

August 19, 1999

The Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza
President
National Conference of
Catholic Bishops/USCC
3211 Fourth Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20017-1194

Dear Bishop Fiorenza:

Thank you for your letter and for sharing the videotape presentation with me. I have asked my staff to carefully review the materials you have enclosed. It is always good to hear from you.

In order to end the epidemic of youth violence, parents, students, teachers, government, and entertainment leaders must work together to counter the culture of violence and build in its place a culture of values. I was pleased that Monsignor Thomas McDade, Secretary for Education of the US Catholic Conference, came to the White House to attend a recent strategy meeting on youth violence. At that event I called on leaders in the entertainment industry to consider the consequences of violent movies, CDs, and video games and the problems associated with marketing these products to children.

As we continue to address this very difficult issue, I am glad to have the Catholic Bishops' perspective. Hillary and I send our best wishes.

Sincerely,

BILL CLINTON

BC/TFS/DDA/DWB/pfs (Corres. #4419987)
(8.fiorenza.ja)

cc: Maureen Shea, OPL, 122 OEOB
cc: Tracy Sisser, 97 OEOB
cc: w/cy of inc to Karin Kullman, Youth/Viol.

OPD

Ann -

*For you if you
are interested*

Kaur



303925
Office of the President
3211 Fourth Street NE Washington, DC 20017-1194 (202) 541-3100 Fax: (202) 541-3166



Most Reverend Joseph A. Fiorenza, D.D.
Bishop of Galveston-Houston
President

May 4, 1999

William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In June of last year the Catholic Bishops of the United States adopted Renewing the Mind of the Media: A Statement on Overcoming the Exploitation of Sex and Violence in Communications.

In the wake of the tragedy which occurred in Littleton, Colorado, and the ensuing debate about the role of the media, I thought that I would share with you a copy of this statement, its Overview, and a videotape presentation of its message, for whatever contribution they may make to this discussion.

