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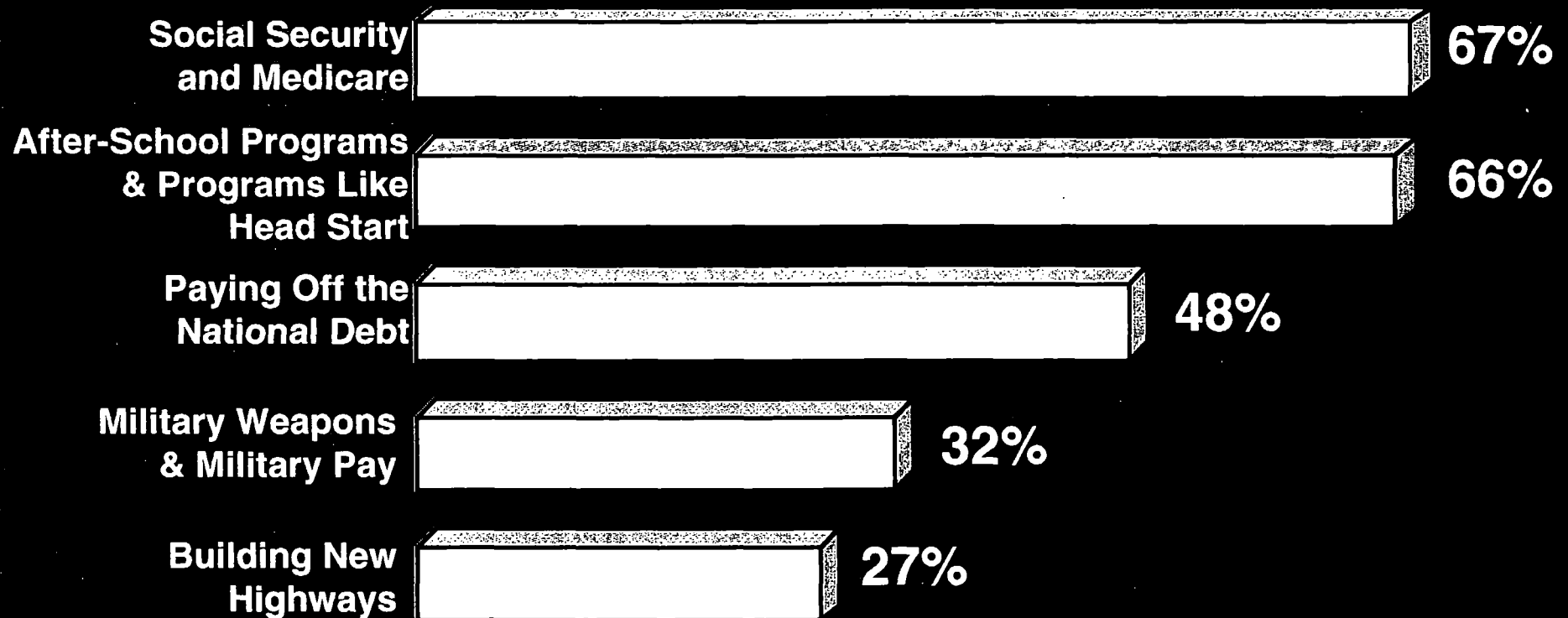
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4

Divider Title: _____

Poll: What's more important than a tax cut?

After-school programs and programs like Head Start rank with Social Security and Medicare.



Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
www.fightcrime.org

**The following tables summarize the results of two polls conducted by
Opinion Research Corporation International for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids:**

August 12-15

Question 1.

To provide kids in your community with access to good after-school programs and early childhood development programs like Head Start, would you be willing to:

- a) Pay more taxes?
- b) Pass up a tax cut?

Pay more taxes?	50%
Those who were unwilling to pay more taxes, but who were willing to pass up a tax cut:	24%
Total percent of those willing to pay more taxes, pass up a tax cut, or both:	74%

Question 2.

Which of these priorities are more important than cutting taxes?

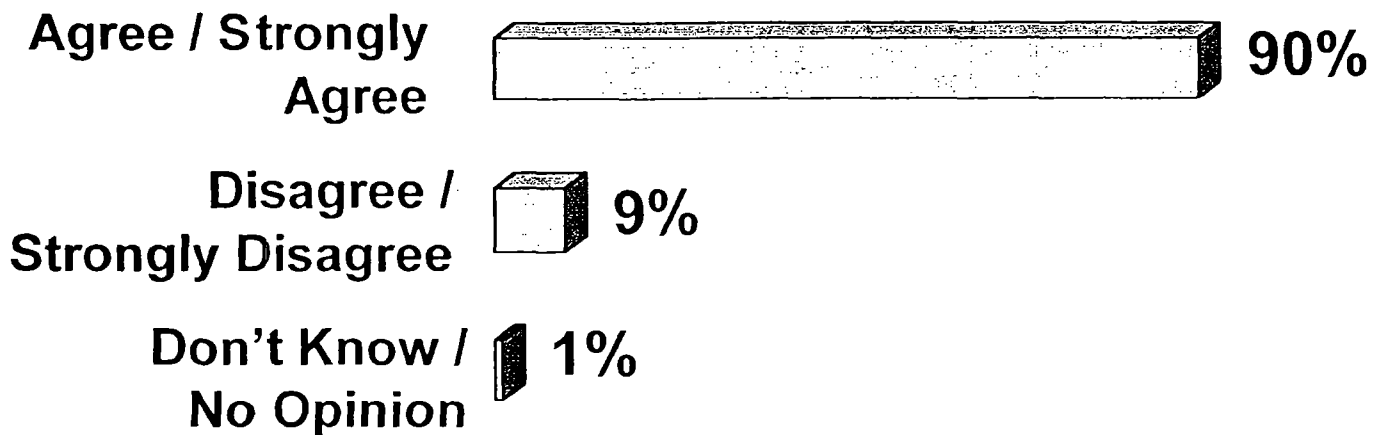
Shoring up Social Security and Medicare.	67%
Providing access to after-school programs and early childhood development programs like Head Start.	66%
Paying off the national debt.	48%
Building new highways.	32%
Building more advanced military weapons and spending more on military pay.	27%
Don't know / None of these	5%

Question 3.

As children in your community head back to school what are you most concerned about?
[Those polled volunteered their own answers.]

Violence / Crime	47%
Inadequate Education	18%
The Cost of Education	2%
Any other Concerns	21%
No Concern / No Answer	11%

9 out of 10 Americans agree: Investing more in preventive programs for kids could greatly reduce crime.



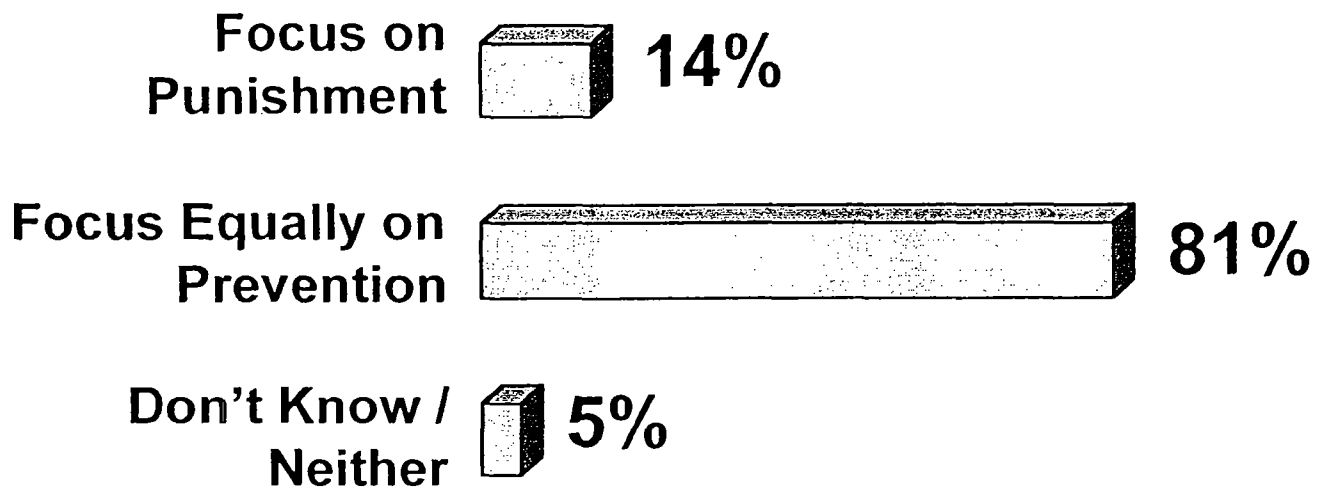
Actual Question Wording:

“Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: ‘In the long run, America could greatly reduce crime if we invested more in preventive efforts aimed at helping children and youth get the right start in life. For example, community-based coaching for high-risk teen parents to improve their parenting, Head Start and other early childhood development programs, programs for troubled kids, and after-school programs and mentoring.’”

Opinion Research Corporation International, Caravan Services, 1011 respondents, July 1-3, 1999.
Margin of error + or - 2%.

Fight Crime. Invest in Kids
www.fightcrime.org

In Fighting Juvenile Crime Should We
Focus primarily on punishment
or
Focus equally on prevention programs
for kids?



Actual Question Wording:

"Which of these statements comes closer to your views?

1. America's fight against juvenile crime should focus primarily on locking up juvenile delinquents and other punishment when crimes are committed.
2. America's fight against juvenile crime must include strong efforts to lock up dangerous delinquents, but should focus equally on prevention programs aimed at keeping kids from getting into trouble and on efforts to help get troubled kids back on track."

Opinion Research Corporation International, Caravan Services, 1011 respondents, July 1-3, 1999. Margin of error + or - 2%.

Fight Crime. Invest in Kids
www.fightcrime.org

July 1-3 1999

Question 1

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statement: "In the long run, America could greatly reduce crime if we invested more in preventive efforts aimed at helping children and youth get the right start in life. For example, community-based coaching for high-risk teen parents to improve their parenting, Head Start and other early childhood development programs, programs for troubled kids, and after-school programs and mentoring."

Investing more in preventive programs for kids could greatly reduce crime:						
Strongly Agree	Agree but not Strongly	Total who Agree or Strongly Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total who Disagree or Strongly Disagree	Don't Know / Have no Opinion
62%	27%	90%	6%	3%	9%	1%

Question 2.

Which of these statements comes closer to your view?

- a) America's fight against juvenile crime **should focus on locking up juvenile delinquents and other punishment** when crimes are committed.
- b) America's fight against juvenile crime must include strong efforts to lock up dangerous delinquents, but **should focus equally on prevention programs** aimed at keeping kids from getting into trouble and on efforts to help get troubled kids back on track.

Should focus on locking up juvenile delinquents and other punishment	14%
Should focus equally on prevention programs	81%
Don't know / Neither	5%

The CARAVAN surveys were conducted by Opinion Research Corporation International for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids. 1016 adults, 18 years of age and over, were surveyed during the period of August 12-15, 1999, and 1011 adults were surveyed during the period July 1-3, 1999.

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5

Divider Title: _____

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Ronald Earle

District Atty., Travis Co., TX

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Former D.A., Denver, CO

Ralph Martin, II

District Atty., Suffolk Co., MA

Janet Napolitano

Attorney General, AZ

Jeanine Pirro

District Atty., Westchester, NY

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Former Attorney General
and Secretary of HEW, of
Defense and of Commerce

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Fdr., Mothers of All Children

Carole Grant Hall

Director, Ginger Ridge

Residents' Initiative

Ellen Halbert

Editor, National Crime

Victims Report

Marc Klaas

Pres., Klaas Fdn. for Children

Dennis Lees, Ph.D.

