

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	From Frank White to Carol Rasco; RE: address [partial] (1 page)	11/20/1996	P6/b(6)
002a. letter	From Denise Leong to Carol Rasco; RE: address/phone number [partial] (1 page)	11/20/1996	P6/b(6)
002b. letter	From Denise Leong to Carol Rasco; RE: address [partial] (1 page)	11/20/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Policy Development
Lyn Hogan
OA/Box Number: 10043

FOLDER TITLE:

Child Wel [Welfare] Chat Follow-Up

2011-1010-S

ms187

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Child Wel Chat Follow-Up

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To. lyn

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

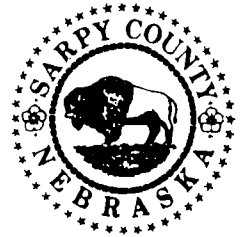
Remarks FYI



Nebraska State Probation
FIFTH PROBATION DISTRICT

Sarpy County Courthouse, Suite 2165
Papillion, Nebraska 68046-2890

Ellen Brokofsky, Chief Probation Officer
Phone: 402-593-2222 Fax: 402-593-2221



November 19, 1996

Carol Hampton Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, District of Columbia 20502

Dear Ms. Rasco:

When I returned from Reno in October I shared with my colleagues that I had met a woman in President Clinton's Administration who actually listened to what I had to say. You can imagine the response I received - sure, she listened Ellen, and when pigs fly. Well, I want you to know that your letter already is well worn. I have thoroughly enjoyed showing it, of course with my commentary, "See, she did listen".

There is no doubt that I am an advocate for children and tend to be somewhat of an idealist. Yet, I do believe communities can take responsibility for "their" children and support families and protect children at the same time. As I told you in Reno, several initiatives from the Federal, State, and County level have actually brought our community together in the best interests of children. As a result of a combination of these initiatives, we as a community have developed a program called SAFE POLICY. This is an acronym for School Administrators For Effective Police, Prosecution, Probation Operations Leading to Improved Children and Youth Services. With this community group as a vehicle, we have accomplished more for children in the last four years than we have in the last twenty. If you are at all interested in the details I would be happy to provide them for you.

I was especially delighted that you remembered my comments regarding funds - it is not about money, it is about setting priorities. I have sat too long and listened to priorities being determined by what we can afford rather than setting our priorities and finding a cost effective way to meet them. The following may be a poor analogy of my point but it may give you as good a giggle as it did me:

Carol Hampton Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
Page 2 (continued)

Without fail, every person I have shown your letter to has commented about how plain and unimpressive the letterhead is from the White House. Without exception, I have delighted in advising them that apparently expensive, gold embossed stationery is not a "priority" of the Clinton White House.

Thank you again for listening in Reno. I was honored to meet you and inspired by your awareness, understanding and vision regarding the welfare of the children and families we serve.

Sincerely,


Ellen Brokofsky
Chief Probation Officer

EB:dj

THE WHITE HOUSE

25 November 1996

Ellen —

I loved your note... and here's an even
"plainer" postcard!

Please do send more information on
SAFE POLICY...

Thanks again, Carol Rasco

Lyn-fuj

1500 North Halsted Street
Chicago, IL 60622



Phone: (312) 787-0208
Fax: (312) 787-9663

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: 11/18/96 # OF PAGES, INC. COVER: 2

TO: Carol H. Basco

ORGANIZATION: The White House

FAX NUMBER: 202-456-2878

FROM: Melody Neaps

PHONE EXTENSION: 773-573-8203

MEMO:

20 Years of Service

1976 -1996



Melody M. Heaps, President • Louis B. Garippo, Chairman, Board of Directors
 Administrative Offices • 1500 N. Halsted St. • Chicago, IL 60622
 (312) 787-0208 • Fax: (312) 787-9663

November 18, 1996

Carol H. Rasco
 Assistant to the President
 for Domestic Policy
 The White House
 West Wing, Second Floor
 Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Rasco:

I am honored that you sought my input with regard to the child welfare system. This is a very serious issue, and I am grateful to the Administration for seeking the input of those of us who work closely with children and parents in the child welfare system.

The questions posed by the Administration are thoughtful and deserve well-deliberated responses. Our agency is fortunate to have as our vice president, Ethel Mull, an expert in the child welfare system. She will be leading the discussions which will inform our responses to you.

Unless your deadline is earlier, we will have our responses to you within the next three weeks. Again, thank you for your inquiry and the opportunity to address this country's most fundamental issue: children in need.

Yours-Sincerely,


 Melody M. Heaps
 President

MMH/nrs

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Lyn

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks Fyi -

Letters went out to
all the following -
One copy of the letters
is shown here.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 25, 1996

Joe Stelma
Drug Court Coordinator
Duval County Courthouse
Jacksonville, Florida 32202

Dear Mr. Stelma:

Thank you for taking time to share with me your thoughts on child welfare. I know how very busy your schedule must be, and I do appreciate your willingness to offer ideas for improvement in the system.

My staff and I will continue to work with the appropriate departments on this issue; please do not hesitate to add to your comments at any time.

I extend to you the very warmest of holiday best wishes.

Sincerely,

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy



**CIRCUIT COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA**

CLAY, DUVAL AND NASSAU COUNTIES

JOE STELMA
DRUG COURT COORDINATOR

November 12, 1996

DUVAL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202
TEL: (904) 630-2112
FAX: (904) 630-2979

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy

Dear Carol,

This is my response to your questions.

1. From your work, what have you found to be the most troubling aspect of the child welfare system?

Answer-There is no follow up as to what is being done with the funds within the recipient group. Accountability is lacking with the case worker and their contact with each client. Caseloads are way beyond the means and therefore many cases fall between the cracks. There seems to be poor training and improper supervision of the personnel assigned. In some respects it has become unmanageable. It is broken, however, it can be fixed.

2. In your opinion, what role should the federal government play in addressing the problems in the child welfare system? Should it be simply financial? Should it be financial and programmatic? To what extent should the federal government prescribe child welfare policy to the states? In what way can the federal government make the biggest contribution?