With every best wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

(Most Reverend) Joseph A. Fiorenza
Bishop of Galveston-Houston
President

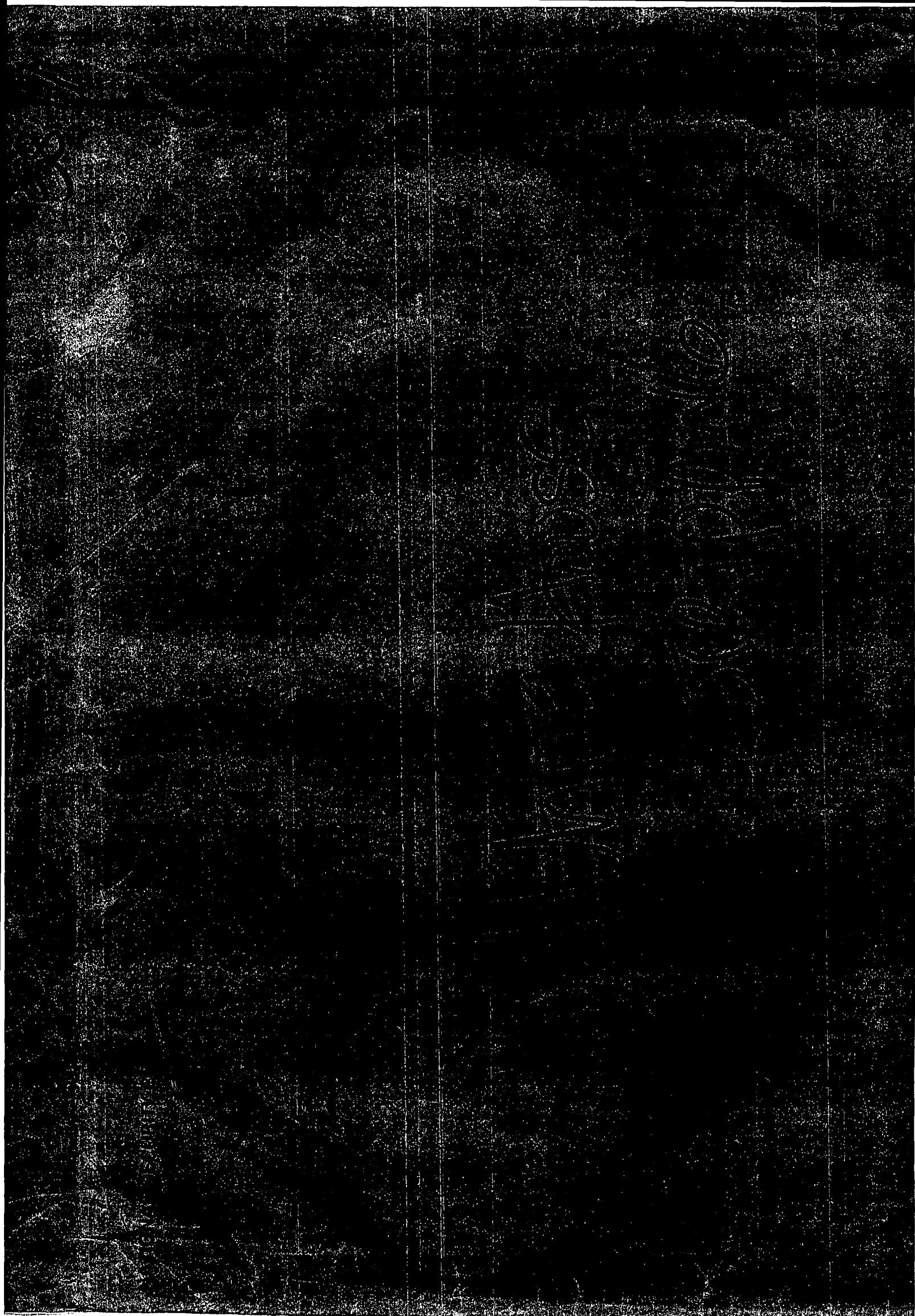
Enclosure

John W -
Youth + Violence
Materials go
to R. L. Howard
J. Bleich - The Dal

MAY -6 1999

Ann O'Searcy

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RENEWING THE MIND OF THE MEDIA

“DO NOT CONFORM
YOURSELVES TO THIS AGE
BUT BE TRANSFORMED BY THE
RENEWAL OF YOUR MIND,
SO THAT YOU MAY JUDGE
WHAT IS GOD'S WILL,
WHAT IS GOOD,
PLEASING AND PERFECT.”

ROMANS 12:2

**Statement on Overcoming the Exploitation
of Sex and Violence in Communications
*from the U.S. Catholic Bishops***

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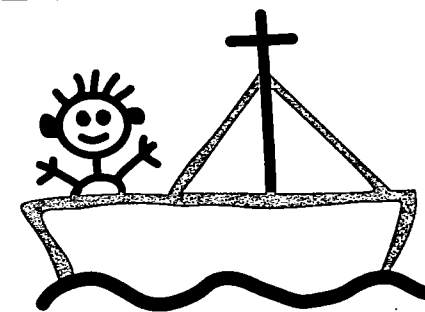
Leadership team for the "Help the Children" initiative expresses deep gratitude to
Aid Association for Lutherans for its financial support of this resource.

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www.elca.org/init/safehaven
www.augsburgfortress.org
www.elca.org