Mgr., Mental Health Clinic

Jean Lewis

President, Parents of

Murdered Children

Gordon Rondeau &

Elaine Rondeau

Founders, Action America:

Murder Must End Now



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William C. Christeson, M.H.S.

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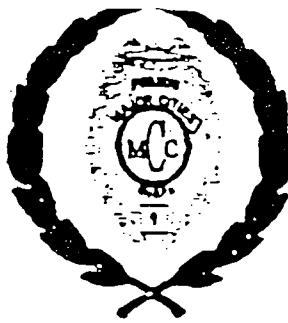
Marci Wasserman

Communications Director

Philip Evans

**Law Enforcement Organization
Crime Prevention Resolutions**
(Attached in the following order)

- Major Cities Police Chiefs
- National Sheriffs' Association
- Police Executive Research Forum
- National District Attorneys Association
- Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police
- Arizona County Attorney and Sheriff's Association
- California District Attorneys' Association
- California Sheriffs' Association
- Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police
- Illinois State's Attorneys Association
- Iowa State Sheriff's & Deputies' Association
- Maine Chiefs of Police Association
- Maine Sheriff's Association
- New York Association of Chiefs of Police
- North Carolina Association of
Chiefs of Police
- Rhode Island Chiefs' Association
- Texas Police Chiefs' Association



MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS

Resolution on Curbing School & Youth Violence

Approved by the

Major Cities Chiefs

February 9, 1999

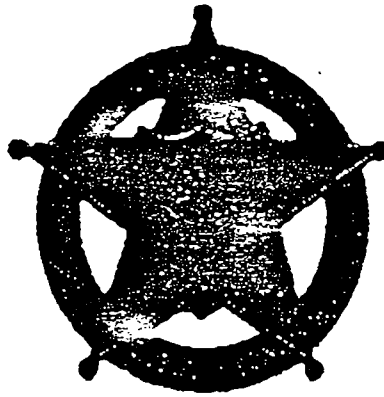
RESOLUTION

As police chiefs in America's largest cities, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. Quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our public officials to adopt the policies described in **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan**:

- ☛ Assure all families access to quality child care for babies and preschool children.
- ☛ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- ☛ Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.
- ☛ Offer all school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that provide recreation, arts, academic support and community service experience.

Phoenix, Arizona
Los Angeles, California
Los Angeles Co., California
San Diego, California
San Francisco, California
San Jose, California
Denver, Colorado
Jacksonville, Florida
Metro-Dade, Miami, Florida
Atlanta, Georgia
Honolulu, Hawaii
Chicago, Illinois
Indianapolis, Indiana
New Orleans, Louisiana
Baltimore, Maryland
Baltimore Co., Maryland
Montgomery Co., Maryland
Prince George's Co., Maryland
Boston, Massachusetts
Detroit, Michigan
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Kansas City, Missouri
St. Louis, Missouri
Las Vegas, Nevada
Newark, New Jersey
Buffalo, New York
Nassau Co., New York
New York City, New York
Suffolk Co., New York
Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina
Cincinnati, Ohio
Cleveland, Ohio
Columbus, Ohio
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Memphis, Tennessee
Nashville Metro, Tennessee
Austin, Texas
Dallas, Texas
El Paso, Texas
Fort Worth, Texas
Houston, Texas
San Antonio, Texas
Salt Lake City, Utah
Washington, D.C.
Seattle, Washington
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
.....
Calgary, Canada
Montreal, Canada
Toronto, Canada

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



Resolution

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS INVESTING IN OUR NATIONS YOUTH

- WHEREAS, public safety is the principal goal of the nation's sheriffs; and
- WHEREAS, our nation's sheriffs work continuously to fight crime and remove criminals from our streets and neighborhoods; and
- WHEREAS, more and more "at-risk" kids are becoming involved in crime because they do not have any other positive alternatives; and
- WHEREAS, the peak hours for violent juvenile crime are between the end of school and 8:00 p.m.; and
- WHEREAS, helping kids keep out of trouble during these hours is an effective weapon against crime; and
- WHEREAS, investing in programs that educate parents and children to become good neighbors is beneficial to the community; and
- WHEREAS, quality child care, parental education and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills needed to become responsible adults instead of juvenile delinquents and adult criminals; and
- WHEREAS, sheriffs and other elected officials have a public duty and responsibility to ensure our kids have a fighting chance; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National Sheriffs' Association supports programs to provide all infants, toddlers and preschoolers with quality educational child care at a price parents can afford; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National Sheriffs' Association strongly supports programs designed to reduce child abuse and neglect by advocating "parenting coaches" through proven home visitation programs and community-based family resource centers; and furthermore the National Sheriffs' Association strongly supports after-school programs, weekend programs, and summer programs that offer recreational activities, academic support, and community service opportunities to America's school-age children.

Adopted at a meeting of the General
Membership on this 1st day of July, 1998
in Phoenix, Arizona



Resolution on Early Childhood Care and After-School Programs

May 1, 1998

As police professionals serving more than 40 percent of the nation's population, we are deeply committed to getting dangerous criminals off the street. But we also know that even the most effective policing, prosecution, and punishment will never be enough to win the fight against crime unless they are coupled with effective prevention and intervention programs that will minimize the need for back-end solutions.

Findings

Scientific research now clearly shows that quality educational child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can have a dramatic anti-crime impact because they help kids learn right from wrong and learn the skills and values they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. In some studies early childhood investments have reduced by as much as 90% the risk of subsequent delinquency and by as much as 80% the risk that a toddler will grow up to have been arrested five or more times as an adult. And after-school youth development programs have been proven to sharply reduce juvenile crime and juvenile victimization.

Research also shows that investments in effective early childhood and youth development programs today will reap dramatic cost savings tomorrow. Boosting such investments represents not only a significant crime-reduction opportunity, but also an opportunity to substantially reduce budgetary demands on federal and state governments in the years to come.

Call for Action

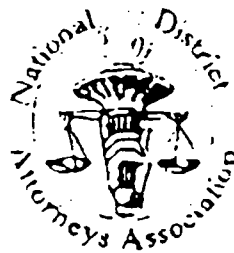
We therefore adopt, as a legislative priority for this year, a call on all our elected officials to support policies that:

- Ensure all communities the funds to provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality, educational child care at a price their parents can afford.

Resolution on Early Childhood Care and After-School Programs
May 1, 1998

- Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- Provide for all of America's school-age children and teens after-school programs, and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.
- Increase existing funds for law enforcement and increase the discretionary authority of law enforcement executives to use those funds to support successful and proven crime-preventing investments in children and youth.

America should move steadily forward to implement on a large scale the child care, early childhood development and after-school programs that have already been proven to prevent crime. We also urge that funds be allocated to permit ongoing evaluation of implementation as model programs are "scaled up," and research on other promising crime-prevention investments, in order to further refine our knowledge of best practices to protect public safety and improve developmental outcomes for at-risk youth.



NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

99 Canal Center Plaza • Suite 510 • Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 549-9222

Fax: (703) 836-5195

RESOLUTION
ON
CURBING YOUTH VIOLENCE

WHEREAS, the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) recognizes the importance of nurturing and responsible parenting and supports programs that promote core family values, and intervention and prevention initiatives that focus on the serious negative impact of violence, abuse, neglect, crime and drugs upon the lives of youth; and

WHEREAS, the collective experience of state and local prosecutors across the nation is that the incidence of abuse, juvenile crime and delinquency is greatly increased when these basic needs of children have not been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NDAA supports a coordinated and balanced approach to address our nation's growing youth violence problem, emphasizing the importance of proven prevention and intervention initiatives, such as efforts to ensure the availability of quality child-care, after-school programs and programs aimed at reducing child abuse, provided that such are not viewed as alternatives to the apprehension and prosecution of juvenile criminal offenders.

Adopted by the Board of Directors, March 21, 1998, at Clearwater, Florida.
98-013.SPR

Resolution on Curbing Youth Violence

*Approved by the Arizona Association of
Chiefs of Police*

September 15, 1998

RESOLUTION

As chiefs of police working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. The evidence is in that quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our elected officials to adopt policies to:

- ☛ Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational child care at a price their parents can afford.
- ☛ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- ☛ Provide for all of America's school-age children and teens after-school programs, and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.

Arizona County Attorney & Sheriff's Association

Sheriff Marvin Hare, President
Martha Chase, Secretary/Treasurer

RESOLUTION ON CURBING YOUTH VIOLENCE

WHEREAS, the Arizona County Attorney & Sheriff's Association recognizes the importance of nurturing and responsible parenting and supports programs that promote core family values, and intervention and prevention initiatives that focus on the serious negative impact of violence, abuse, neglect, crime and drugs upon the lives of youth; and

WHEREAS, the collective experience of state and local prosecutors across the nation is that the incidence of abuse, juvenile crime and delinquency is greatly increased when these basic needs of children have not been met;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Arizona County Attorney and Sheriff's Association supports a coordinated and balanced approach to address our nation's growing youth violence problem, emphasizing the importance of proven prevention and intervention initiatives, such as efforts to ensure the availability of quality child-care, after-school programs and programs aimed at reducing child abuse, provided that such are not viewed as alternatives to the apprehension and prosecution of juvenile criminal offenders.

Adopted by Members, Arizona County Attorney & Sheriff's Association, May 14, 1998.

Resolution on Curbing School & Youth Violence

Approved by the

California District Attorney's Association

January, 1999

RESOLUTION

As prosecutors working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. Quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our public officials to adopt policies described in FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS *School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan*:

- ☛ Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational child care at a price their parents can afford.
- ☛ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- ☛ Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.
- ☛ Provide for school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.



California State Sheriffs' Association

Organization Founded by the Sheriffs in 1894

RESOLUTION

ON

CURBING SCHOOL & YOUTH VIOLENCE

WHEREAS: SHERIFFS WORK EVERY DAY TO GET DANGEROUS CRIMINALS OFF THE STREETS; AND

WHEREAS: KNOWING THAT AN INVESTMENT IN HELPING KIDS GET THE RIGHT START IS AMONG AMERICA'S MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS AGAINST CRIME; AND

WHEREAS: QUALITY CHILD CARE, PARENTING COACHING AND AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS CAN HELP KIDS LEARN THE VALUES AND SKILLS THEY NEED TO BECOME GOOD NEIGHBORS INSTEAD OF CRIMINALS; AND

WHEREAS: THE FOLLOWING POLICIES ARE PART OF THE FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS SCHOOL AND YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION PLAN:

PROVIDE ALL INFANTS, TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WITH QUALITY EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE AT A PRICE THEIR PARENTS CAN AFFORD;

REDUCE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT BY OFFERING ALL AT-RISK PARENTS "PARENTING COACHES" THROUGH PROVEN HOME VISITING PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS ACCESS TO COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS;

HELP SCHOOLS IDENTIFY TROUBLED AND DISRUPTIVE CHILDREN AT AN EARLY AGE, AND PROVIDE CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS WITH THE COUNSELING AND TRAINING THAT CAN HELP KIDS GET BACK ON TRACK; AND

PROVIDE FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN AND TEENS AFTER-SCHOOL AND ACCESS TO WEEKEND AND SUMMER PROGRAMS THAT OFFER RECREATION, ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE EXPERIENCE; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: THAT THE CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION URGES PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO ADOPT POLICIES SET FORTH IN FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS SCHOOL AND YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION PLAN; AND

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED: THAT THE CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ENCOURAGES MEMBERS TO REVIEW FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS CRIME PREVENTION RESEARCH AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES, AND JOIN ITS ANTI-CRIME EFFORTS.