Answer-While financial assistance to the states must continue through tax monies the federal government must prescribe policy to the states and mandate its compliance or face loss of funds. We must have a "watch dog" to ensure programs are structured and followed. The public must feel confident that programs are provided in a manner that a person can function in society. My strong recommendation is for the federal government to help states structure systems which can be managed. We will not overcome the problems without accountability. The children and the parents cannot learn from the experience if we have not learned or taught.

3. What is and/or should be the end product of the child welfare system? How do we

measure success or failure?

Answer-A child who can appreciate the help and look back at the lesson learned has a chance for the future. Our nations children should not look back at welfare as a hand out but as an assistance to become a good caring citizen for others. I do know that we cannot continue to measure it in crime statistics or by labeling children as deadbeats. The plan and strategy must be closely monitored in order to even consider measured success.

4. If you were in charge of child welfare policy, what would be your first action?

Answer-Look over the nation and find programs and directors who have made compliance and self esteem apart of their program. There is vast amounts of information at the federal fingertips to find successful programs. We gauge our success in dealing with adult and juvenile drug court with compliance of rules and abstinence by positive sanctions and more importantly by finding self esteem. I would not look for overnight success, nor would I fail to be open to change and input from a task force of professionals. The Court, Family Court in particular can give a lot of insight to building a good program. We must collect data and work the systems in order to find the best solutions. If we can go to the moon safely and bring back our astronauts then we can work with the same determination to make a good workable child welfare policy.

5. What interesting solutions or approaches to the child welfare system problems have you come across in your work?

Answer-While not being able to give some local solutions to a monumental problem I can only offer that accountability and properly supervised programs offer the best solutions.

Thank you for allowing my suggestions. You have embraced a very tough issue. With good input and careful consideration a solution can be found. We all are ready to help in anyway.

Sincerely,



Joseph Stelma
Drug Court Coordinator



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

J. DAVIS REED, III, Judge
RONALD H. MARKS, Judge
DEBORAH L. RAWLS, Judge
H. THOMAS PADRICK, JR., Judge
WOODROW LEWIS, JR., Judge
A. JOSEPH CANADA, JR., Judge

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Judicial Complex, Bldg. 10A
Municipal Center
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456-9058
(757) 427-4391
(757) 427-4305 TDD

FREDERICK C. JENKS, III
Clerk

DEBORAH G. ASHTON
Chief Deputy Clerk

November 8, 1996

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mrs. Rasco,

Thank you very much for your letter that I received this morning in regard to our Child Welfare System and how I view it from the vantage point of being a Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Judge.

The system is in great need of help, as the projected increase in the juvenile population is expanding in the next few years, and the real disturbing factor is that the level of violence among the juvenile age group is mushrooming at an alarming rate.

The system needs help and the Federal Government can play a very significant and beneficial role in trying to stem the tide of violence and waste of our young people.

The residential facilities, both temporary and long term, are extremely overcrowded and do not allow for the proper attention to our juveniles.

The Federal Government could help with funds for facilities, such as our Crisis House, to be expanded. This facility is a temporary facility and is always overcrowded which means that the young people that are placed there on a temporary basis do not receive all of the attention they would receive if it were not so overcrowded.

This is true in just about every facility that the State has and I am sure that this State is probably in better shape than some and, therefore, this problem is probably all over the country.

Page 2
November 8, 1996
Mrs. Carol H. Rasco

As far as the Federal Government requiring programs, etc., I feel that this would be a mistake and that the real beneficial effect of federal involvement would be by helping supply money for facilities and programs.

The most troubling aspect of the child welfare system is the children who get lost in the system because of inadequate programs caused by a lack of financial resources.

We have seen across the country a tightening of the Juvenile Court criminal laws which is all well and good except that it does not try to help straighten out the children before they become hardened criminals and end up in the penitentiary.

What we need is to be able to have adequate funds for programs and facilities for our young people when they are young and first become involved in the system to prevent long term criminal behavior and long term detrimental effects to our society both emotionally and economically . The end-product of our child welfare system should be to try to see that every child can have some meaningful purpose in life and find some endeavor that they can follow that fits their intellectual level and therefore, keeping them out of the criminal justice system. We have to measure our successes one child at a time and there is no easy way to do that.

If I were in charge of the welfare policy, I would require that the Federal Government give to the states, in the form of a block grant, sufficient funds to have facilities and programs which would facilitate the desired result of straightening out our children. This is not an idle comment but we have seen so much in the news media all over the country about the exploding juvenile population and more particularly the violent juveniles, but most of the states, including this one, have not done enough to give us the tools to properly address these problems at the root causes and to have the proper programs and facilities in place to help with this.

The parents, in many cases, are the biggest problem that the child has and there are so many children having children, this is a society problem and we see this as a result of television programs and the society as it is today.

One of the most interesting programs that I think could have a very beneficial effect would be a farm for children and that's what I am trying to work on in this area. Many children are abused, confused and feel all alone. A child on a farm with animals and proper supervision can go a long way in being rehabilitated, especially when you have a city child. The child learns from animals that when you treat an animal in a pleasant way, the animal reacts in a pleasant way and when you are mean to



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

J. DAVIS REED, III, Judge
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November 8, 1996

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
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The White House
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the animal

Page 3

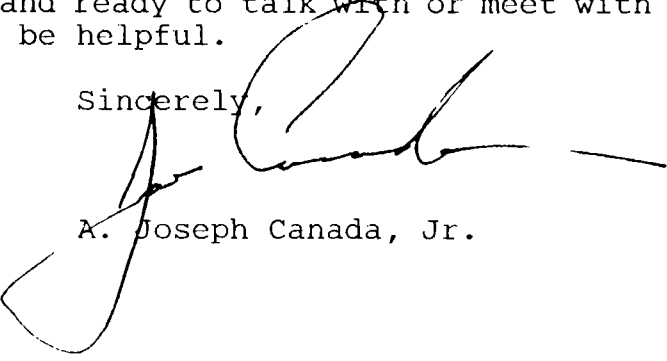
November 8, 1996

Mrs. Carol H. Rasco

it it reacts in a harsh way, just like people. Some of these children have been abused and only know one way and that is a harsh way of being treated and if we can take a young child and straighten him/her out at an early age we have really done something.

I don't know who you are, or where you came from or what your background is but I have not been a judge very long but I see that there is a real need for people involved in the system that really care about children and not just bureaucrats who shuffle papers. I find that there are many of those persons in our system and that is one of the problems we have. If I can be of any help in trying to help you with your task, I stand ready to talk with or meet with you or whatever you think might be helpful.

