle School Principal of the Year be invited to the White House to have their picture taken with the President. Another idea would be to invite the two winners to attend the President's Saturday Radio Address to the Nation, especially if it is focused on education. 1994 was the last time the MetLife/NASSP National Principal of the Year was invited to the White House. We are unsure why the consecutive years' awardees have not been invited.

Thank you for considering my request and for sharing this idea with President Clinton.

Sincerely,

Gerald N. Tirozzi, Ph.D.
Executive Director

ANDY, I SINCERELY HOPE THAT YOU CAN
ASSIST IN HAVING PRESIDENT
CLINTON PARTICIPATE IN RECOGNIZING
THESE OUTSTANDING AND NATIONALLY
RECOGNIZED SCHOOL LEADERS.
THANKS.

Serving All Leaders in Middle Level and High School Education

Founder and Sponsor: National Honor Society
National Junior Honor Society
American Technology Honor Society
National Alliance of High Schools

National Association of Student Councils
National Association of Student Activity Advisers
Middle Level Student Activities Association
National Alliance of Middle Level Schools

Another request
for NTA. on 4/12



April 7, 2000

Ann O'Leary, Special Assistant to the President
c/o Heather Howard, Associate Director
Domestic Policy Council
The White House
Second Floor, West Wing
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. O'Leary,

We are requesting a meeting on Wednesday, April 12, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. to discuss an event at the White House that would feature the unveiling of Parents Anonymous, Inc.'s 30th Anniversary poster. The poster is a wonderful visual representation of the rich diversity of families who utilize Parents Anonymous® programs. I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Parents Anonymous, Inc., the oldest child abuse prevention organization in America. Through weekly, ongoing Parents Anonymous® groups we help thousands of families learn new skills, transform their attitudes and behaviors and create long term positive changes in their lives. While the parents are meeting, their children participate in Parents Anonymous® Children's Programs to promote their healthy growth and development.

The 30th Anniversary poster is being distributed by our dynamic National Network of Parents Anonymous® organizations to raise awareness about family strengthening and child abuse prevention issues. We would like to unveil the poster at the White House surrounded by families who have found help, support, strength and hope through Parents Anonymous®. An event at the White House with Parents Anonymous® parents would send the critical message that ***asking for help is a sign of strength.***

President Clinton, First Lady Hillary Clinton and Vice President Gore are all familiar with Parents Anonymous, Inc. and its work to strengthen America's families. When President Clinton was the Governor of Arkansas, Mrs. Clinton served on the Board of Directors of SCAN, our Parents Anonymous® accredited organization serving families in Arkansas. I represented Parents Anonymous, Inc. at the 1994 conference on fatherhood hosted by Vice President Gore and his wife, Tipper. Two years later he graciously agreed to write an article for *The Parent Networker*, our newsletter produced by and for Parents Anonymous® parents.

During our 30th Anniversary year, we are interested in partnering with the White House to celebrate the success of parents who have turned their lives around forever through Parents Anonymous®. In addition to the unveiling of the

THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
675 WEST FOOTHILL BLVD.
SUITE 220
CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA
91711-3475

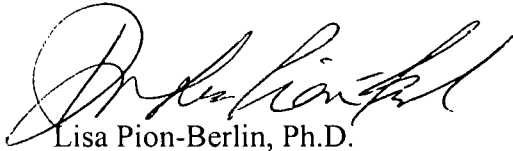
(909) 621-6184
FAX (909) 625-6304
www.parentsanonymous-natl.org
e-mail: parentsanon@msn.com

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Ann O'Leary

Parents Anonymous® poster, I am interested in discussing ways in which Parents Anonymous, Inc. can participate in **any** planned White House activities that would bring focus to issues regarding family strengthening and child abuse prevention in America.

My Senior Communications Associate Stephanie Graham will call Tuesday, April 11 to confirm our Wednesday, April 12 appointment. I look forward to meeting with you to establish an ongoing partnership between Parents Anonymous, Inc. and The White House. Our successful collaboration will provide families help today and hope for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Pion-Berlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "P".