Adopted this twenty-eighth day of March 1999

[Signature]
President

[Signature]
Secretary

[Signature]
Executive Director

Attest:



Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police

426 South Fifth Street, Suite 200 - Springfield, Illinois 62701-1824
PH 217-523-3765, FAX 217-523-8352, E-MAIL: IACP@ILCHIEFS.ORG

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St. Charles Police Dept.
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AELE, Chicago

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St. Charles

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Executive Director

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Mgr., Governmental Relations

Linda S. Kunz
Admin. Asst., Communications Mgr.

Pamela J. Graham
Secretary II, Bookkeeper

DeAnn J. Richard
Secretary, Receptionist

Resolution on Curbing School & Youth Violence

Approved by the

Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police

December, 1998

RESOLUTION

As police chiefs working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. The evidence is in that quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our elected officials to adopt policies named in FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS *School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan*:

- ☐ Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational child care at a price their parents can afford.
- ☐ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- ☐ Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.
- ☐ Provide for school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.

The IACP encourages members to review FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ILLINOIS ' crime prevention research and implementation strategies, and join their anti-crime efforts if they see fit.

Resolution on Curbing School & Youth Violence

Approved by the

Illinois State's Attorneys Association

December 9, 1998

RESOLUTION

As State's Attorneys working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. The evidence is in that quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our elected officials to adopt policies advocated by FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ILLINOIS to:

- ☛ Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational child care at a price their parents can afford.
- ☛ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- ☛ Provide for school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.

The ISAA encourages local State's Attorneys to review the information from FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ILLINOIS and get involved in their crime prevention efforts if they see fit.



President
Gary D. Anderson, Chief Deputy
Appanoose County
1125 W. Van Buren
P.O. Box 474
Centerville, Iowa 52544-0474
(515) 437-7100
Fax (515) 437-7107
E-mail sheriff@se-iowa.net

Secretary/Treasurer
Ted Kamatchus, Sheriff
Marshall County
212 S. 2nd Ave.
Marshalltown, Iowa 50158-2994
(515) 754-6380
Fax (515) 754-6369
E-mail S6401@msn.com

Resolution on Curbing School and Youth Violence

Approved by the board of the

Iowa State Sheriff's & Deputies' Association

September 16, 1999

RESOLUTION

As Sheriff's and Deputies working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. Quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our public officials to adopt the policies described in the **FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan:**

- Assure all families access to quality child care for babies and preschool children.
- Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.
- Offer all school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that provide recreation, arts, academic support and community service experience.

ISSDA Permanent Mailing Address

Financial Administrator—Wayne Boots, Major, Black Hawk County, P.O. Box 4180, Waterloo, Iowa 50704

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2nd—Sam Herkelman, Lieutenant Black Hawk County
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Maine Chiefs of Police Association

93 Silver Street • Waterville, Maine 04901

Charles H. Jackson, Executive Director • Tel. (207) 873-0455 • Fax: (207) 873-0455

President
Chief Joseph E. Young Sr.
Winthrop Police Dept.

Crime Prevention Resolution

Bar Harbor, May 29, 1998

Officers 1997 - 1998

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Chief David Pickering
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Sergeant-at-Arms
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Augusta Police Dept.

Treasurer
Chief Edward Tolan
Falmouth Police Dept.

Secretary
Chief William R. Foster
York Police Dept.

Parliamentarian
Lt. Anne P. Schaad
Maine State Police

Immediate Past President
Chief Michael A. Coty
Gardiner Police Dept.

Chaplain
Chief Leroy Jones
Waldoboro Police Dept.

Legislative Liaison
John S. Martin

Whereas, we, as police chiefs working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets and we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime; and,

Whereas, the evidence that quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good citizens instead of criminals; and

Whereas, we recognize that children are the key to our future; and,

Whereas, crime prevention is everyone's responsibility,

Be it Resolved, that the Maine Chiefs of Police Association by unanimous vote, call out to all elected officials to adopt policies to:

Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational childcare at a price their parents can afford;

Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "Parenting coaches" through proven home visitation programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.

Provide for all of Maine's school-age children and teens after school programs, and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.



Joseph E. Young, Sr.,
President

5-29-98
Date

C.O.P.s Care



MAINE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

11 Columbia Street
Augusta, Maine 04330

(207) 626-7695

(207) 622-4437

e-mail: howe@maine.com

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Kennebec County
622-0990

RESOLUTION

As law enforcement officials constantly working to remove dangerous criminals off our streets, we know that current investments to help kids get a positive start in life are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. Quality child care, quality parenting, coaching and after-school programs have proven to be effective tools to teach kids the values and skills they need to become good citizens instead of criminals. We, therefore, call on all our elected officials to adopt policies to:

- Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational childcare at a price that all parents can afford.
- Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as, access to community-based family resource centers.
- Provide for all of America's school-age children and teens, after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.



New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.

Executive Offices: 2697 Hamburg Street - Schenectady, NY 12303-3783 • (518) 355-3371 • FAX (518) 356-5767

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**New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.
99th Annual Training Conference
Sheraton-Saratoga Springs Hotel and Conference Center
Saratoga, New York
July 26 - 30, 1999**

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #37

**Urges Public Officials to Adopt the
Policies Described in FIGHT CRIME:
INVEST IN KIDS School and Youth
Violence Prevention Plan**

WHEREAS, as Police Chiefs working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that today's investments to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime; and

WHEREAS, quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc. calls on all our public officials to adopt the policies described in FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan:

...Assure all families access to quality child care for babies and preschool children.

...Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.

...Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.

...Offer all school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that provide recreation, arts, academic support and community service experience.

**Saratoga, New York
1999**

July 30,

N. C. Association of Chiefs of Police

Chief Robert E. Cansler
President
P. O. Box 308
Concord, NC 28026-0308



Telephone (704) 783-2207
E-mail receptd101@etc.net
Pager (704) 783-3715
Fax (704) 786-3494

Whereas, we, as police chiefs in North Carolina's cities, working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, and we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among North Carolina's most powerful weapons against crime; and,

Whereas, the evidence that quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good citizens instead of criminals; and

Whereas, we recognize that children are the key to our future; and,

Whereas, a primary objective of the Association is crime prevention and we recognize that crime prevention is everyone's responsibility,

Be it Resolved, that the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police therefore call on all our elected officials to adopt policies named in Fight Crime Invest In Kids Quality Early Childhood And Youth Development Programs: Powerful Weapons Against Crime In North Carolina and School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan to:

- o Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational child care at a price their parents can afford;
- o Strengthen families and reduce child abuse, neglect and delinquency by offering all at-risk parents (at their option) "parenting coaches" through proven home visitation programs;
- o Provide for all of North Carolina's school-age children and teens access to after school programs, weekend and summer youth development programs that offer recreation, academic support, tutor-mentoring resources and community service experience, and;
- o Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.

Adopted this the 23rd day of February, 1999

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Cansler".

Chief Robert E. Cansler, President



RHODE ISLAND POLICE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION

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Colonel Lawrence Campion
East Greenwich Police Dept.

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RESOLUTION

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- Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as, access to community-based family resource centers.
- Provide for all of America's school-age children and teens, after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.

Resolution on Curbing School & Youth Violence

Approved by the

Texas Police Chiefs Association

February, 1999

RESOLUTION

As police chiefs working every day to get dangerous criminals off the streets, we know that investments today to help kids get the right start are among America's most powerful weapons against crime. Quality child care, parenting coaching and after-school programs can help kids learn the values and skills they need to become good neighbors instead of criminals. We therefore call on all our public officials to:

- ☞ Provide all infants, toddlers and preschool children with quality educational child care at a price their parents can afford.
- ☞ Reduce child abuse and neglect by offering all at-risk parents "parenting coaches" through proven home visiting programs, as well as access to community-based family resource centers.
- ☞ Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.
- ☞ Provide for school-age children and teens after-school programs and access to weekend and summer programs that offer recreation, academic support and community service experience.

THE NATION'S NEWSPAPER

USA TODAY

NO. 1 IN THE USA . . . FIRST IN DAILY READERS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1999

NATIONLINE

HELPING KIDS: Child-care and after-school programs are better ways to end juvenile violence than hiring more police officers, prosecuting children as adults or increasing security in schools, according to a survey of 556 police chiefs released at the annual convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Charlotte, N.C. The survey, commissioned by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, found that 69% identified child-care and after-school programs as their top solutions to fighting juvenile crime. By comparison, 17% of the chiefs said more children should be prosecuted as adults, 13% said hiring more officers would be their top solution, and 1% opted for adding metal detectors and surveillance cameras to schools.

— Gary Fields

The Charlotte Observer

TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 2, 1999

Police say care for kids is vital

After-school care prevents
youth crime, chiefs believe

By LEIGH DYER
Staff Writer

If it came to choosing between money to hire more officers and money to pay for expanded after-school and child-care programs, most of the nation's police chiefs would choose the programs for children, a new poll released Monday found.

In the poll results announced in Charlotte, 69

percent of 556 chiefs ranked after-school and child-care programs as the most effective strategy to reduce youth violence. That's over five times the number who ranked hiring more police officers as their top priority - just 13 percent.

"We can't spend a dollar better than an investment in our children," said Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Darrel Stephens, who conducted the news conference outside the Charlotte Convention Center.

The Washington-based nonprofit group "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids," released the poll during the convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The crime-fighting group is now using the poll results to push Congress to increase funding for child care and after-school programs over the next five years. At a minimum, the group wants to see \$800 million in funding for childhood initiatives proposed by President Clinton restored to the federal budget, where it was trimmed by lawmakers earlier this year. Sandy Newman, Fight Crime's president, said the funding shouldn't stop there.

The Major Cities Police Chiefs association, the National Sheriff's Association and the Police Executive Research Forum have endorsed the call for increased funding. The N.C. Association of Police Chiefs has also endorsed the proposal, but the S.C. association has not taken a vote.

Mecklenburg District Attorney Peter Gilchrist noted that studies show juvenile crime triples in the hour after the school day ends. Other studies show students who don't attend after-school programs are six times more likely to be convicted of a crime during their high school years than those who do attend

.....
Please see **POLL** / page 5C

Police urge better care for children

POLL *from IC*

such programs, he said.

Dozens of other chiefs from around the country voiced their support Monday. "Investing in our young people and investing in families are much more cost-effective than the investment we make in building prisons," said Joseph Samuels, chief of police in Richmond, Calif.

After receiving federal funds throughout the 1990s to enlarge their police forces, many chiefs say they still wouldn't turn down the opportunity to hire more officers. But the poll shows many chiefs believe other priorities are more important, Fight Crime officials said.

The poll asked chiefs to select their top priority among four youth-violence prevention measures. In addition to the 69 percent who chose after-school and

child-care programs and the 13 percent who chose hiring more officers, 17 percent voted for prosecuting more juveniles as adults, and 1 percent chose installing more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in schools.

In a separate question, 91 percent of the poll respondents said they agreed that without more funding for after-school and child-care programs, "we will pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

Professors from George Mason University conducted the survey from Oct. 14 to Oct. 27. They received 556 responses from 855 randomly selected municipal police chiefs. The margin of error was plus or minus 5 percentage points.

Monday's announcement was part of an ongoing discussion at the chief's convention about ways to reduce youth violence, particularly in schools. Hundreds

of chiefs crowded into workshops Sunday and Monday to learn about the latest school violence prevention programs across the country. Many officials also discussed their retooled plans for responding to school crises in the wake of last April's school shootings in Littleton, Colo.

But Fight Crime's Newman said using metal detectors and other security measures to drive violence out of schools won't solve the problem of youth violence.

"In an average week, 40 kids are killed in America by violence. That's 150 Littletons a year," Newman said.

"We won't have accomplished much if we just move violence out of the schools and into communities."

Reach public safety reporter Leigh Dyer at (704) 358-5058 or ldyer@charlotte.com.