Sincerely,

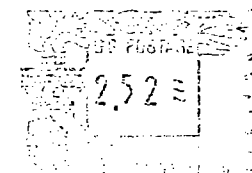


A. Joseph Canada, Jr.

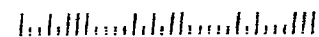
AJC/sln

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT**

Judicial Complex Bldg. 10A - Municipal Center
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456-9058



Ms. Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20502



MARSHALL P. YOUNG
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FEDERAL BLDG., ROOM 312
515 - 9TH ST.
RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701

November 12, 1996

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Ms. Rasco:

Thank you for your recent correspondence concerning improvements in the child welfare system. Although the issues you have raised are quite complex, I will attempt to make my answers as concise and brief as possible.

1. What is the most troubling aspect in the child welfare system? The failure to deliver the appropriate, though not necessarily financial, resources to children and families at risk. Often, rules and regulations prevent the delivery of these resources. Parenting education and classes are very beneficial for many children and families at risk and involved in the welfare system. More often, simple things such as transportation, money for a babysitter, something in that area will prevent attendance in areas that lack appropriate public transportation. Therefore, I believe the child welfare system must be as flexible as possible to meet the needs of the families.

2. What is the role of the federal government? The federal government can make the biggest contribution by providing a general framework under which they are going to distribute the funding. They can also reduce the number of rules and regulations that hamper the delivery system. The federal government also has a role in providing technical assistance to the states and showing the states what works in other areas to improve the system. The federal government should further sponsor innovative programs in dealing with the child welfare system that can be replicated elsewhere. The federal government's role should not be to micro-manage or provide hide bound rules and regulations that prevent the system from functioning appropriately.

3. What should be the end product, and how to you measure success or failure? Obviously, the end product is a healthy family with family members who know how to properly parent children, who in turn will become good parents, and rely on the welfare system only as a safety net where appropriate. Success or failure has to be measured by the number of families who are able to develop the appropriate skills and knowledge to leave the welfare system.

4. If I were in charge of the child welfare policy, what would be my first action? I would require child welfare agencies to share information with other agencies that are intimately involved with the family, such as the schools, juvenile justice system, counselors, job services, and others. Many of these agencies overlap in their function and work with the same family without any coordination. Most of these agencies are very protective of their turf through what we call confidentiality. Confidentiality usually works against the family in that other agencies cannot coordinate their services and provide appropriately for the family. Most any second or third grade teacher can pick out from her classroom those children and families who are at risk. At that age, with appropriate resources and intervention, we can assist that family to make sure that children at risk do not become delinquents and adult criminals. However, rules and regulations such as confidentiality often prohibit a coordinated, cooperative approach to the delivery of resources to these families. So, the first thing I would do would be to abolish confidentiality where appropriate to serve the families. The next thing I would require is that a plan be developed for each family on welfare similar to the requirement that there be an individualized education plan for children. This plan would tell us which agencies are going to do what, what the goals are, what the benchmarks are, and what we are going to accomplish with this family to get them off welfare and into a productive mode where their self esteem, creativity, and productivity will improve. Simply handing out money will not help these families very much.

5. What interesting solutions or approaches have you come across in your work? In my work, I have come across many families who have a strong desire to get off of the welfare system and to make sure their children are not on a welfare system, but often agency rules and regulations prevent that. Access to education about parenting children, transportation, job training, and medical needs often

Carol H. Rasco

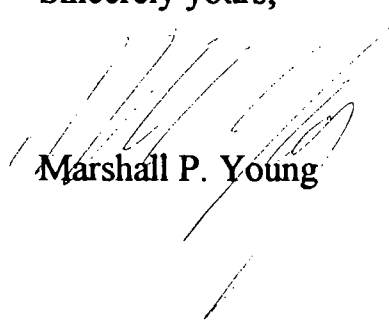
Page 3

November 12, 1996

prevent the child welfare system from working as it was envisioned to work. It should be a safety net for families in need, but also should be a constructive opportunity for families to better themselves.

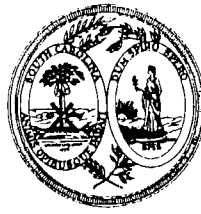
Thank you for your interest in children and families, and for your concern.

Sincerely yours,



Marshall P. Young

MPYvlh



State of South Carolina
The Family Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit
Charleston and Berkeley Counties

Paul W. Garfinkel
Judge

Post Office Box 934
Charleston, SC 29402

(803) 722-3186
FAX (803) 724-0629

November 15, 1996

Ms. Carol Hampton Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Rasco:

Thank you for your kind letter of November 1, 1996. It was an honor and pleasure to meet you and Ms. Hogan in Reno. Please convey my personal congratulations to President Clinton on his re-election. Even though he did not receive the fifty per cent margin he wanted, I'm sure he knows that one hundred percent of the American people are behind him and hope that his next four years as President are the best four years in our Country's history.

Hopefully, during the coming years the President, you, and others in the Administration will do everything possible to assist those in our American society who are the most vulnerable and the least protected--our children. In an average week in my small courtroom in Charleston, South Carolina, I see children who are physically, emotionally and sexually abused; I see children who are abandoned, medically, educationally and socially neglected; I see children who have committed crimes mainly because there has been no one in their lives to teach them what is proper, acceptable behavior and moralistic codes of conduct; I see children who start their existence in utero addicted to crack cocaine because of their

mother's substance addiction problems during pregnancy; and, I see children who are the innocent victims or pawns in a divorce or separation battle between their parents.

In most of the cases mentioned our most precious resource are assigned the least experienced advocates and lawyers who are forced to serve through court appointments, or at best, agree to take an occasional pro-bono case in hopes of gaining some "experience", before going on to other more lucrative areas of the legal practice. Usually those innocent victims last-above mentioned only have a non attorney, guardian ad litem to help them through the complex legal maze facing them and then to have that person totally disappear after the Court hearing when many of the newly created challenges will be the most difficult to bear and adjust to.

Please accept this letter as a challenge to you and to our President to do that which is morally right and not just politically expedient. None of the children who appear in the Family Courts of this nation are voters, but they are our future. Will they become hard working, law abiding citizens? Will they be able to teach their children all the things we value as important in our American society? Or, will they become human refuse to be ever caught up in one crisis after another?