Lisa Pion-Berlin, Ph.D.
President and Chief Executive Officer

mtg. Request
to discuss the writing
of Parents anonymous
30th Anniversary Postcard



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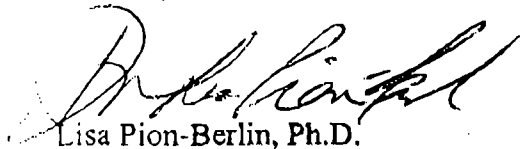
Page 2

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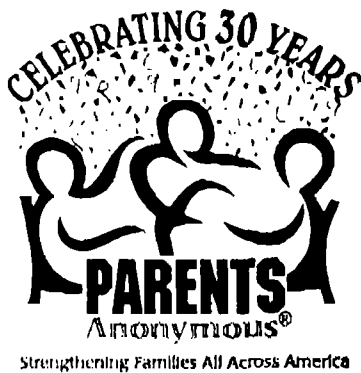
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Pion-Berlin", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Pion-Berlin, Ph.D.

President and Chief Executive Officer



PARENTS ANONYMOUS, INC. FACT SHEET

Our Mission

Founded in 1970 in California by a courageous mother and her social worker, Parents Anonymous, Inc. is dedicated to promoting mutual support and parent leadership in order to build and support strong, safe families. As the nation's oldest child abuse prevention, education, and treatment program, we celebrate our thirtieth anniversary and recommit to our vision of strengthening many more families across America.

What Makes Us Unique

The Parents Anonymous® model emphasizes shared leadership between parents and professionals. This model exemplifies the notion that by building on the strengths of families, difficulties can be overcome and child abuse and neglect can be prevented.

Acknowledged Success

When Congress re-authorized the Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act in 1996, a new section was added highlighting Parents Anonymous® as a benchmark community-based prevention program. In 1996, Parents Anonymous, Inc. was selected by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention as a national Model Family Strengthening Program to prevent juvenile delinquency. In 1997, the U.S. Commission on Child and Family Welfare, in their final report to Congress, identified Parents Anonymous, Inc. as the most successful program that emphasizes mutual support and parent leadership to ensure more responsive services.

Demonstrated Effectiveness

Immediate reduction in physical and emotional abuse. National research on Parents Anonymous® demonstrated a significant and immediate reduction in the frequency and severity of physical and emotional child abuse by parents who attended Parents Anonymous® groups. (Behavior Associates of Tucson, Arizona, 1978)

Most effective program for resolving parents' problems. In a national evaluation of 11 child abuse programs over a period of 40 months, Parents Anonymous® was the most significant intervention in alleviating child abuse and neglect in comparison to the other ten programs, which included individual therapy and parent education classes. (Berkeley Planning Associates, 1981)

Beneficial Children's Programs. National research on Parents Anonymous® children's programs revealed significant improvements in children's self-esteem, behavior and social interaction skills (Behavior Associates, 1983). Parents Anonymous, Inc. has created a new Children's Program that establishes principles and guidelines for the National Network.

New Research Underway. In 1999, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention will fund a new evaluation to assess the implementation and effectiveness of the Parents Anonymous® program.

Cost Effectiveness

Compared to the lifetime cost of more than \$2 million to our society for each abused child, Parents Anonymous® services effectively prevent child abuse at a cost of only \$600 per year per family. Annually, thousands of volunteers donate millions of dollars worth of services to Parents Anonymous®, making a significant contribution to families in their communities.

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Reaching more families across America than any other child abuse prevention program, the Parents Anonymous, Inc. National Network is a lifeline for parents and children who attend hundreds of Parents Anonymous® groups annually.

On any given week, thousands of mothers and fathers effectively address the stresses of parenting and learn to strengthen their relationships with their children in Parents Anonymous® groups across America. At the same time, their children are increasing their self esteem, improving their behavior and learning more effective social skills through Parents Anonymous® Children's Programs.

Parents Anonymous® programs meet the diverse needs of parents, including single, teen, minority, mono-lingual, and incarcerated parents; grandparents; "at risk" youth; and adult survivors of child abuse.

Parents Anonymous, Inc. promotes parent leadership throughout the country by enhancing the meaningful role of parents in policy decisions, program planning, implementation and evaluation in community-based organizations, federal, state and local governments to ensure effective programs that meet the needs of families.

Parents Anonymous, Inc. delivers comprehensive technical assistance and training to achieve successful organizational and programmatic capacity building; produces newsletters, videos, brochures, technical assistance bulletins, and program materials; designs national initiatives to prevent child abuse, reform child protective services, curtail juvenile delinquency, and promote parent leadership; provides information, education, and referrals for parents and professionals; and assists parents and professionals with advocacy efforts at the local, state and federal levels that will generate better outcomes for families all across the country.

Parents Anonymous, Inc. conducts national public awareness activities through the media to advocate for key family issues, and to reach out to parents seeking help to create safe and caring homes for their children.