THE PLAIN DEALER

To help teens, police favor after-school efforts over more enforcement

By TOM DIEMER
and STEPHEN KOFF
PLAIN DEALER BUREAU

WASHINGTON — A majority of the men and women on the front lines in the fight against youth crime say expanded after-school programs and better child care would be more effective in dealing with troubled kids than hiring extra cops or installing metal detectors in schools, according to a new national survey.

Chief Edward A. Flynn of Arlington, Va., said he knew the finding would strike many as "counter-intuitive," since it is assumed police favor tough en-

as Head Start "would greatly reduce youth crime and violence."

When asked to rank anti-crime strategies, 69 percent thought after-school programs were most effective, while 17 percent said prosecuting more juveniles as adults was preferable. Thirteen percent said the most effective strategy would be to hire additional officers to investigate youth crimes. Only 1 percent responded that more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in schools would solve youth violence.

"People who don't know a lot about what policing has been through in the last several years

forcement over a preventive approach. That is no longer the case, he said.

"I think we need after-school programs and we need to help turn kids around and try and give them some direction," said Shaker Heights Chief Walter Ugrinic, who agreed with the survey findings. Children and parents, especially single parents, need help in getting through the late afternoon and evening hours, which is when authorities say most youth crime occurs.

Given a choice of spending \$100,000 on youth-crime officers or on programs for kids, Ugrinic said, "I'd go with after-school

would assume that the police policy-makers would be heavy on punishment, heavy on reaction, heavy on sanctions when it comes to trying to deal with our crime problem," Flynn said. "If anything, the opposite would be true."

George Mason University conducted the mailed survey for Fight Crimes: Invest in Kids, an anti-crime group — favoring preventive approaches — made up of police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors, criminologists and victims of crime. Nearly one-third of those polled were from cities with populations above 100,000; the margin of error was plus or minus 5 percentage points.

programs. What's two [more] officers going to do for me? They're going to bring these kids in, but now what am I going to do with them? I'd rather take the \$100,000 and help 50 kids than arrest 100. The goal is to work with our kids, to turn them around."

Chief Flynn and Sanford Newman, president of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, will release the survey of 566 police chiefs today in Charlotte, N.C., where the International Association of Chiefs of Police is holding its convention. The poll showed that 86 percent of the chiefs questioned agree that after-school activities and educational child care such

Elyria Police Capt. Dennis Will said a mix of after-school programs was needed.

"Some are athletic, others are mentoring programs or tutoring for school, others are just social programs we put together to give the kids an alternative. And one of the aims is obviously to get them before they get into a cycle that's going to lead them down the wrong path," Will said. "I absolutely think that's a worthwhile thing. It may not be the overall solution, but I believe it's money well spent."

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NOV 1, 1999



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MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

As youth homicide arrests rise, police chiefs weigh in on prevention

Officers want more after-school programming

By FRANK A. AUKOER
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Washington — America's police chiefs overwhelmingly believe that the best strategy for reducing youth violence and crime is to provide more after-school and educational child care programs.

Only a few are convinced that more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in schools would help.

Those are the major conclusions of a new survey, released this morning at a convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Charlotte, N.C.

By a whopping 69%, the chiefs endorsed after-school programs and educational child care. That far outstripped the second choice, prosecuting more juveniles as adults, which was chosen by just

Please see CHIEFS page 12

Milwaukee, WI
Journal Sentinel
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Monday

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NOV 1, 1999

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PRESS CLIPPINGS

Chiefs/More programming sought

From page 1

17% of those responding to the survey.

Only 1% of the chiefs said they believed installing more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in schools was an effective strategy against youth violence and crime. A total of 13% endorsed hiring more police officers to investigate juvenile crime.

Responding to a question about after-school programs and early educational efforts like Head Start, 86% of the chiefs said expanding those programs would greatly reduce youth violence and crime.

Only 14% replied that such an expansion would have little impact.

The survey, conducted between Oct. 14 and Oct. 27, went to 855 randomly selected police departments around the country, large as well as small. The chiefs were asked to "guide elected officials" by selecting among the four main strategies.

A total of 556 chiefs responded, a rate of 65%.

The survey was conducted by two professors from George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. — Stephen D. Mastrofski and Scott Keeter — and commissioned by Fight Crime: Invest In Kids, a bipartisan, non-profit organization of police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors and victims of violence.

Among the members of the organization's state and national advisory committee are Milwaukee County Sheriff Lev Baldwin and District Attorney Paul Bucher and Sheriff William Kruziki of Waukesha County.

At a briefing for reporters, the police chief of Arlington, Va., Edward A. Flynn, described the survey's results as counter-intuitive. He said most people likely assumed that police chiefs would be heavy on punishment, quick reaction to crimes and tough laws.

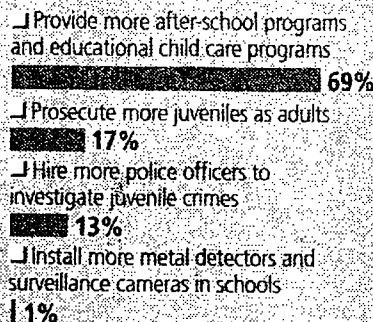
"If anything," he said, "the opposite is true."

Flynn, a member of the board of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, said police departments all over

Strategies for Curbing Youth Crime

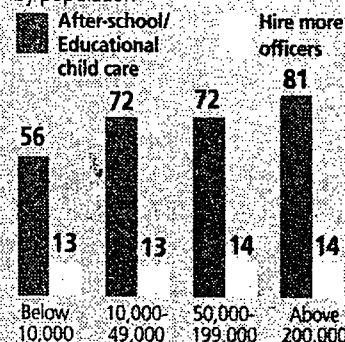
A survey released at the International Association of Chiefs of Police convention found that by a wide margin the chiefs endorsed after-school programs and educational child care as the best strategy for reducing youth violence and crime.

Which of these strategies do you think is most effective?



Top choices of chiefs

A comparison of jurisdictions by population



Source: George Mason University Department of Public and International Affairs

Journal Sentinel

the nation were moving toward the "known but seldom understood" concept of community policing, in which the police respond to problems in neighborhoods as defined by the residents.

But he said police chiefs sometimes did not publicly endorse such strategies as educational child care and after-school programs because they feared "it might brand them as liberals."

For that reason, Flynn said, all of the chiefs who were surveyed were guaranteed anonymity.

The public, he said, expects law officers to be "heavy on the enforcement side," although "there's a lot more going on in the profession."

Flynn said the most dangerous criminal activity period was right after school. Juvenile crime triples after school and peaks at 3 p.m., he said. So, he said, it makes sense to counter peer group pressures by providing mentors and activities for young people in the 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. time period.

Preschool programs also are crucially important, he said, as are programs to help people develop parenting skills so they can cope with the problems involved in rearing children. Flynn pointed out that 75% of the calls to which police officers respond are social problems, especially domestic disputes.

"Kids are involved as victims and observers," he said.

Bucher, a member of the Fight Crime: Invest in Kids advisory committee, said the results of the survey did not surprise him.

Much of the public incorrectly thinks "just because we're law enforcement officers, the mentality is 'lock 'em up.'"

However, "police are more proactive," promoting such programs as school liaison officers and outreach activities, he said.

"At least in Waukesha and southeastern Wisconsin (the feeling is that) giving kids alternatives will go the longest way," Bucher said.

Another advisory committee member, Baldwin, called police chiefs realists.

"We know what we need to do," he said. "If they're going to be in a gang, they're going to be in our gang. If we get them on the front end, I won't have to worry about seeing them."

Baldwin gave the Safe & Sound initiative as an example of what the Milwaukee metropolitan area is doing to try to reduce juvenile crime and violence. The program is setting up "safe places" where tutoring and recreation are available after school, in evenings and on weekends.

Sanford A. Newman, president of Fight Crime: Invest In Kids, said studies showed that juveniles in after-school and preschool programs were far less likely to be involved in crimes, and far less likely to commit crimes later in life.

But he said schools were not meeting this need, and Congress and local governments were not providing enough money for such programs.

Eldon Knoche of the Journal Sentinel

THE DENVER POST

After-school programs backed by police chiefs

By Bill McAllister

Denver Post Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON — The nation's police chiefs overwhelmingly believe that after-school programs for youngsters are a more effective way to fight crime than adding more police officers, according to a survey to be released today.

The surprising findings of the survey of 556 police chiefs go counter to the "get-tough" more-cops approach pushed by President Clinton and many members of Congress.

But the findings did not surprise officials of the coalition Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a nonpartisan group that has been advocating such a program since its founding in 1996. It sponsored the survey and plans to officially announce the results this morning at a convention of the International Chiefs of Police in Charlotte, N.C., a group that should be receptive to the findings.

Politicians resist idea

Most politicians, however, seem to advocate much more punitive steps, the group acknowledged as it provided reporters with an advance look at the survey.

"The president and Congress just don't get it," said Sanford A. Newman, Fight Crime's president.

Arlington, Va., Police Chief Edward Flynn said the findings show that the nation's police administrators no longer view their job as just responding to crime, but as advocating programs to prevent crime.

Most chiefs also realize that most juvenile crimes tend to occur between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., the after-school hours when an estimated 7 million children lack adult supervision, the officials said.

Flynn expressed surprise that few politicians seem to be taking seriously what the chiefs have advocated.

"Politicians like us standing behind them — with our mouths shut," Flynn quipped during a media preview of the survey.

The survey, conducted by George Mason University in the Virginia suburbs in the aftermath of the massacre at Columbine High School, showed that nearly nine of 10 police chiefs believe expanding after-school programs and providing educational child-care programs such as Head Start would "greatly reduce youth crime and violence."

Asked what strategies are most effective in fighting juvenile crimes, nearly seven of 10 said more after-school programs and child-care programs. Seventeen percent said prosecuting juveniles as adults would help.

Thirteen percent said hiring more police to investigate juvenile crime would help, and only 1 percent favor installing metal detectors and surveillance cameras in schools.

Pay now or pay later

If the nation does not invest in such strategies, the chiefs said by a ratio of better than 9-to-1 that the nation will "pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

Asked to rate various strategies for fighting crime, the chiefs once again gave the highest marks to after-school programs, which received a top rating from 57 percent of those responding to the survey.

Fifty-three percent said they rated highly programs that provide "parent coaching for high-risk families." Fourteen percent gave top ratings to prosecuting juveniles as adults, 7 percent to building more juvenile detention centers, and 4 percent to putting metal detectors in schools.

The survey was mailed in mid-October to 855 chiefs, 65 percent of whom responded. That gave the survey a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage

points, the George Mason researchers said.

Clinton, who made adding new police officers a central theme of his anti-crime program, also has advocated increases in after-school programs, but Congress has rejected many of them, the Fight Crime group noted.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids was organized with the financial support of a number of private foundations. It has actively lobbied for more funding for after-school programs and other community-based efforts that help identify troubled children before they have problems with the law.

Previous polls commissioned by the group showed that the public would overwhelmingly support giving up a tax rebate or paying more taxes to provide better access to after-school programs and programs such as Head Start.

Denver, CO
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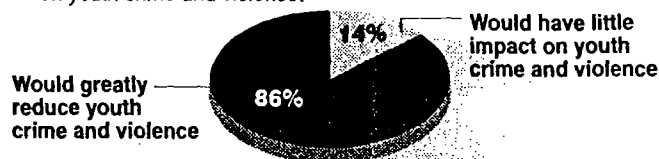
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PRESS CLIPPINGS

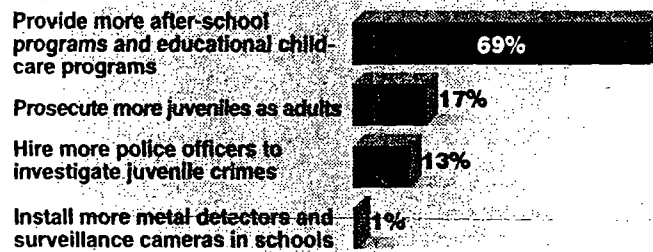
Not all police chiefs 'get tough' on youth crime

A survey of the country's police chiefs shows they favor after-school programs as a more effective way to fight crime than adding more officers.

