

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: Josi

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: COB 7/13 - your thoughts?

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: _____

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Schedule ? : ☐ Accept ☐ Pending ☐ Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: _____

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JUL 7 REC'D

FAX TRANSMISSION

To: *Lloyd Culler*

Date: *6/20/94*

From: *Dorothy Zinberg*

Pages (including this one): *3*

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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John F. Kennedy School of Government
79 John F. Kennedy Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

To: Mr. Lloyd Cutler

April 12, 1994

Dear Lloyd:

A modest proposal.

A long-time colleague of Norman's when I him asked whom he thought should give the second Norman Zinberg lecture, replied immediately, "Bill Clinton. He needs to deliver a major drug policy address before November, and the JFKennedy School would be the perfect place to do it."

I was so touched at the empyrean heights to which his esteem for his old mentor carried him, that I mentioned the idea half in jest to the professors -one a psychiatrist and the other an expert in the addictions and public policy - who will actually be arranging the event. They, too, thought it was a great idea.

Arguing that Clinton should indeed announce his drug policy in the near future, they went on to detail the very reasons why the Kennedy School of Government, well known to the President, would provide the ideal launching pad. The Program on Addictions cuts across many parts of the university-- the Law and Medical Schools, the School of Public Health, and the Kennedy School. The faculty involved with drugs and addiction have had a great deal of experience with the media who are particularly interested in the topics. They recently hosted almost one hundred journalists who are knowledgeable about drugs and addiction and who could be invited to cover the event, rather than the general press.

The faculty whose opinions on legalization, control, and just about everything else vary across a broad spectrum of convictions, could be extremely helpful to President Clinton's staff on crafting a policy position paper. (And they would deflect any attention from positions considered too radical that might be connected to Norman's name in some quarters in Washington.) The Kennedy School Forum which seats some 700 people would also provide just the right background for the talk. We would also want to build a two-day seminar drawing on experts from across the country around the event, although we would not expect the President to be present. It really could be an historic occasion.

To Carol Rasco
Any chance?
LNC
7-6-94

To: Lloyd Cutler p.2

Pat Moynihan gave the first Zinberg lecture which was a great success and was subsequently published in the American Scholar.

Obviously, were there a scintilla of a possibility that the President might be interested, all of us who have conspired would immediately ask the other president, Neil Rudenstine, to issue a formal invitation. I would be most appreciative if you could sound out President Clinton about the possibility of doing this. Please make it as informal as possible as were there another Harvard invitation from President Rudenstine already in the works for a different event, and this appeared to be a competitive offer, I believe he would reverse his position on capital punishment for yours truly and my co-conspirators.

Please let me know if you would like any further information.

With many thanks and warm regards from your "peppy" friend in Cambridge who balances so precariously on the cusp of the Z Generation that she will no longer admit to how many of Cole Porter and Ira Gershwin's lyrics she remembers.

Love,

Dorothy

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

13-Jul-1994 08:44pm

TO: Carol H. Rasco
TO: Rosalyn A. Miller

FROM: Jose Cerda, III
Domestic Policy Council

SUBJECT: Zinberg Lecture Series Response

Carol/Roz:

Sorry for the delay, but here are my thoughts on Mr. Cutler's proposal:

1. We must do a drug policy speech and soon. As I have said many times that -- as soon as we finally pass the crime bill and successfully steal the crime issue from the Republicans -- the loyal opposition will seek to regain the issue by exploiting the Administration's weaknesses, oversights, inconsistencies, etc., on drugs. This is day is quickly approaching.

2. The Zinberg Lecture series is not the right forum for a drug policy speech. Zinberg -- before he died about several years ago -- was one of the founders of the Drug Policy Foundation, which is the lead group on drug policy reform and legalization. As I have mentioned to you in the past, the Administration has generally avoided or seriously downplayed, this group's activities, but -- with calls for the legalization of drugs growing louder and anti-drug rhetoric becoming fainter -- their support seems to be growing. The Foundation recently received a \$6 million gift to promote drug "reforms", and several prominent figures have joined the group's board (e.g., Mayor Schmoke). I just don't see how speaking to a "reformist" drug policy crowd helps the President. Besides, can't the President give a lofty speech to the Harvard types whenever he wants to -- and on whatever topic he wants? (And I say this as an alumn myself of this most esteemed institution of higher education....)

Also, to make sure Dr. Elders' comments haven't made me a drug policy naysayer -- and that others in the Administration might not think that the Kennedy School provided a worthwhile backdrop for a drug policy speech -- I bounced this scenario off Bruce, Dr. Brown and Peter Edelman. None thought it to be a good drug speech forum for the President.

3. Here are some of the forums for a drug policy speech that you may want to suggest to Mr. Cutler or Scheduling in response:

A. CADCA Leadership Day (November). This is the annual meeting sponsored by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), which represents hundreds of community coalitions nationwide -- which in turn are made

up of cops, teachers, parents, prosecutors, business leaders, etc. You will recall that Jim Burke mentioned that CADCA members are disappointed the President has not spoken to them directly.

B. Meeting with American Cities Against Drugs (?). The head of National Families in Action, an Atlanta-based drug prevention group and the Mayor of Atlanta are in the process of organizing a drug policy conference for the many anti-legalization mayors. While pro-legalization mayors, like Kurt Schmoke, get much attention, most mayors are vehemently opposed to drug legalization.

C. The IACP's annual meeting (October). The International Association of Chief's of Police, which Dr. Brown formally headed, has invited the President to speak, and a joint appearance with Dr. Brown could provide a great background for a drug policy speech.

D. Jim Burke Event with CEOs and others. Since Burke has given us such a hard time on drugs, let's have him and his private sector cohorts created a crowd and backdrop for a major policy speech. This would allow the President to give a drug policy speech before a mixed, bipartisan, professional crowd -- and go along way towards satisfying the public voices of drug policy (Burke, Califano, Ide, etc.).

E. Fighting Back, or other specific community coalition site. Again, like many of the events above, visiting a successful community coalition allows us to speak directly to those on the front lines, provides us with a mixed backdrop of parents, cops, teachers, etc., and allows us to utilize a non-Washington setting.

I hope this is helpful,
Jose'