Many years ago I was taught not to criticize unless I was willing to become part of the solution. I am willing to do my part and offer to serve in any useful capacity that would not be a violation of my personal and/or professional code of conduct. I do not have any instant solutions, and, I know, far wiser people than myself are already working on the problems mentioned and others, not even named here, or even considered by me. I just want you and others to know that those of us in the trenches not only look in the eyes of those who appear before us, but we also look to you - the generals - to give us direction and guidance on how we can fight the battles to save our children from wars they didn't start and ones they will always lose.

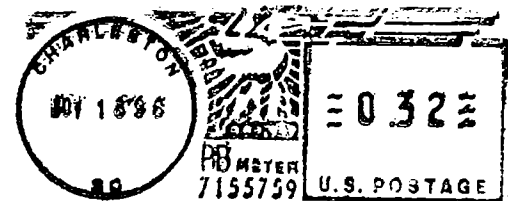
With kindest and best personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

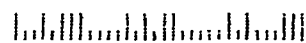
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul W. Garfinkel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "G" at the end.

Paul W. Garfinkel

JULIE J. ARMSTRONG
CLERK OF COURT
CHARLESTON COUNTY FAMILY COURT
POST OFFICE BOX 934
CHARLESTON, S.C. 29402



Ms. Carol Hampton Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20502



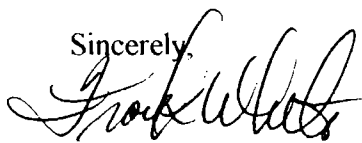
NOV 25 1996

November 20, 1996
Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the president
for Domestic policy

Re: Child Welfare questions considered

1. The most troubling aspect of child welfare system is the title "Welfare" system. How about changing the name to Federal subsidies for children. The other part is that Moines and energies are put in the wrong places. The focus should be on prevention of crime, illiteracy, and poverty.
2. The federal government should set the tone as president Clinton has by working to get every child to read by their eight year of age. I worry that each state will use their "Block Grants" to promote their "pet" projects and that the people who need the subsidies will not get them.
3. The end product of the system should be to empower the people/children that are apart of that system. Success is measured by the number of children who finish elementary, middle, and high school, and go on to become contributors to society.
4. Change the name as mention earlier. Also require families and children to participate in parent/child communication classes as a prerequisite to receiving a subsidy for the family.
5. My focus has been of family counseling, crisis intervention, working with runaways, and teenagers who were action out. What worked well was working with the families to empower them as a unit and individually.

Thanks for asking for my input. I hope it is useful in your research.

Sincerely,

Frank White

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	From Frank White to Carol Rasco; RE: address [partial] (1 page)	11/20/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Policy Development
Lyn Hogan
OA/Box Number: 10043

FOLDER TITLE:

Child Wel [Welfare] Chat Follow-Up

2011-1010-S

ms187

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

State of Michigan

NOV 25 1996



Probate Court

County of Genesee

919 Beach Street
Flint, Michigan 48502

BRUCE A. NEWMAN
Probate Judge

(313) 257-3521
FAX No. (313) 257-3299

November 19, 1996

Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
For Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, 2nd Floor
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Ms. Rasco:

This is in response to your letter of November 1, 1996 wherein you requested my thoughts regarding the current child welfare system in the United States.

The following represents my responses to the incisive questions you posed:

1. From your work, what have you found to be the most troubling aspect of the child welfare system?

In my experience as a juvenile court judge the most troublesome aspect of the child welfare system is really twofold: first, young girls who were neglected and/or abused by their parents or family members now giving birth to children at a young age and then in turn neglecting and abusing their own children; second, young boys who were themselves neglected and/or abused fathering children at an immature age and then in turn failing to support and protect their own children.

2. In your opinion, what role should the federal government play in addressing the problems in the child welfare system?

In my view the federal government should function much like that of a super foundation, i.e. 1) to support research

2) to fund and monitor new initiatives and 3) to conduct longitudinal tracking on attempted initiatives and to publish the results. In the end the states must be free to operate their own child welfare systems and to experiment as they choose.

3. What is or should be the end product of the child welfare system? How do we measure success or failure?

In my view, the end product of the child welfare system should be the protection of children from abuse or neglect along with the education and training of these children to prevent reoccurrence of neglect and abuse with their own children. Success or failure would be measured by the number of these children on welfare rolls who become financially independent and are not involved in child protective proceedings with their own children.

4. If you were in charge of child welfare policy, what would be your first action?

The very first thing I would do if in charge of the child welfare system would be to change the current foster care/kinder care system to insure that government paid custodians of children are held to the highest standards of conduct and training. It is critical that inadequate caretakers and inferior role models not be given custody of children and paid for doing so simply because they are relatives of dependant children. The current process of over reliance on inappropriate relative caregivers helps to encourage and foster continuation of the same cycle of abuse, neglect, delinquency, dependency, violence and criminal activity. Children need and deserve the best possible caregivers.

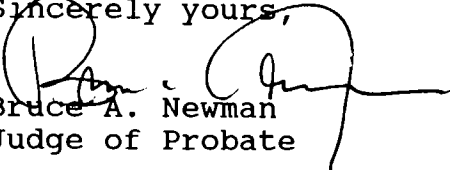
5. What interesting solutions or approaches to the child welfare system problems have you come across in your work?

In my opinion the most beneficial change in the child welfare system is the requirement that once a child is removed from the home that regular periodic reviews of the case must be held and further that a permanency planning hearing must occur no later than one year from the initial dispositional hearing. If the parents have failed to effectively deal with the underlying problem then, as harsh as it may be, parental rights need to be terminated and the children placed in a permanent environment where they can be exposed to a positive value system and be trained to become productive citizens. If the parent(s) have succeeded in rectifying the conditions that led to removal of the child(ren), then the child(ren) should be returned to the parent.