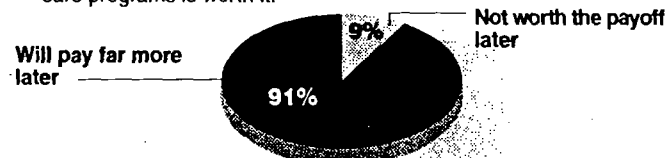
1. Chiefs were asked about the effectiveness of after-school programs on youth crime and violence:



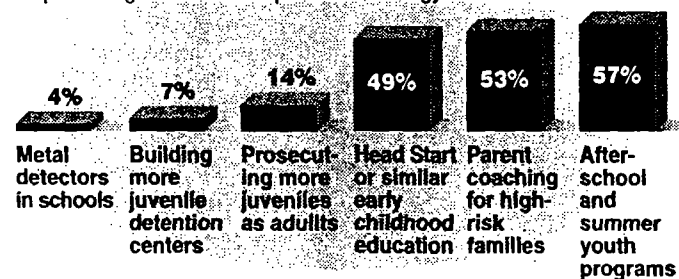
2. Chiefs were asked about most effective strategies to combat youth crime:



3. Chiefs were asked whether investing more in after-school and child-care programs is worth it:



4. Chiefs were asked to rate strategies from 1 to 5. Here are the percentages that rated a particular strategy best:



Source: George Mason University for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

The Denver Post

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Posted at 11:23 p.m. EST Monday, November 1, 1999
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Police say care for kids is vital

After-school care prevents youth crime, chiefs believe

By LEIGH DYER

If it came to choosing between money to hire more officers and money to pay for expanded after-school and child-care programs, most of the nation's police chiefs would choose the programs for children, a new poll released Monday found.

In the poll results announced in Charlotte, 69 percent of 556 chiefs ranked after-school and child-care programs as the most effective strategy to reduce youth violence. That's over five times the number who ranked hiring more police officers as their top priority - just 13percent.

"We can't spend a dollar better than an investment in our children," said Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Darrel Stephens, who conducted the news conference outside the Charlotte Convention Center.

The Washington-based nonprofit group "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids," released the poll during the convention of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

The crime-fighting group is now using the poll results to push Congress to increase funding for child care and after-school programs over the next five years. At a minimum, the group wants to see \$800 million in funding for childhood initiatives proposed by President Clinton restored to the federal budget, where it was trimmed by lawmakers earlier this year. Sandy Newman, Fight Crime's president, said the funding shouldn't stop there.

The Major Cities Police Chiefs association, the National Sheriff's Association and the Police Executive Research Forum have endorsed the call for increased funding. The N.C. Association of Police Chiefs has also endorsed the proposal, but the S.C. association has not taken a vote.

Mecklenburg District Attorney Peter Gilchrist noted that studies show juvenile crime triples in the hour after the school day ends. Other studies show students who don't attend after-school programs are six times more likely to be convicted of a crime during their high school years than those who do attend such programs, he said.

Dozens of other chiefs from around the country voiced their support Monday. "Investing in our young people and investing in families are much more cost-effective than the investment we make in building prisons," said Joseph Samuels, chief of police in Richmond, Calif.

After receiving federal funds throughout the 1990s to enlarge their police forces, many chiefs say they still wouldn't turn down the opportunity to hire more officers. But the poll shows many chiefs believe other priorities are more important, Fight Crime officials said.

The poll asked chiefs to select their top priority among four youth-violence prevention measures. In addition to the 69percent who chose after-school and child-care programs and the 13percent who chose hiring more officers, 17percent voted for prosecuting more juveniles as adults, and 1percent chose installing more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in schools.

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In a separate question, 91 percent of the poll respondents said they agreed that without more funding for after-school and child-care programs, "we will pay far more later in crime, welfare and other costs."

Professors from George Mason University conducted the survey from Oct. 14 to Oct. 27. They received 556 responses from 855 randomly selected municipal police chiefs. The margin of error was plus or minus 5 percentage points.

Monday's announcement was part of an ongoing discussion at the chief's convention about ways to reduce youth violence, particularly in schools. Hundreds of chiefs crowded into workshops Sunday and Monday to learn about the latest school violence prevention programs across the country. Many officials also discussed their retooled plans for responding to school crises in the wake of last April's school shootings in Littleton, Colo.

But Fight Crime's Newman said using metal detectors and other security measures to drive violence out of schools won't solve the problem of youth violence.

"In an average week, 40 kids are killed in America by violence. That's 150 Littletons a year," Newman said.

"We won't have accomplished much if we just move violence out of the schools and into communities."

Reach public safety reporter Leigh Dyer at (704) 358-5058 or ldyer@charlotte.com.

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NOVEMBER 01, 09:00 EST

Police Chiefs Back Child Care Plans

By CASSANDRA BURRELL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eighty-six percent of police chiefs participating in a survey believe the government could reduce youth crime by increasing after-school and child care programs, an advocacy group said today.

Nearly nine of 10 agreed that failing to do so will cost the nation more in the long run in crime, welfare and other expense, said Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a group lobbying Congress to spend more on juvenile crime-prevention efforts.

“Congress' failure to substantially increase funding for education child care and after-school programs is irresponsible and shortsighted,” said Edward A. Flynn, a member of the group's board and police chief of Arlington County, Va.

“Congress doesn't seem to be listening to law enforcement or the public.”

Flynn said the results of the survey may seem surprising.

“For some people, perhaps, it's counterintuitive,” he said. “I suspect that most people who don't know many police chiefs or don't know a lot about what policing has been through in the last several years would assume that the police policy-makers would be heavy on punishment, heavy on reaction and heavy on sanctions.”

Survey results were being released at a meeting of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Charlotte, N.C.

The survey was conducted from Oct. 14 to Oct. 27 by two George Mason University professors who received 556 responses from the 855 randomly selected municipal police chiefs who received faxes of a written questionnaire. The margin of error is plus or minus 5 percentage points.

The police chiefs were guaranteed anonymity, and survey participants did not know that Fight Crime had commissioned the study, professors Stephen Mastrofsky and Scott Keeter said.

The chiefs were asked to "guide elected officials" by ranking the effectiveness of four juvenile crime-fighting strategies.

"Sixty-nine percent gave the highest priority to providing more after-school programs and educational child care," the group reported. Seventeen percent chose "prosecute more juveniles as adults" their No. 1 strategy.

Thirteen percent gave "hire more police officers to investigate juvenile crime" their highest ranking, and 1 percent said "install more metal detectors and surveillance cameras in school."



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Police Chiefs Back After-School Programs

Increased Spending Urged for Juvenile Crime Prevention

Nov. 1, 1999

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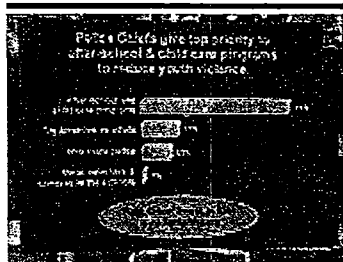
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Participants selected at random



Hoag Levins/APBnews.com
Chart of poll results

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Ranked crime-fighting strategies

The chiefs were asked to "guide elected officials" by ranking the effectiveness of four juvenile crime-fighting



Hoag Levins/APBnews.com

Edward A. Flynn, chief of police of Arlington County, Va.

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strategies.

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David Broder's July 1996 column about FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS ran in more than 140 newspapers nationwide including: *The Washington Post*, *Atlanta Journal & Constitution*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, *San Diego Union Tribune*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Oregonian*, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, and many others.

David Broder

Pseudo-tough talk about juvenile crime

WASHINGTON — It is a fascinating paradox of politics that the further removed an official is from the front lines of the war on crime, the tougher he talks.

That is particularly true of violence by juveniles, a problem that Americans rightly find alarming.

When Republican candidate Bob Dole talked about it in a radio address earlier this month, he promised to crack down on these "merciless criminals capable of committing the most vicious acts for the most trivial reasons: a pair of sneakers or a football jersey."

When President Clinton responded a few days later, he spoke in ominous tones of the fact that in the last two decades, "The number of homicides by teens who have guns has tripled."

BOTH SAID prosecutors should have much more leeway to try juveniles as adults.

"If a teen-ager commits a crime as an adult," Clinton said, "he should be prosecuted as an adult."

Before leaving the Senate, Dole introduced legislation to allow adult prosecution of people as young as 13 and the death penalty at 16.

But when a cross section of police chiefs was surveyed by Northeastern University's Center for Criminal Justice Policy on the effectiveness of four approaches to reducing crime and violence, the least favored option was the one candidates Dole and Clinton have endorsed — and many governors already have put into effect.

Only 14 percent of the 540 chiefs chose the policy of trying more juveniles as adults and sentencing more of them to adult prisons.

About the same number said hiring additional police officers would be the



What works is early work with kids.

best tool and a somewhat larger group said the priority should be making parents legally liable when their children commit crimes.

The overwhelming majority — three out of every four big city chiefs and three out of five in the overall sample — said the best way to reduce crime and violence is to increase investment in programs that help children and youths get a good start.

These findings were reported at a Washington press briefing last week by a new advocacy group calling itself "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids," run by an activist named Sanford Newman. Participants included police chiefs of Chicago and Buffalo, former chiefs of New York City, Detroit and Washington and the head of the largest police organization, the Fraternal Order of Police.

A cynic might argue that the chiefs — who are, after all, mostly appointees — have just found new rhetoric to support old programs that pump federal money into the cities.

But the cynical view will not withstand the sincerity of people like Gil Kerlikowske of Buffalo, who complained, "The preventive programs are getting lost because everyone (in politics) is trying to grow hair on his chest in this election year."

What he means is illustrated by the juvenile crime bill Dole introduced. It would allocate \$100 million a year for prevention programs run by communi-

ty-based groups, including religious organizations, and four times that amount for investigating, prosecuting and jailing juvenile offenders. The whole \$500 million would be paid for by cutting "social spending provisions" of the 1994 crime bill, including after-school and family counseling programs.

James Alan Fox, the Northeastern University center's director, presented studies from criminology literature showing that intensive early intervention can reduce the later delinquency and criminal behavior of at-risk youths by as much as 80 percent. In Lansing, Mich., when police, schools and social service agencies began youth programs in a new community center, the number of crimes in nearby neighborhoods was cut from 156 in 1990 to 40 in 1993.

I was skeptical about these case studies. But John J. Dilulio Jr., of Princeton, a scholar whose work is much admired by conservatives and who was not part of this group, told me, "The more scientific the study, the stronger the link and the more positive the results. We now can say with some confidence that programs that get responsible adults involved with at-risk kids can reduce later delinquency and crime."

THAT IS of enormous importance, because teen-agers have the highest arrest rate for violent offense and in the next decade, the number of teen-agers will explode. There are now 39 million children under age 10, the most since the 1950s.

Prosecuting teen criminals as adults may satisfy political pressures, but we better be serious about preventing their younger brothers from becoming criminals — or we are in big trouble.

Washington Post Writers Group

The Boston Globe

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1996

Studies prove it: The best way to fight crime is to invest in children

**ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON
and R. GIL KERLIKOWSKE**

All across America, candidates for federal, state and local office are talking about crime. But too few are focusing on our most effective weapons in the battle against crime — the proven investments that help children get the right start in life so they become contributing citizens instead of criminals.