ISBN 6-0001-0865-6
69-8115



Safe Haven for Children

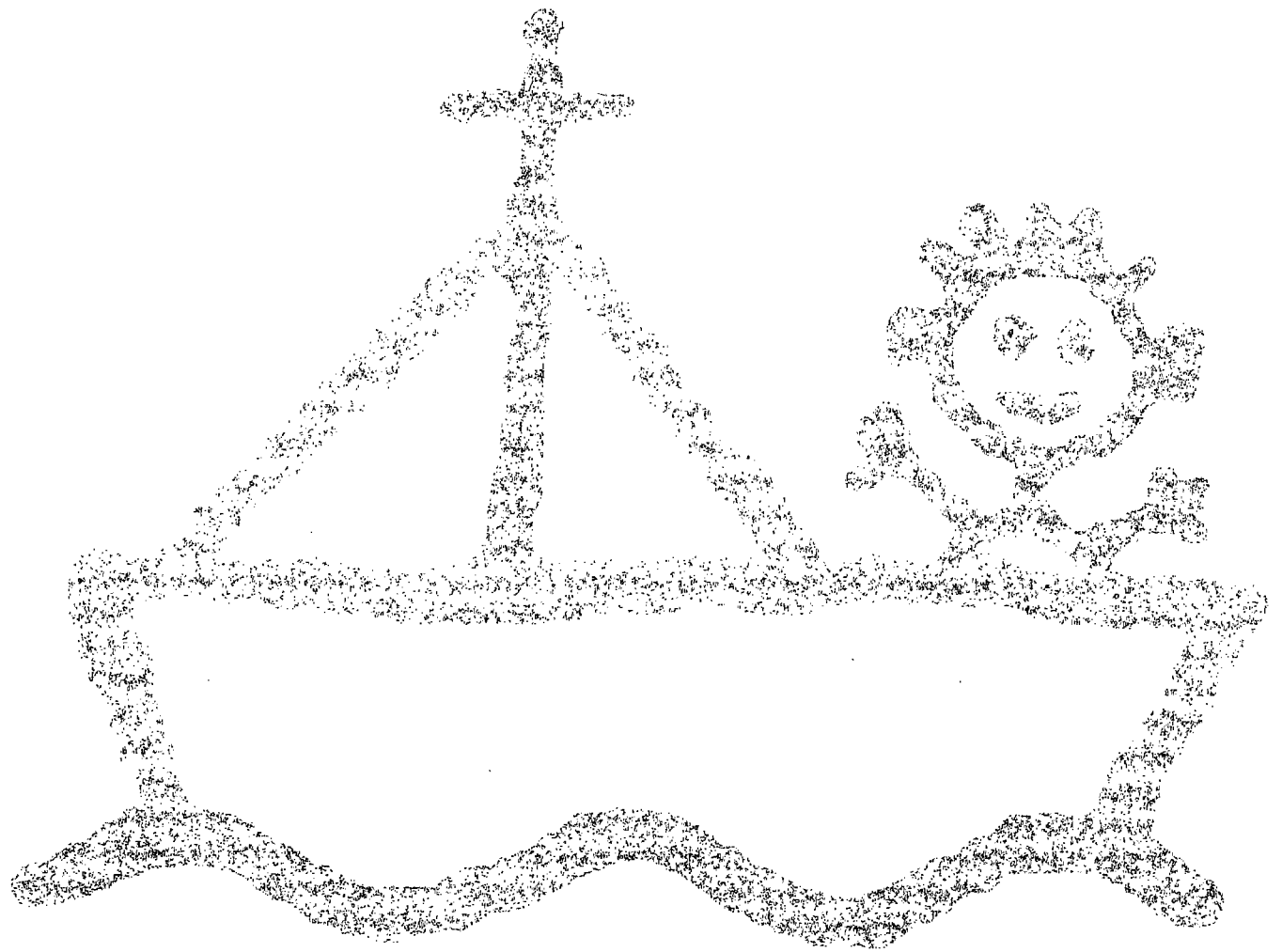
hope for congregations and communities

“The social upheavals of our time and the growing gap between the rich and poor have been especially damaging to the lives of children and families. As we prepare for the new millennium, we must assure the youngest and most vulnerable members of our world that they have a future.”

—Bishop H. George Anderson
Report to the 1997 Churchwide Assembly:
Initiatives to Prepare for a New Century

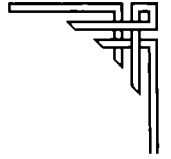
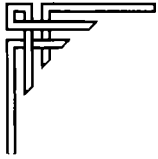
A folder of tools and information to help create a Safe Haven for Children in your community





This congregation is committed to being a

Safe Haven for Children



Covenant to be a *Safe Haven* *For Children*

We, the members of

_____,
(name of congregation)

living out our faith at

(street address)

(city, state, zip)

in the _____ synod of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

affirm our commitment to be a Safe Haven for Children.