Also, programs focused on pre teen age girls seem to be worth their weight in gold. Preventing teen pregnancies by showing just how "dumb" it is makes sense. "Just say no" or "use safe sex" isn't enough. We need strong media attention directed to the fact that being a young single parent just isn't cool and is more like baby sitting for free for 18 years. That message hits home.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,


Bruce A. Newman
Judge of Probate

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: CR-W

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: Child Welfare - See

File: changes for
this poster - ltr

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____



State of Illinois
Circuit Court of Cook County

Martha A. Mills
Judge

1100 South Hamilton Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60612
(312) 433-4756

Direct Line: (312) 433-6915
FAX: (312) 433-7899
E-mail: mmills01@counsel.com

November 16, 1996

Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Ms. Rasco:

I received your letter of November 1, saying that you had been at the NJFFCJ in Reno at a time I was there (along with a goodly number of other judges). I will attempt to answer your questions. I point out, however, that they are all phrased in terms of the "child welfare system" and my knowledge is of the juvenile justice system, which is not quite the same thing.

I sit in the Child Protection Division of the Juvenile Court of Cook County, Illinois. It is one of the cutting edge juvenile courts in the country, yet it too leaves much to be desired. Many of the cases we hear of abused, neglected or dependent children are not "welfare" cases though many are. I would prefer to direct my answers to those problems of the juvenile court, not the child welfare system as a whole.

1. From your work, what have you found to be the most troubling aspect of the child welfare system?

The most troublesome aspect of the juvenile court system is the unavailability, lack of consistent quality, and lack of accountability in the social work aspects of the court system. Some agencies and individuals are responsible, talented, caring, and well trained. Others are irresponsible, misuse their positions with vulnerable parents and

children, don't care about people or their jobs, or are poorly trained if at all. There are many reasons for this, only one of which is funding.

I realize you asked for "one" problem, but another large problem is that children in the juvenile and child welfare system are always given the short and negative end of the stick. Problems of ordinary grief and its accompanying acting out are automatic signs of behavioral problems requiring punitive or therapeutic intervention in juveniles who may be doing exactly the same things because of separation anxiety and other family problems as does a child whose parent has died. Yet we would not think of treating those children in that manner. No one pays much attention to immediate intervention on behalf of children to avoid some of the worst of these results. The research in this area is skimpy to non-existent. The federal government could provide valuable help here.

2. In your opinion, what role should the federal government play in addressing the problems in the child welfare system? Should it be simply financial? Should it be financial and programmatic? To what extent should the federal government prescribe child welfare policy to the states? In what way can the federal government make the biggest contribution?

The federal government's prime role should be to gather and disseminate information about what various states and localities are doing, what is working, what is not. Funding should be directed to planning for systemic change, new programs and approaches. The federal government should not prescribe child welfare policy to the states, though requiring at least a floor of some kind might be a helpful thing. The federal government could play a major role in bringing new technology to the field and helping states and localities to share information, programs, etc.

3. What is and/or should be the end product of the child welfare system? How do we measure success or failure?

Children who are treated well and early to whatever is needed to allow them to function positively. Early permanency planning for children. Maximum help to parents needing help, and early termination of parental rights for those who do not or cannot parent their children.

4. If you were in charge of child welfare policy, what would be your first action?

I would have a conference or a lot of conferences with people who are not necessarily the big names in the various relevant fields.

5. What interesting solutions or approaches to the child welfare system problems have you come across in your work?

Most of the approaches we are taking relate to the court. In that respect, I think the White House has spoken with the Chief Judge, Nancy Sidote Salyers, on more than one occasion. Active partnership with the community is sought for many things, from periodic entertainment of juveniles in the justice system who may never have heard a concert etc., to facilities and services available in a childrens' room, to much more. I wish I really had time to answer more expansively, but I do not.

Very truly yours,

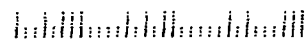
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martha A. Mills". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Martha" being more prominent than the last name "Mills".

Martha A. Mills

State of Illinois
Circuit Court of Cook County
Martha A. Mills, Judge
1100 S. Hamilton Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60612



Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20502



child welfare form

Dear :

Thank you for taking time to share with me your thoughts on ~~child welfare~~. I know how very busy your schedule must be, and I do appreciate your willingness to offer ideas for improvement in that system. *juvenile
the juvenile
court*

My staff and I will continue to work with the appropriate departments on this issue; please do not hesitate to add to your comments at any time.

I extend to you the very warmest of holiday best wishes.

Sincerely,

chr
title



Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	11-29-96	# of pages	1
To	Carol Rasco	From	Bill Pierce		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	328-1200		
Fax #	456-2878	Fax #	332-0935		

Nov. 22, 1996

The President
The White House
Washington DC

Lyn - Syi

Dear Mr. President:

Today's Washington Post has a front-page story about the death of a baby in Delaware, allegedly at the hands of its parents. That case is not clearly something The President can do anything about.

On page A 24, there is a story about another dead baby - this one delivered by a sailor. As Commander-in-Chief, there is something you can do about that sort of case. You can put together a task force to reduce the likelihood that anyone in the various branches of the military ever has a similar experience. We would be glad to work with you and the Administration and Defense on such a project.

Adoption is not the only option, but it clearly is an option. The First Lady recognizes it. Carol Rasco recognizes it. You recognized it in your recent, eloquent statement for National Adoption Month.

Hopefully, we can turn these tragedies into opportunities to educate the American people about the adoption option.

Sincerely,

Bill Pierce
William Pierce
President

Carol Rasco - 11-41-96
1-15-97
FAX 456-2878

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Lyn

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: ✓

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002a. letter	From Denise Leong to Carol Rasco; RE: address/phone number [partial] (1 page)	11/20/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Policy Development
Lyn Hogan
OA/Box Number: 10043

FOLDER TITLE:

Child Wel [Welfare] Chat Follow-Up

2011-1010-S

ms187

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

[002a]

P6/(b)(6)

November 20, 1996

The White House
217 Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500
Attn: Ms. Carol Rasco-Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

Dear Carol,

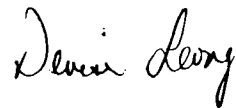
I was so honored to participate in such an exciting discussion about the child welfare system. It seemed like we could have spent the entire day discussing more ideas. I had a few thoughts that I did not have time to share during the meeting. First of all, I think the key to many of our problems lie in the area of prevention. The bonding that takes place in the first few years of a child's life is critical. A child's attachment and bonding is integral in the development of empathy. Don't you think that if people could empathize with others, it would deter them from committing most crimes? What is the reason for our crime rate and our need to build more jails? In Hawai'i, we no longer have the prison space necessary to house all of our criminals. In fact, we have contracted with the state of Texas to take care of a portion of our prison population. As sad as this sounds, by the time a child has been in numerous foster homes, in juvenile detention, and revolving in and out of prison, his/her chances seem fairly dismal. Why do we choose to wait until problems get to this point? It would make so much more sense to develop programs that teach parenting and nurturing rather than slabs of cement for inmates to live in.