Incarcerating dangerous criminals is a vital defense. But few battles are won with defensive tactics alone. Those of us who have been on the front lines as police, prosecutors and crime survivors know America must fight crime not just from the back but by investing in Head Start and parenting education, "keep up" programs to prevent overburdened schools and vulnerable students from falling behind, after-school, mentoring and job training programs and strategies to address delinquency and help troubled children get back on track.

Do these investments really reduce crime? Absolutely. For example:

- The High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study in Ypsilanti, Mich., showed that when at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds were randomly assigned to receive child care similar to a Head Start program, together with a weekly home visit providing coaching for parents, the risk these children would grow up to become chronic lawbreakers was cut by a startling 80 percent.

- The Syracuse University Family Development Study showed that providing quality early-childhood programs to families until children reached age 5 reduces the children's risk of delinquency 10 years later by 90 percent.

- The Quantum Opportunities Program, conducted in Philadelphia, San Antonio, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Saginaw, has shown that a high school program of counseling, academic and life-skills support, community service and other incentives cut the risk of arrest during high school years by 50 percent.

Even when youths begin to get into trouble, we don't have to throw in the towel. The Salt Lake County Juvenile Court, for example, found that when it randomly assigned some delinquent children and their families to participate in family systems counseling, their risk, as well as their siblings' risk, of committing an offense was cut in half.

No wonder that in a recent survey by criminologist Jack McDavitt, nine out of 10 police chiefs said, "America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more" in these programs. Police chiefs know their first mission is responding to the public's calls by arresting

criminals and seizing drugs and guns from the street. But when asked which strategies would have the greatest long-term impact in reducing crime, police chiefs picked increasing investments in children by a 3-to-1 margin over trying more juveniles as adults or even hiring more police officers.

Can we afford to make these investments? Economist Steve Barnett estimates that the High/Scope preschool program saved nearly \$150,000 in crime costs alone per participant. Professor Mark Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that preventing one high-risk youth from becoming a criminal saves at least \$1.5 million. Yet these investments are so underfunded that they can reach only tiny fractions of those who need them.

That is why we recently joined with many other police leaders, prosecutors and crime survivors in launching the "Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Campaign" and in challenging candidates to tell the American people what they will do to increase the front-end investments proven to dramatically reduce crime.

Back-end, punishment-only approaches can't undo the agony crime leaves behind. As Marc Klaas explained, after his 12-year-old daughter's murderer was sentenced to death: "That won't bring Polly back. When politicians pretend that punishing criminals after people are hurt is a substitute for preventing crimes, the first people who get sentenced are crime victims and their families — sentenced to shattered lives and broken hearts."

Ignoring prevention investments leaves us stuck on a treadmill, running faster and faster to put people in jail while kids are turned into criminals faster than we can lock them up. To make America safe, we need to be as willing to guarantee our kids space in Head Start or an after-school or job training program as we are to guarantee room and board in a prison cell for a criminal.

We'll win the war on crime when we're ready to invest time and dollars in our most vulnerable youths before they become our most wanted adults.

It's time Republicans and Democrats joined in a commitment to the investments in children. These programs are our strongest weapons in the fight against crime. Each of us should join Jean Lewis, president of the National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children, in taking this pledge: "When I cast my vote, I'll be asking which candidates are ready to fight crime not only from the back end after someone has been hurt, but also from the front end by investing in today's children — because anything else is too little, too late."

Elliot L. Richardson served as US attorney general, secretary of commerce, secretary of defense and secretary of health, education and welfare. Buffalo Police Commissioner R. Gil Kerlikowske is president of the Police Executive Research Forum.

Study says youth crime peaks before 8 p.m.

Justice officials want Congress to spend more on after-school programs

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Violent juvenile crime on school days occurs much more frequently between 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. than late at night, says a report released Wednesday.

With violent juvenile crime rising, the Justice Department is promoting the report to persuade the Republican-controlled Congress to spend more money on after-school youth programs. Several bills are pending and may be taken up this week.

"In the afternoons, we used to have sports, drama and music. We had violins, and now it's violence," said James Alan Fox, dean of Northeastern University's College of Criminal Justice in Boston and an author of the report. "We've closed down ball fields. We've closed down community centers. We have disinvested in childhood, and kids literally have too much time to kill."

The report also raises questions about the need for curfews, a popular crime-control measure. Although many civil rights groups and individuals challenge the constitutionality of curfews, about three-fourths of the nation's 200

biggest cities have them.

The report says that on school days, nearly half of violent juvenile crime — murders, rapes, robberies and aggravated assaults — occur from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. It found that just one-seventh occurs from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., when curfews typically are in effect.

"What a curfew does is tell kids, 'You should not commit crimes when you are asleep,'" Mr. Fox said.

The report was released by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a youth-advocacy group made up of police chiefs, prosecutors and crime survivors.

The study, billed as the most comprehensive on the relation of crime by people under 18 and the time of day, details how crime tracks juveniles' movements.

Violent juvenile crime triples from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., the hour immediately after school, compared with 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., when school is still in session. It dips around dinner time, rises slightly, then declines in the later evening as most parents want their children home for bed.

In contrast, Mr. Fox said, adult

crime rises all through the day and evening and peaks at 11 p.m.

The new report focuses on school days, when 57 percent of violent juvenile crime is committed. Mr. Fox said that juvenile crime on weekends and during the summer is also higher in the afternoon and evening than the morning or late night, but without the 3 p.m. peak.

"Prime time for juvenile crime," Mr. Fox said, is when parents are working and kids are hanging out on street corners with little to do.

The study's findings did not surprise Detroit Police Chief Isaiah McKinnon, whose city struggles with violent juvenile offenders.

Mr. McKinnon said most cities confront a "triple-edge sword," meaning they need to worry about kids during school hours, after school and late at night. He said police officers have to monitor truants who gather at "skip houses" where parents aren't home, as well as youths who are unsupervised after school.

He also said the report is evidence that curfews affect crime.

"Those communities that are enforcing curfews, where children

are being told to stay in their homes, that is why less crime is occurring," said Chief McKinnon, whose city has an 11 p.m. curfew.

Attorney General Janet Reno and leaders of the youth-advocacy group use these figures to criticize pending crime legislation.

Over the next few weeks, Congress will consider two measures that deal with juvenile crime. In one, President Clinton proposed \$63 million for after-school programs, but House and Senate legislators want to cut that.

Another Senate bill would spend \$868 million over five years on juvenile justice. But a big chunk of that — \$500 million — would be a block grant in which after-school programs would compete with juvenile facilities, drug testing, juvenile records and truancy programs for a share of new funding.

"There is no doubt that prevention is important, but throwing more money at these programs is not necessarily the answer," Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., chairman of the Senate's youth crime subcommittee, said in a statement. "Before spending more money on prevention we need to first take a close look at the programs currently in place."

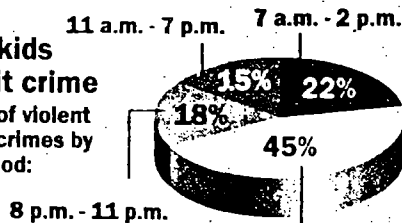
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After school is crime time

A new study documents what time of day children under 18 commit violent crime on school days. Some highlights:

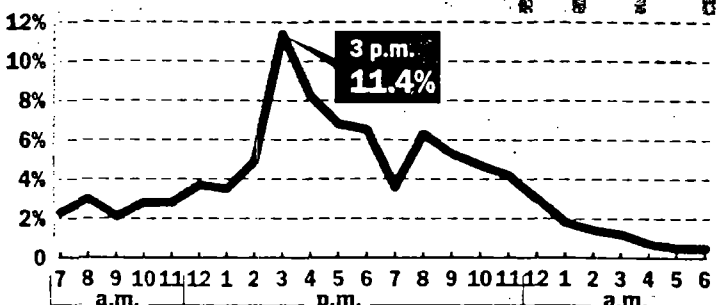
When kids commit crime

Percent of violent juvenile crimes by time period:



By the hour

Percent of violent juvenile crimes by hour:



This Knight Ridder story about FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS' joint press event with Attorney General Janet Reno appeared on September 11 and 12, 1997, the *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, the *Denver Post* and many other newspapers totaling a circulation of over 3 million.

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1998

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Police Officials Back Spending On Child Care

By Barbara Vobejda
Washington Post Staff Writer

After lobbying Congress to ban weapons and put more officers on the street, police officials from around the country have seized on what they say will be an even more powerful anti-crime weapon: child care.

Yesterday, more than 170 police chiefs, sheriffs and prosecutors called for the states and federal government to increase support for quality educational child care for preschoolers and after-school programs for older children.

They said after-school programs would keep children occupied in positive ways at a time of day when juvenile crime peaks. And they cited research indicating that children who have attended early education programs similar to Head Start are less likely to become delinquent offenders.

The group praised President Clinton's recent proposal to spend nearly \$22 billion over five years to improve child care and help low-income parents pay for it. If enacted, "it would be one of the most important steps Congress has taken to fight crime," said Sanford A. Newman, president of a Washington group that brought together the law enforcement officials, called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

Their lobbying support adds a new twist to the growing child-care debate, which could become a major legislative battle this year. Republican leaders have rejected the administration's plan as too expensive and many have said any child-care measure must provide help to stay-at-home parents as well as working parents.

Yesterday, the debate shifted again as the crime prevention argument triggered a new round of criticism.

"The whole idea that kids commit crimes simply because their parents aren't around is specious," said Darcy Olsen, a policy analyst at the libertarian Cato Institute. "Most people in the country have spent time without their parents at one time or another and not become criminal."

Brenda Hunter, a psychologist who appeared last week with the conservative Family Research Council in opposition to the president's plan, said "the research is being misinterpreted" by those advocating more child care.

"The research supports consistent, sensitive and responsive nurturing and mother is the best person to provide that," she said.

But law enforcement officials at yesterday's news conference urged that the child-care debate not pit working parents against stay-at-home parents.

Arlington County Police Chief Edward A. Flynn, one of the police officials appealing for more child-care funding, called it an "endless no-win debate over the philosophy of the family unit." The reality, he said, is that most parents work out of economic necessity.

The group referred to several studies, including one at the Perry Preschool program in Michigan, which is similar to Head Start, which found children who had been in the program were five times less likely to become chronic lawbreakers than a comparable group that had not attended the program.

One of the important ingredients of such programs, said Newman, was parent education, which helps reduce child abuse and neglect. That, in turn, helps reduce the likelihood those children will grow up to be lawbreakers.

Child care and after-school programs "are smart spending," Flynn said. "They can save us billions of tax dollars" that might otherwise be spent on imprisoning offenders and the other costs related to crime.

The group called for a bigger investment than Clinton's plan—more than \$130 billion over five years—to provide all families that need it good child care, after school care and help with parenting skills.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1999

JUDY MANN

Invest in Kids Now, or Pay Later

In an average week, 40 children are killed in America by violence. Most of these killings—98 percent, in fact—take place outside of schools. We are paralyzed with shock at the killings in a Littleton, Colo., high school, but do the math and it shows the deaths among youngsters that don't make the headlines add up to more than 150 Littletons a year.

In the last few months, there's been the usual hand wringing over school violence and the requisite White House conference. But at summer's midpoint, when policies and programs affecting schools should be moving into place for fall's opening, there's scant evidence of significant changes. In fact, programs that could prevent youth violence are in considerable jeopardy in the Republican tax-cutting plans. In the end, Littleton has not had much of an impact.