Knowing that living into this covenant is a lifelong process of

learning and caring,

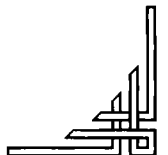
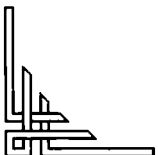
and

knowing that we work with others in our immediate community,

the wider church and the world to develop programs and places

where children can flourish,

we ask God to help us.



Safe Haven For Children

Recommended Resources

All congregational programs involving children, including program ideas presented by "Safe Haven for Children", should be developed and administered in consultation with your congregation's attorney and insurance carrier. Other persons inside and outside your congregation, including social workers, health professionals, and educators, can also provide invaluable advice. The following publications and organizations may also prove helpful to your congregation in this endeavor.

Child Abuse Prevention Primer for Your Organization, Patterson. Abuse information, training and education, developing strategies, and legalities. (Nonprofit Risk Management Center 202.782.3891.)

Managing Risks: First Steps in Identifying Congregational Liability, Couser. Workbook/checklist to assist in reviewing legal liabilities in several areas. (Augsburg Fortress, code 23-2303, 612.330.3300.)

No Surprises: Controlling Risks in Volunteer Programs. Preventing injuries, lawsuits, and so forth with strategies for controlling risks. (Nonprofit Risk Management Center, 202.785.3891.)

Reducing the Risk. Video from the Office of Church Law and Tax. Church members and leaders speak on the need for youth protection. Contact your synod office to borrow this video.

Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse in Your Church. Includes videos, guidebooks with forms, manuals, and audiotapes. (Christian Ministry Resources, 704.841.8066, Church Mutual Insurance discount.)

Risky Business: Church Hiring and Volunteer Selection, Buzzard and Edwards. Overview of legalities, child-care issues, federal statutes, and sample forms. (Church-State Resource Center, 910.893.1200.)

Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Child Abuse in the Church, Melton. Policies/procedures for protection from and allegations of abuse, reporting requirements, screening guidelines, sample forms, and training plan. (Discipleship Resources, order #DR220, 800.685.4370.)

Selection and Screening Kit for Church Employees, Hammar and Cobble. Booklets, instructions, and forms for hiring and reviews. (Christian Ministry Resources, 800.222.1840.)

Somebody Told. How to establish appropriate conduct, boundaries, and job descriptions. (Videonet, 206.632.2378, available for purchase or preview.)

Staff Screening Tool Kit, 2nd edition. Step-by-step process for screening out potentially dangerous applicants. (Nonprofit Risk Management Center, 202.785.3891.)

American Bar Association - Center on Children and the Law
202.662.1720
www.abanet.org/child

Children's Trust Fund
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention,
Tips for Parents
608.266.6871

Department of Health and Human Services
202.619.0257
www.dhhs.gov

National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect-Clearinghouse
800.394.2366
www.calib.com/nccanch

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
800.THE.LOST
www.missingkids.org

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect
800.394.3366

National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse
312.663.3520
www.childabuse.org

National Data Archive on Child Abuse
Cornell University
www.ndacan.cornell.edu

Nonprofit Risk Management Center
202.785.3891
www.nonprofitrisk.org

We will . . .

The commitment to being a Safe Haven for Children is most effective if it begins as an intentional decision made by your congregation. As you take steps toward creating a Safe Haven in your congregation, you might incorporate some of the following language into a resolution to be voted on at your next congregational meeting. You will want to revise or add language to tailor the statement to your congregation and community.

WHEREAS the social upheavals of our time and the growing gap between rich and poor have been especially damaging to the lives of children and families; and

WHEREAS, as we prepare for the new millennium, we must assure the youngest and most vulnerable members of our world that they have a future; and

WHEREAS we long for children to be free from fear and to live in faith;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this congregation (*insert name of your congregation*) commits itself to be a Safe Haven for all children and their families and caregivers, by:

I. Building Christ-centered, positive, trusting relationships that nurture the healthy growth of children and strengthen families.