You expressed things so well when you stated that you thought other mothers were like yours because that is what you learned growing up. In the same way, children who experience domestic violence, child abuse and other negative situations in their household grow up learning those ways of living. I think we can all agree that it is more difficult to stop a problem than it is to prevent it. However, as a city, state, and country, we have not found a way to invest enough of our time and money to prevent our children from being hurt.

We know all too painfully that poverty, crime, and violence can reach all of us. It is going to take time for us to make a difference in the lives of the people we are trying to help but we need to start somewhere and work collectively. It was refreshing for us to be able to discuss ideas in our recent meeting.

Thank you again for this opportunity. I look forward to continued dialogue with you and others of how we can make things better in our country because regardless of where people sit in society, the problems of some has an effect on the overall population.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Leong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Denise Leong, MSW, ACSW
Licensed Social Worker

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002b. letter	From Denise Leong to Carol Rasco; RE: address [partial] (1 page)	11/20/1996	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Policy Development
Lyn Hogan
OA/Box Number: 10043

FOLDER TITLE:

Child Wel [Welfare] Chat Follow-Up

2011-1010-S

ms187

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THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Lyn

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Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: ☒ _____

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File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 1, 1996

The Honorable Thomas Thode
Juvenile Court Center
2795 South Avenue B
Yuma, AZ 85304

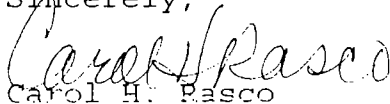
Dear Judge Thode:

I was pleased to be able to spend time recently at the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges during the Fall Seminar in Reno. While my time in each of the classes was quite brief and my personal visits were too few, I sensed a great support for our nation's children and their families. My office is currently undertaking a serious look at those factors within the child welfare system that we should next address at the federal level.

I note your name as a participant during the Fall Seminar and wish to invite you to share with me your thoughts on the topic of improving the lives of children and families in our nation. I am enclosing a list of questions we have been asking various individuals throughout the country to answer for us and hope you will feel free to send me your thoughts on these questions as well as any other comments and suggestions you may have.

My sincere thanks in advance for your assistance as well as your dedication to the children and families whom you serve.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Pasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy

The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20502
(202) 456-5565 phone
(202) 456-2878 fax

Child Welfare Questions to consider

- 1) From your work, what have you found to be the most troubling aspect of the child welfare system?

Bureaucratic Delay

- 2) In your opinion, what role should the federal government play in addressing the problems in the child welfare system? Should it be simply financial? Should it be financial and programmatic? To what extent should the federal government prescribe child welfare policy to the states? In what way can the federal government make the biggest contribution? *All of the above - money and research*

- 3) What is and/or should be the end product of the child welfare system? How do we measure success or failure?

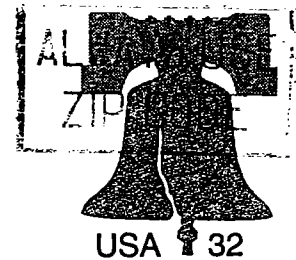
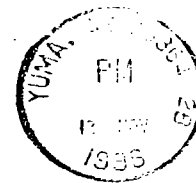
- 4) If you were in charge of child welfare policy, what would be your first action? *Death rate - Mental health rate - Physical health rate - Crime rate of kids in the system*
Reduce paperwork & middle management

- 5) What interesting solutions or approaches to the child welfare system problems have you come across in your work?

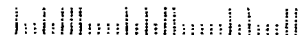
"Block by block" programs improving small selected areas until a "tipping point effect" is produced where at a certain point, neglect, dependency, crime, crack, etc ~~seem to~~ are controlled by the residents without continued intervention.

John A. Shacht
Juvenile Judge

Yuma County
Juvenile Court Center
2795 South Avenue B
Yuma, AZ 85364



Carol H. Rasco
The White House
West Wing, Second Floor
Washington, D.C. 20502



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Lyn

Draft response for POTUS
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Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
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Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: ☒ _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____



College of Human Sciences • Department of Textiles and Consumer Sciences • Tallahassee, Florida 32306-2033 • (904) 644-2498

November 10, 1996

Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President
for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Rasco,

I was delighted to receive your letter regarding my panel participation at the "One Year Later" conference in Tallahassee and your invitation to share further thoughts on the economic empowerment of women.

You may be interested in the results of a research study I co-authored that has been accepted for publication in Psychological Reports in early 1997. The study of nearly 500 college students showed that women students were significantly less confident about and actually knew less about financial management than men. Women students also didn't plan to invest in stocks and bonds as much as men did. Since their grade point averages were the same, intelligence was not a discerning factor.

So, why the differences? Perhaps, they are caused by math anxiety (because money involves math) or unequal education in schools and in homes. There are policy implications for:

- women's economic education
- women's financial security and contribution to the economy

Since women live longer than men and since more and more they are solely responsible for their own and their family's finances, it behooves us to help with this.

Thank you for the suggestion of the Joline Godfrey book. I've been reading it and find much I can use. Since hearing you speak, I've thought about your "mirror test" often as I have two teenagers myself (boys) plus my job. Thank you again for your interest in my work. I'll be happy to help in any way that I can.

Best wishes,

Elizabeth Goldsmith, Ph.D.
Professor

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

Hickler

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Lyn

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: COB 12/6

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

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Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

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Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____



Lawton Chiles

Governor

Edward A. Feaver

Secretary

*Working in
partnership with
local communities to
help people be self-
sufficient and live in
stable families and
communities.*

November 12, 1996

Ms. Carol Rasco
Special Advisor to President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Ms. Rasco:

The opportunity to meet and talk with you recently during your trip to Florida was much appreciated. You asked that I follow up with you on one of the issues we discussed, the Adoption Assistance Program which provides supports to families who adopt foster children.