What makes this more than a pity, what makes it really unforgivable, is that there are proven programs that curb violence and other dangerous behavior.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is an organization formed in 1996 with the bedrock philosophy memorably expressed by former Winston-Salem police chief George Sweat. As he put it: The fight against crime "needs to start in the highchair, not wait for the electric chair." What gives the message so much clout is that it comes from a group whose members include 500 police chiefs, sheriffs, district attorneys, violence prevention scholars, as well as parents who have lost children to violence. This is not the ivory tower liberal set. These are people who are on the bloody front lines.

They have put together a School and Youth Violence Prevention plan, which has been endorsed by many national and state law enforcement organizations. Minimizing access to guns is a given. But their plan also involves other aspects, including early intervention and prevention programs that spot troubled kids and make sure they get timely and effective help. Most young people who engage in violence show signs of problems in elementary school. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids cites studies that show that children who get professional help when they are young are 50 percent less likely to be delinquent later on.

They want all children to have access to good after-school programs. The importance of this can't be overstated: Violent juvenile crime triples in the hour after school ends, and after-school hours are peak hours for kids to become crime victims or to be involved with drugs, alcohol or sex. Being unsupervised after school doubles the risk that eighth-graders will smoke, drink or use drugs.

But there are programs that work against those influences. In a five-city study, half of a group of at-risk high school youngsters were assigned to participate in the Quantum Opportunities after-school program. The high school freshman boys randomly selected from welfare households were only one-sixth as likely to be convicted of a crime during the high school years as those not selected. All of the boys and girls

selected were one-fourth as likely to be convicted of a crime as those not chosen. The boys and girls who participated in the program were 50 percent more likely to graduate from high school on time.

The third part of the invest-in-kids plan would provide access to early childhood development programs for all families. This is the time when children learn to get along with others. Researchers at the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation enrolled half a group of low-income toddlers in quality child care. Twenty-two years later, those left out were five times as likely to have become chronic lawbreakers.

The fourth dimension calls for preventing child abuse through programs that coach parents on how to relate to their children, and through programs to help heal abused and neglected youngsters. Parenting programs for low-income, first-time mothers have cut abuse and neglect by 80 percent and halved the numbers of subsequent pregnancies.

Economist Steven Barnett found that the High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool program saved \$150,000 per participant in costs that would have been incurred had they become involved in crime.

When Professor Mark A. Cohen, of Vanderbilt University, studied chronic offenders, he estimated that each youngster saved from a life of chronic crime saves Americans between \$1.7 million and \$2.3 million in the cost of incarceration and in victim costs, such as pain and suffering and property loss.

These kinds of programs should be expanded as part of a crime-fighting initiative. Instead, they are going to be put on life support if the tax cut package approved by the House last week becomes law.

There is, as with all budget matters, some history. When Congress adopted the Balanced Budget Act in 1997 it required massive, across-the-board spending cuts, starting with small cuts in fiscal 1997 and 1998. Cuts of 11 percent to 14 percent are required this year, with more cuts over the next 10 years. The budget surplus we've been hearing so much about is dependent on these spending caps.

Sanford A. Newman, president of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, says, "Key Republicans who head the appropriation process have already said they can't even come up with appropriations bills that stay within these caps, so it's been widely assumed they'd be lifted this year since cuts are no longer necessary to balance the budget. These bills would lock in massive budget cuts and likely produce a massive crime wave for decades to come."

These spending caps have gotten relatively little attention, but their implications for federal spending in all areas, including law enforcement and programs for children, are huge. Instead of investing in kids, we are headed straight down the road of investing in criminals. It's shortsighted and fiscally foolish. It makes even less sense if you allow yourself to think about the heartache and human tragedy of children lost to violence.

Making Kids Safer

When kids pull out their guns at school and open fire on classmates and teachers, it tends to get our attention. Which is why school safety has trumped academic quality as the top concern of parents whose children are returning to school this month.

Parents and school board members are clamoring for metal detectors, armed guards, see-through knapsacks, whatever it takes. Some of the wackos at the National Rifle Association want to arm teachers and administrators. Kids are being thrown out of school for trafficking in violent fantasies and — in the case of a second grader in Maryland — making a gun out of construction paper.

Please, a little perspective.

James Alan Fox, a professor of criminal justice at Northeastern University, reminds us that despite the tragedies in Littleton and Jonesboro, the public schools are just about the safest places available for children.

"If you look at the school shootings for last year and the year before, there were about four dozen homicides a year," he said. "When you consider that there are about 50 million schoolchildren, the chance that your child will get killed in school is literally one in a million."

His point was not that we should be unmoved by the four dozen homicides that occur annually at schools, but that we should be taking steps to cut down on the violence that threatens youngsters wherever they might be. And the most effective way to do that, according to Professor Fox and a sensible group in Washington called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, is to look beyond the quick fixes (metal detectors and the like) to those difficult, long-term preventive efforts that can bring about wholesale reductions in the amount of youth crime and violence.

In addition to saving lives, you can enrich the environment of enormous numbers of children by investing in early childhood education programs like Head Start, by providing after-school programs that give children and teen-agers something valuable to do during the peak crime hours for juveniles (2 P.M. to 7 P.M.), and by offering parenting programs and other assistance to young mothers and fathers whose children are at high risk for getting into trouble.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is a group of 550 law enforcement officers and crime victims. Many of its members are fiscally conservative, but the group is committed to public

investment in crime prevention programs that have been shown to work.

"We have 40 kids being killed a week, 98 percent of them outside of schools," said the group's president, Sanford Newman. "We know how to dramatically reduce that violence."

After-school programs are among the easiest and most effective crime prevention efforts. As Professor Fox put it:

"Bring back the 'frills' in school — violins rather than violence. In the wake of various taxpayer revolts, many of the extracurricular options — band, chorus, drama, various sports, computer clubs, etc. — were eliminated in a return to the basics.

A challenge to quick school fixes.

This has made school increasingly distasteful and unpleasant for those kids who fail to excel in academics, but could feel good about their achievements in other areas."

Some school districts have restored after-school programs in recent years but have undermined their effectiveness by placing them off limits to the kids who need them most. In some cases youngsters who do not maintain a C average are barred from extracurricular activities. Or kids whose parents cannot provide transportation at the end of the extended school day are excluded.

"What we've done," said Professor Fox, "is made after-school programs a privilege for the good kids as opposed to a necessity for the marginal kids."

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids sponsored a poll in which 47 percent of respondents said their chief concern as kids headed back to school was the problem of crime and violence. Nineteen percent cited academic issues as their top concern.

Both Mr. Newman and Professor Fox said the concern over school violence presented an opportunity to generate support for programs that target violence in general.

"You can understand the anxiety over violence in the schools," said Professor Fox. "What we should do is build upon that anxiety to do some really meaningful things for children." □

The Washington Post

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1999

Polls Urge Taxes to Fund Youth Crime Prevention

More Early Childhood, After-School Initiatives Sought by Law Enforcement Group

By SEWELL CHAN
Washington Post Staff Writer

Congress should use the budget surplus to expand Head Start and other early childhood development initiatives and after-school programs, a group of national and local law enforcement executives urged yesterday.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a nonprofit organization of 550 law enforcement officials and crime survivors, has written Congress asking for new funding for Head Start, day-care programs, parenting classes, family counseling and delinquency prevention efforts.

If Congress passes tax cuts instead of investing in children, "we'll be looking at a crime wave the likes of which we've never seen before,"

Sanford A. Newman, the organization's president, said at a news conference outside the District's Alice Deal Junior High School.

The group released the results of two polls conducted this summer that found that 74 percent of the respondents would be willing to pay more taxes or forgo a tax cut in order to provide greater access to after-school and early childhood development programs to combat youth violence. Each survey polled about 1,000 people.

Two-thirds of those polled said initiatives that deter youth violence are a greater national priority than cutting taxes; 81 percent said violence prevention programs are as important as efforts to punish or incarcerate young offenders.

Arlington Police Chief Edward

A. Flynn and D.C. Executive Assistant Police Chief Terrance W. Gainer endorsed the findings of both polls.

"We invest far too little in our kids," said Gainer, who was director of the Illinois State Police before coming to the District last year. He said his oldest son, an FBI agent, and his second-oldest son, a Cook County, Ill., prosecutor, are "now locking up the grandchildren" of people Gainer arrested as a rookie officer in Chicago.

"We need to do something about making sure our kids don't have run-ins with law enforcement," Gainer added, noting that prevention rather than reactive efforts are a key element in community policing. "Prevention is the only solution," he said.

The group's recommendations also have been endorsed by the Major Cities Chiefs and the Police Executive Research Forum, Newman said.

In the District, police have been working with school officials and security guards to document disputes among children, according to Assistant Chief Brian K. Jordan, who said, "Many of the incidents either carry over from school to the streets or from streets to the school."

Jordan said school safety coordinators met last week with conflict resolution experts and members of the police emergency response team to discuss how to prevent school violence and keep school buildings closed to people who don't belong there.

THE NATION'S NEWSPAPER



**USA
TODAY**

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NATIONLINE

CONCERN FOR KIDS: Three out of four U.S. residents are willing to pay more taxes or pass up a tax cut to provide children with access to good early childhood development and after-school programs, according to a survey of 2,027 adults. The survey, done for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, also found: 47% say violence and crime were the top concerns as students return to school, and 90% agree or strongly agree that crime could be reduced by investing more in preventive programs for kids.

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is an organization of crime victims, police chiefs, sheriffs, prosecutors and other law enforcement leaders.

— Gary Fields

The Sacramento Bee

Anti-crime lobby urges school-violence programs

Americans willing to pay, group says

By Muriel Dobbin
Bee Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Armed with new polls showing Americans are alarmed about school violence, a crime-fighting lobby on Monday called on Congress to boost federal funding for programs that could "close the crime-prevention gap."

The group, called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, said Americans overwhelmingly are willing to pay more taxes or give up a

tax cut to put money into prevention programs.

Sanford Newman, president of the organization that represents 500 police chiefs and victims of violence, released surveys indicating that the public's concern over school violence rivaled its anxiety about shoring up Social Security and Medicare.

He called on Congress to increase, by more than \$26 billion, funding for programs such as Head Start, which helps children in the early stages of schooling, and the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which would provide after-school programs.

Polls taken this month for the group showed that 66 percent of adults thought that providing access to after-school and early childhood development programs was more important than receiving a tax cut.

Of those interviewed, 50 percent said they would be willing to pay more taxes to fund violence prevention projects, and 47 percent said they were more concerned about violence and crime in schools than in the cost or quality of education.

"Key solutions are linked to prevention," said Newman, who appealed to lawmakers to rescue programs so underfunded that they currently reach "a frac-

tion" of the kids who need them.

In a letter to President Clinton and congressional leaders, the anti-crime group warned that tax-cut proposals risked a new crime wave.

James Fox, professor of criminal justice at Northeastern University in Boston, cautioned against relying on "quick fixes" in schools, such as more metal detectors, security guards and locked doors.

But Fox criticized Clinton for launching a series of television ads depicting scared youngsters pleading with schoolmates to behave. He also complained about school decisions to put more guards in the halls,

a move he said would boost student anxiety.

Instead, Fox said, schools should restore extracurricular activities such as band, chorus, drama and sports, which in many cases were cut to save money. He also recommended decreased class size, and an early warning system designed to track troubled kids from early grades rather than seeking "just in time" signs of impending violence.

He also recommended alternative programs for students suspended for carrying weapons, noting that expulsion means putting potentially dangerous and unsupervised kids on the street.

Sacramento, CA

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PRESS CLIPPINGS

“Early childhood and youth development programs can lead us to a stunning victory against violence. When these investments are proven to save lives and tax dollars, why shouldn't policy-makers provide the funding that will enable communities to get the job done?”