II. Using our resources to provide a sanctuary for children.

III. Creating a Gospel-centered, faith-based teaching and learning environment of hospitality that welcomes all children with their families and caregivers.

IV. Developing programs and places that help children to flourish.

V. Collaborating with other faith communities, agencies, and service organizations that work for the well-being of children in our community.

VI. Working with the government for more public measures that support the well-being of children.

VII. Supporting the efforts of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to meet the basic needs of children through Lutheran social ministry organizations, as they provide caring services for children, and through the ELCA World Hunger Program, which carries our concerns for children throughout the world.



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Safe Haven For Children

Hope for Congregations and Communities

About this resource folder

This folder contains tools and information to help as you live out your ministry to be a Safe Haven for Children in your congregation and community. This resource book can be stored in the right-hand pocket of the folder. The left-hand pocket in the folder holds:

- A static-cling emblem identifying your congregation as committed to being a Safe Haven for Children.
- A reproducible Congregational Resolution, entitled "We will . . ."
- A certificate entitled "Covenant to be a Safe Haven for Children."

The pockets of this folder provide a helpful place to gather and organize ideas and resources as you move forward to create a Safe Haven for Children in your congregation. The entire folder will fit nicely into a file drawer for easy reference.

"O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the *fathers* and *mothers* and *caregivers* of *these children*. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their *children*. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their *children* the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."



Adapted from the service for Holy Baptism, *Lutheran Book of Worship*, p. 124.

Called to be a Safe Haven for Children

Creating connections for children

How to carry out a congregational campaign

Safe Havens and early childhood education

Poverty and children

Advocating for children

Bible study for all generations

Safe Haven for Children

Safe Haven  for Children

Safe Haven  for Children

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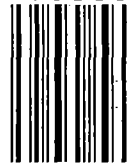
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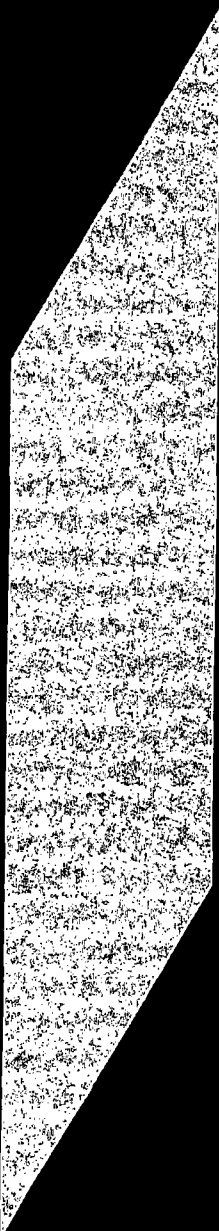
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VIOLENCE, YOUTH AND A WAY OUT

Statement of

JOHN A. CALHOUN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL



National Crime Prevention Council

To forge a nationwide commitment by people acting individually and together to prevent crime and build safer, more caring communities.

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Retired President & CEO
ADT Security Systems, Inc., FL

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Mrs. Arthur G. Whyte
Civic Leader, CT

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National Crime Prevention Council, DC

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Assistant Executive Director
Norfolk Redevelopment &
Housing Authority, VA

Dennis Dibos
Director of Business Development
Motorola, IL

Carole Hillard
Lieutenant Governor, SD

Robert Keim, President Emeritus†
The Advertising Council, Inc., NY

Philip Lovell, Co-Chair††
National Youth Network, DC

William F. May, Chairman & CEO†
Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island
Foundation, NY

J. Ben Miller, Principal
Colliers Turley Martin, MO

Charles A. Moose, Chief
Portland Police Bureau, OR

Rasheed Newson ††
Program Assistant
Center for Youth as Resources, DC

Leonard H. Roberts
President of Radio Shack/
CEO Elect. Tandy Corp., TX

Nathaniel E. Robinson
Division Administrator
Wisconsin Department of
Administration, WI

Michael F. Snyder, President
ADT Security Services, Inc., FL

Nell Watson Stewart, President
Stewart's Unlimited, SC

Joseph V. Vittoria †
Retired Chairman & CEO
Avis Rent A Car System, Inc.