There has been a phenomenal increase in the numbers of special needs children being placed for adoption in Florida. Our placements have grown from 730 in Fiscal Year 1988-89 to 1,623 in Fiscal Year 1994-95. The Adoption Assistance Program is clearly a key factor in this growth. However, Florida's program is facing a financial crisis because it has been difficult to get budget appropriations to keep pace.

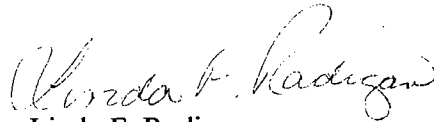
A key issue for Florida is the inability due to federal regulations to consider the adoptive family's income and resources when determining eligibility for subsidy payments. It is difficult to justify to legislators and others why families whose annual income is in excess of \$50,000 are still eligible to receive a monthly subsidy.

Additionally, Section 473(a)(3) of the Social Security Act provides that the amount of the adoption assistance payment shall be determined through an agreement between the adoptive parents and the state or local agency and that the agreement "shall take into consideration the circumstances of the adopting parents..." This language strongly implies that "resources" means income of the adoptive parents and can be considered in determining the amount of the assistance payment. However, the interpretation of this language in federal regulations prohibits applying means or income test in determining the child and family's eligibility for a cash payment.

Ms. Carol Rasco
Page 2

Enclosed for your information is a waiver request which this office has submitted to Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services. Any assistance your office can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



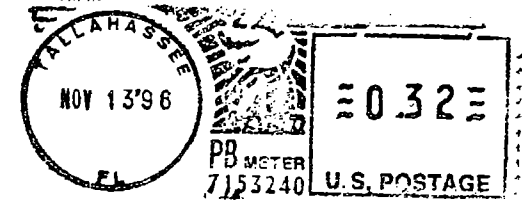
Linda F. Radigan
Assistant Secretary for Family Safety
and Preservation

No waiver request
enclosed.

Jerry Ingo
Valentine

Children and Families
Permanency Planning Unit
2811-E Industrial Plaza Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

PDCFP



Ms. Carol Rasco
Special Advisor to President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20003



THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

NOV 20 1994

Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Lyn

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

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Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: ☒ _____

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Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

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November 13, 1996

Ms. Carol H. Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Carol:

Thank you for inviting me to The White House to discuss child welfare services and for encouraging me to keep in touch. At first I was worried that I might abuse the offer, but then I got bogged down and took three weeks to send this note. I did, nonetheless, want to provide more information about a few of the issues we began to discuss: specifically, (1) shared family care, (2) concurrent planning, (3) training, and (4) research and development.

Shared family care, described in the manual I left with you, is a promising approach to encouraging family preservation and child protection. The current IV-E restriction that slows development of shared family care is that IV-E funds cannot be used to pay for foster care if there is no parent-child separation. IV-B funds can pay for shared family care and so can the old IV-A (although that will now count against TANF time limits.) We are using Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center funds to train a few states in its use. What needs to be done?

1. Exclude time spent receiving emergency child welfare services including shared family care from the TANF time limits.
2. Exclude providers of shared family care--and, more broadly, foster care-- from TANF's time limits. (They are providing community service at least and can meet participation requirements on that basis.)
3. Continue to support demonstration projects funded by the Children's Bureau to create new approaches like shared family care.

Concurrent planning is an approach to achieving permanency more expeditiously without compromising reunification. It involves assessing cases early on to see if they have signs that reunification is unlikely. Several counties in our state and many states across the U.S. employ it but there are still judges and program managers who think it is contrary to the requirement that

“reasonable efforts” be made to return children home. Our review of California counties shows little evidence of this, and indicates that some counties with active concurrent planning programs also have high reunification rates.

I have attached new California legislation, AB 3088, that clarifies that a referral to adoption services (which would include an assessment for concurrent planning) does not ipso facto indicate that reasonable efforts were not provided. This frees the agency to find an adoptive home before the child gets older and becomes less likely to be adopted. Adoption is very time sensitive and this could help a good measure to increase adoptions. What needs to be done?

1. Clarify in federal statute or regulations that discussion of adoption or referral for concurrent planning can not be used as an indication that good faith reunification efforts were not made.

Training for foster care and adoptions (IV-E Training) has grown dramatically in the last six years. Much of this growth has involved the development of innovative state-university partnerships in which child welfare specialists are trained and then commit to employment payback in a public child welfare agency. These programs are now being threatened by interpretations of regulations that are quite restrictive and may limit the IV-E training to require cost allocation to the proportion of IV-E eligible children in foster care that do not allow private universities to match funds and that restrict IV-E training to foster care and adoption when other front end child welfare positions also need help. This is especially critical if new TANF generated referrals to CPS emerge. Part of the problem is that this IV-E training program operates under IV-A regulations. It needs its own set. What needs to be done?

1. Embrace child welfare training as a priority.
2. Help see that IV-E gets new regulations, which will support old child welfare training costs approved on a state’s IV-B Training Plan. (I understand that some were in the works but have been mothballed.)

Research and development is critical to managing the reform of welfare and child welfare. A few states (Illinois, California and Massachusetts) are on the brink of being able to integrate program administration data to follow children from welfare to child abuse reports to foster care to home or to probation or to college or to prison or to death. We have used these linked administrative data systems to show that (1) children do move from foster care to probation at increasing rates over time; (2) African-American children in foster care die at much lower rates than children in the general public or than children who were in foster care and were sent home; and (3) the preponderance of children involved with child welfare services were born to mothers who first became mothers as teenagers.

This kind of information is critical to making the case for child welfare services. We have too long sold the child welfare system on its ability to prevent criminal involvement but have not proven it. Nor do we really know if we are creating more or fewer transitions to criminal justice

with family preservation or kinship foster care or guardianships. This is especially vital with welfare reform. We need to follow children over time. I have attached a two page description of our database in California and how we plan to do this linking going back to 1990. What needs to be done?

1. Support R & D at the Children's Bureau or at ASPE.
2. Get other domestic branches (e.g., SAMSHA and NIH) to contribute.
3. Continue to fund the development of SACWIS and AFCARS and help states fund TANF related computer systems by matching at the 75% rate.

I hope I have not abused my invitation by going on at such length. Again, thank you for your willingness to hear from the field and from the academy.