—former U.S. Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson

- Barnett estimates that the cost, including increased crime and welfare costs, of *failing* to provide at least two years of quality educational child care to low-income children is approximately \$100,000 per child. That's a total of about \$400 billion for all poor children now under age five.
- A recent study by Professor Mark A. Cohen of Vanderbilt University estimates that for each high-risk youth prevented from adopting a life of crime, the country would *save \$1.7 million*.
- A recent Rand Corporation report shows that, even without counting the savings to crime victims and society, the resulting *savings to government* alone from effective early childhood programs *exceeds by two to four times the cost of the programs*.

Law Enforcement United in Calling for Crime-Prevention Investments in Kids

Who says these four steps are among our most powerful weapons to fight crime?

- The hundreds of law enforcement leaders and crime victims who make up FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS.
- Over the last six months, virtually every major national law enforcement organization — including the Major Cities [Police] Chiefs' Organization, the Police Executive Research Forum, the National Sheriffs' Association, and the National District Attorneys' Association — have adopted forceful calls for boosting critical crime prevention investments like these.
- In a Northeastern University poll, 92 percent of police chiefs nationwide agreed that “America could sharply reduce crime if government invested more in programs to help children and youth get a good start” by “fully funding Head Start for infants and toddlers, preventing child abuse, providing parenting training for high-risk families, improving schools and providing after-school programs and mentoring.” Nine out of ten chiefs also agreed that “if America doesn't pay for greater investments in programs to help children and youth now, we will all pay far more later in crime, welfare, and other costs.”

“Police leaders know America's commitment to putting criminals in jail must be matched by its commitment to keeping kids from becoming criminals in the first place.”

— Los Angeles (CA) Chief of Police Bernard Parks

For citations of studies referred to above, visit www.fightcrime.org



Launched in 1996, FIGHT CRIME is led by hundreds of America's leading police chiefs, prosecutors, sheriffs, crime victims, and leaders of police officer organizations. Major funding for its operations is provided by:

William T. Grant Foundation* • Edna McConnell Clark Foundation • John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation • DeWitt Wallace Reader's Digest Fund* • David and Lucille Packard Foundation • Ford Foundation • Public Welfare Foundation • Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Foundation • Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation • Rockefeller Family Fund • Woods Fund of Illinois • McCormick-Tribune Foundation • The Stern Family Fund • Nathan Cummings Foundation • Butler Family Fund • Irving B. Harris Foundation • Institute for Civil Society • Neisser Fund • American Income Life Insurance Co. • New Prospect Foundation • William C. Graustein Memorial Fund

*Indicates that funding is for research dissemination.



FIGHT CRIME: INVEST IN KIDS

President
Sanford A. Newman

Associate Directors
Amy R. Dawson
Brendan J. Fitzsimons

Research Director
William C. Christeson

From America's Front Line Against Crime: A School and Youth Violence Prevention Plan

AS AN ORGANIZATION OF HUNDREDS OF POLICE CHIEFS, SHERIFFS, PROSECUTORS, CRIME SURVIVORS AND LEADERS OF POLICE OFFICER ORGANIZATIONS, we are determined to see that dangerous criminals are put behind bars. But anyone who thinks that jailing a criminal undoes the agony crime leaves in its wake hasn't seen crime up close.

America's anti-crime arsenal contains no weapons more powerful than the proven programs that help kids get the right start — like quality educational child care, youth development programs for the after-school and summer hours, child abuse prevention, and intervention programs proven to help get troubled kids back on track.

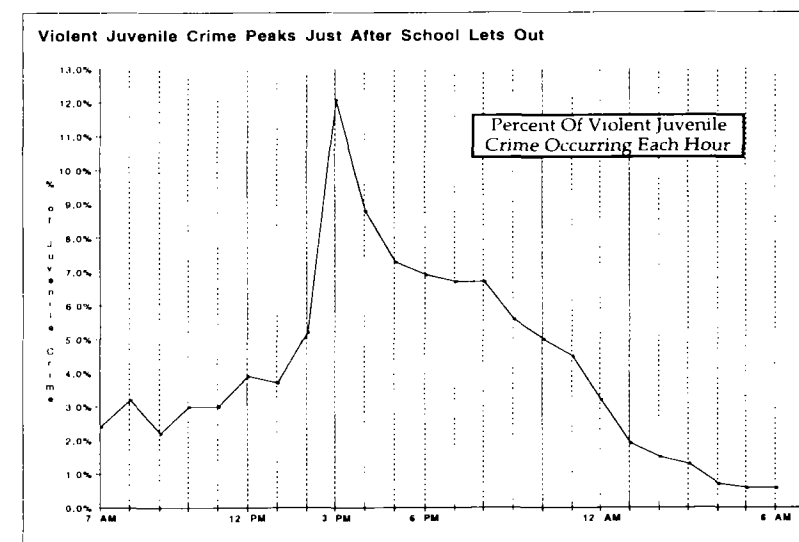
Yet today, inadequate funding for Head Start, educational child care, after-school youth development programs and counseling for troubled kids leaves millions of children at needless risk of becoming violent or delinquent teens and adult criminals — and leaves every American at needless risk of becoming a victim.

We call on all public officials to adopt a four-part plan to dramatically reduce crime and violence and adult crime, and help young people learn the skills and values they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults. While no plan can prevent every violent act, this common-sense plan — based on our experience and the latest research about what really works to fight crime — can make all of us safer.

Four Steps to Dramatically Reduce School and Youth Violence

1. Assure all school-age children and teens access to after-school, weekend and summer youth development programs to shut down the “Prime Time for Juvenile Crime.”

In the hour after the school bell rings, turning millions of children and teens out on the street with neither constructive activities nor adult supervision, violent juvenile crime suddenly *triples* and prime time for juvenile crime begins. On school days, the peak hours for such crime are from



3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. These are also the hours when kids are most likely to become victims of crime. They are the peak hours for teen sex, and being unsupervised after school doubles the risk that 8th-graders will smoke, drink alcohol or use drugs.

Quality youth development programs can cut crime immediately and transform this Prime Time for Juvenile Crime into hours of academic enrichment, wholesome fun and community service. They protect both kids and adults from becoming victims of crime, and cut teen pregnancy, smoking, and drug use, while they help

"When the peak hours of violent juvenile crime are between the end of school and 8:00 P.M., it's just common sense to provide the after-school programs that give kids the values and skills they need to say 'no' to crime and violence."

— Sheriff Patrick Sullivan (R-Arapahoe County, CO)

youngsters develop the values and skills they need to become contributing citizens. For example:

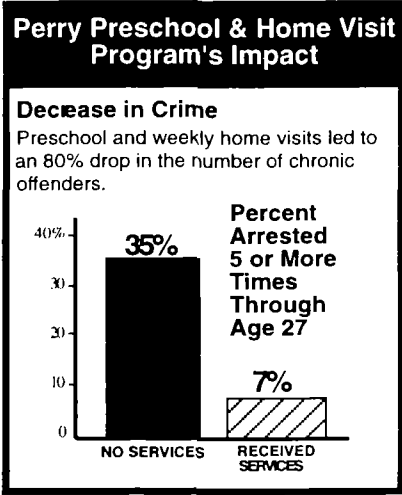
- When a public housing project intensively recruited youths to join in a new after-school program, *arrests among its teen residents plummeted to one-fourth of their previous level*, while those among the teens who lived in a nearby comparison project were actually going up by two-thirds.
- High school freshmen boys randomly selected from welfare households to participate in the Quantum Opportunities after-school program were *only one-sixth as likely to be convicted of a crime* during the high school years as those not selected. Together, the boys and girls who participated in the program were *50% more likely to graduate high school on time*.
- Young people who received a Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentor were *half as likely to begin illegal drug use or to hit someone* as applicants randomly assigned to a waiting list.

In short, failing to provide programs like these can multiply by as much as four times your family's risk that at-risk kids will become delinquent.

2. Assure all babies and preschool children access to the quality educational child care programs proven to cut crime.

Rigorous studies, hard experience, and brain pictures from modern medical equipment tell the same story: In the first few years of life, children's intellects and emotions, and even their ability to feel concern for others — a prerequisite to "conscience" — are being permanently shaped. When parents are at work trying to make ends meet, programs providing nurturing, stimulating, educational child care for babies and toddlers can not only prepare children to succeed in school but also dramatically reduce crime. For example:

"America's fight against violence must begin in the high chair, not the electric chair. Anything less leaves America's police fighting with one hand tied behind our backs."
— George Sweat, Director, Office of Juvenile Justice (North Carolina): former Chief of Police, Winston-Salem (NC)



- In Ypsilanti, Michigan, low-income three- and four-year-olds randomly assigned to be in the High/Scope Educational Research Foundation's preschool program were *only one-fifth as likely* to have become chronic lawbreakers at age 27, compared to similar children who did without this educational child care.
- In Syracuse, at-risk infants and toddlers enrolled in a quality child development program, with parenting support for their mothers, were *only one-tenth as likely* as similar children to be delinquent ten years later.

In other words, failing to make sure that at-risk kids have access to quality child care and development programs like these can multiply by five to ten times the risk that they will grow up to lead a life of crime. When millions of struggling parents are forced to leave their children in inadequate child care, we all pay a terrible price.

3. Help schools identify troubled and disruptive children at an early age, and provide children and their parents with the counseling and training that can help kids get back on track.

When elementary school children display disruptive behavior, it is a warning signal that it is time to start looking for the causes of the problem, and to provide the proven social skills training, counseling, and other help for the children and their families that can lead them back to a healthier path. For example:

- A Montreal study showed that providing disruptive first- and second-grade boys with services like these *cut in half* the odds that they would later be in special classes, rated highly disruptive by a teacher or by peers, or have been required to repeat a grade in school — all signs that the risk of future violence has been sharply reduced.
- Five years after randomly selected disruptive, low-achieving seventh-grade students completed a three-year program involving behavioral therapy and rewards, they were only one-third as likely to have a juvenile record as those who did not receive these services.

4. Improve deficient parenting and prevent child abuse and neglect by: a) Offering high-risk parents in-home parenting-coaching; and b) making sure child protective, foster care and adoption services have policies and enough well-trained staff to protect and heal abused and neglected children.

Being abused or neglected multiplies the risk that a child will grow up to be violent. Almost three million children are reported abused or neglected each year. Child protective and foster care services in most states lack adequate staff, and often the training or policy support, to protect children and to see that those who have been maltreated get the nurturing care and treatment needed to help them heal. We must also act *before* abuse takes place to expand parenting-coaching and family support programs that prevent children from being abused and neglected, prevent subsequent delinquency, and improve other outcomes for children. For example:

- The Prenatal and Early Infancy Project randomly assigned half of a group of at-risk mothers to receive visits by specially trained nurses who provide coaching in parenting skills and other advice and support. Rigorous studies show the program not only *reduced child abuse by 80%* in the first two years, but that fifteen years after the services ended, *these mothers had only one-third as many arrests, and their children were only half as likely to be delinquent*.

The Bottom Line: Investing in Kids Saves Lives and Money

When America fails to invest in its children and youth, we pay far more later — not just in lives and fear, but also in tax dollars. The federal treasury will actually have *more* money to dedicate to other uses a few years from now — whether for social security, paying off the accumulated national debt, or tax cuts — if we invest *today* in programs to help kids get the right start. For example:

- Economist Steven Barnett found that the High/Scope Foundation's Perry Preschool study *saved \$150,000 per participant in crime costs alone*. Even after subtracting the interest that could have been earned by investing the program's funding in financial markets, the project produced a *net savings of \$7.16* — including more than six dollars in crime savings — for every dollar invested.

"We could be saving thousands of lives — and sparing thousands of families unimaginable heartbreak — by investing up front in the proven early childhood care and youth development programs that can turn kids away from crime."
— Jean Lewis, President, National Organization of Parents of Murdered Children