† Advisory Director
†† Youth Advisory Director

October 27, 1999

Anne O'Leary
Office of the First Lady
Domestic Policy Control
Second Floor - West Wing
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Anne:

Whatever help I can lend to the newly formed violence commission I stand ready to provide. As you can see by the attached single sheet, I served as Commissioner of Youth Services in Massachusetts, chaired the State Adolescent Task Force, and came down here under Carter to be Commissioner of the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families. I currently serve on Attorney General Janet Reno's Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice.

I also published a booklet (see attached), *Violence, Youth, and a Way Out*.

Hope I can be of some help.

With every good wish,


John A. Calhoun
President & CEO

JAC/adf
enclosure

John A. Calhoun

John A. Calhoun is Executive Director of the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), a non-profit organization that provides comprehensive assistance in community crime prevention to national, state, and local groups. NCPC's activities include public service advertising, training and technical assistance, work with the 118-member Crime Prevention Coalition of America, substance abuse prevention, municipal strategies, youth initiatives, publications, policy development, and fund-raising.

Mr. Calhoun helped design Community Responses to Drug Abuse, a ten-site initiative aimed at reducing community disorganization, fear and crime, and rebuilding civic cohesion, and T-CAP, the Texas City Action Plan, an unprecedented seven-city initiative that enlisted the entire community to set concrete short- and long-term goals to prevent crime and address its causes. To help give youth a positive stake in their communities, he created and launched the Youth As Resources program, an initiative that asks youth to identify social issues that concern them and then design and run service projects to address those issues.

Early in his career, Mr. Calhoun taught in Philadelphia's core city, then helped start and/or run various programs in Massachusetts, such as Job Corps, Neighborhood Youth Corps, Community Action through Action for Boston Community Development.

Mr. Calhoun founded and ran the Justice Resource Institute, which pioneered programs such as pre-trial diversion for youth and "Urban Court," Massachusetts' first neighborhood justice center, an initiative based on justice as healing and reconciliation and offender accountability to victim and community. In 1976 he was appointed by the governor to the post of Commissioner of the Department of Youth Services in Massachusetts, where he also chaired the state's Adolescent Task Force and the Massachusetts State of the Family Conference. He served as a Presidential appointee under President Carter as United States Commissioner of the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families, where he oversaw programs and policies such as Head Start, child abuse and neglect, Runaway Youth, and child welfare, and created the Office for Families and the Office for Domestic Violence. He later served as Vice President and Director of Public Policy for the Child Welfare League of America.

Mr. Calhoun has served on numerous boards and commissions, some of which include the National League of Cities' Council on Youth, Education and Families, the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse, the Center for Early Adolescence, the Center for International Leadership, Youth Service America, the Pacific Center for the Prevention of Violence, the National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention, the U.S. Attorney General's Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice, the National Assembly of National Voluntary Health and Social Welfare Organizations, and Virginia's Department for Children. He is President of the Board of the Center for Youth as Resources and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime.

Author of numerous publications, Mr. Calhoun has keynoted many national and international conferences and testified often before Congress, state legislatures, and city councils. He received a citation from the State Senate of Massachusetts for "outstanding and dedicated service to the children and families of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," the Award of Recognition from the American Arbitration Association, and in 1998 received the Annual Award of Recognition from the United States Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. He has taught and lectured at major academic institutions and is consulted on a wide range of issues, e.g., crime prevention, community mobilization, children, youth and families, employment programs, and criminal justice issues. He is a frequent guest in the media — radio (private and public) and television (e.g., *Larry King Live*; *Today Show*). In 1991, he was the U.S. Delegation's spokesperson at the International Crime Prevention Forum in Paris. He is often listed in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in the World*.

A graduate of Brown University, Mr. Calhoun also holds a Master's Degree in Theology from the Episcopal Divinity School, and a Master's Degree with honors from Harvard University (Littauer Fellow) in Public Administration. Mr. Calhoun is the father of a son and a daughter.