Sincerely,



Richard P. Barth, Ph.D.
Hutto Patterson Professor

Enclosures: Machado
Children's Services Archive for California: Project Summary

P.S. Thank you for your kind note following our meeting and your indication that you were reading the shared family care guidelines. I am off to a statewide meeting on shared family care in Colorado tomorrow and will carry that story with me.

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Booklet, "California Legislature-1995-96 Regular Session, Assembly
Bill No. 3088", 18 pages

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 22, 1996

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 24, 1996

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1995–96 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 3088

Introduced by Assembly Member Machado

February 23, 1996

An act to amend ~~Section 366.21~~ *Sections 366.21 and 366.22* of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to juveniles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 3088, as amended, Machado. Dependent children.

~~Under existing law,~~

Existing law provides that if a dependent child of the juvenile court is not returned to the custody of a parent or guardian at the review hearing held 12 6 months after the initial dispositional hearing, the court is required to must determine whether reasonable services have been provided or offered to the parent or guardian which were designed to aid the parent or guardian in overcoming the problems which led to the initial removal and continued custody of the minor. In addition, if the dependent child is not returned to the custody of a parent or guardian at subsequent review hearings, held 12 and 18 months after the initial dispositional hearing, the court is required to take specified action, which may include ordering that a hearing be held within 120 days in which parental rights may be terminated if there is clear



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Children's Services Archive for California

Project Summary

Intent

The Children's Services Archive for California is a joint federal, State and Stuart Foundations funded project designed to provide a resource for understanding the involvement and outcome of children receiving social, mental health, and correctional services. The Archive is intended to be a research tool that will help clarify the development of children who received different amounts and patterns of children's services. The analysis of the data will better help us determine the efficacy of services to protect children and promote successful adulthoods.

Work to Date

The Children's Services Archive for California is built upon previous work creating longitudinal data from individual foster care and child abuse records that includes all social services and probation foster care and California Youth Authority placements in California since 1988, child abuse reporting histories in seven counties since 1990, and birth and death records since 1970.

Five Year Work Plan

During the five years of the project, we will add additional counties with automated child abuse data and AFDC and MediCal information and statewide special education histories. This will allow us to understand the various outcomes associated with different service use patterns for children born in similar circumstances.

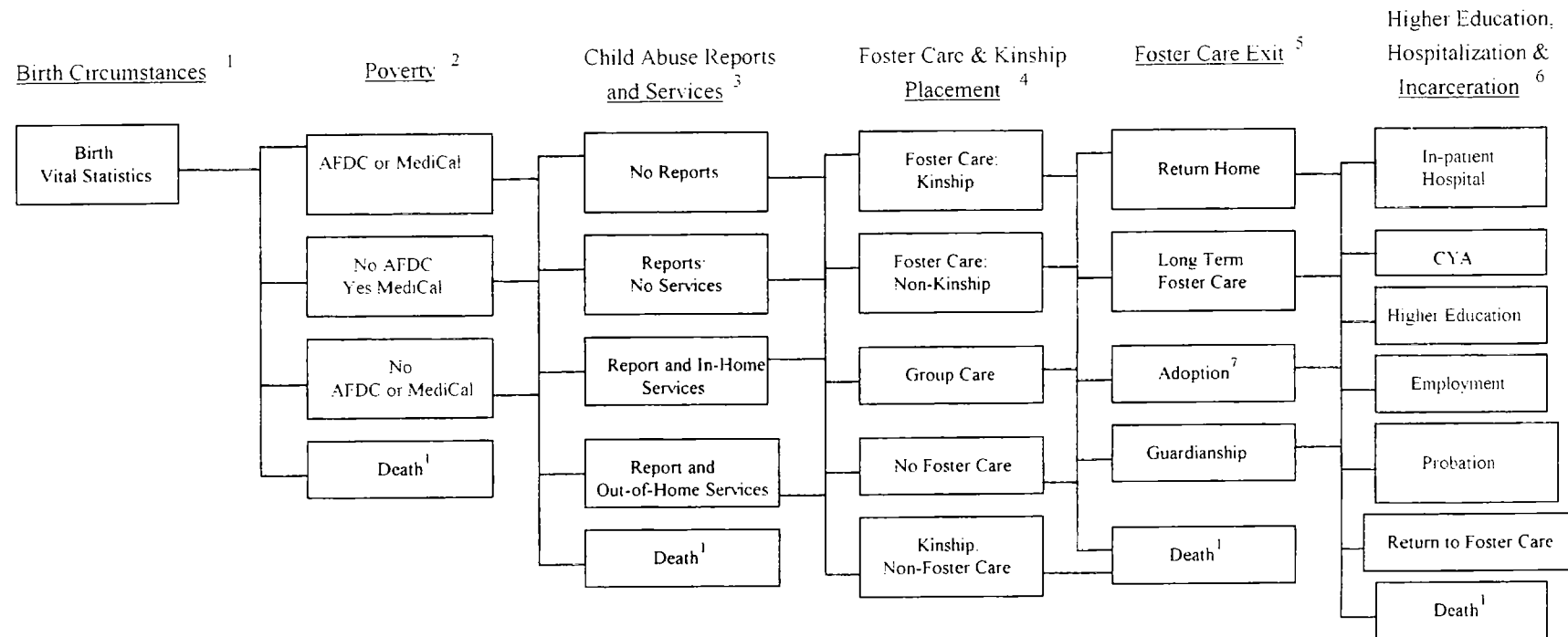
Long Term Vision

In time, we would also like to add use and achievement indicators from regular education (in selected school districts), and higher education (community colleges, CSU, and UC). Youth probation histories and adult correctional histories would make important additions. Employment histories will also add completeness to the picture of outcomes. Hospital discharge data will help clarify injury and illness outcomes. We will also add community indicators (from the census and other sources) to the archive in order to partially explain observed outcomes. We plan to make the data archive accessible to other researchers by developing public use CD-ROMs.

Lead Project Staff

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A Children's Services Archive for California:
Linking Prenatal, AFDC, Foster Care, and Correctional Services for California's Children



Data Sources (data in blue boxes are now in Archive): ¹ Vital Statistics; ² AFDC/MediCal Data; ³ SSRS (County Level); ^{4,5} UC Berkeley Foster Care Database; ⁶ CYA, MediCal, EDD, UCB, & CSU; IRS; ⁷ 42R Data