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001. fax	Salome Brant and Gigi Causey to Shirley Sagawa et al. re: Update [partial] (1 page)	09/02/1999	P6/b(6)

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First Lady's Office
Shirley Sagawa
OA/Box Number: 17349

FOLDER TITLE:

Youth Development/Afterschool/Violence

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RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

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Violent crime by youths declines

Data show blacks' rate off up to 50%; whites' also down

By Ellen Sorokin
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The number of black youths arrested for violent offenses nationwide has dropped as much as 50 percent in the last six years, according to statistics compiled by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Statistics show 1,050 black teens in every 100,000 black juveniles between the ages of 10 and 17 were arrested for some type of violent offense in 1998, compared to 1,800 in 1994.

"There has been a huge decline in black arrests," said Howard Snyder, a researcher with the Office of Juvenile Justice. "The black communities that are working with kids are doing something right."

A decline was seen among white teens.

Statistics show that arrest rates for white youths was 270 per 100,000 for violent crimes in 1998, compared with 320 in 1994.

"These numbers show us that

we're better off today than we have been in a long time," Mr. Snyder explained.

Mr. Snyder said the numbers have been the lowest since 1980, when police arrested 1,100 black youths and 180 white teens.

The latest statistics were made public yesterday at the first of the two-day Black-On-Black Conference sponsored by the Institute for Social Justice Inc.

Dozens of black activists and police officials from throughout the country attended yesterday's series of panel discussions, which focused on finding solutions to crime in black communities.

Currently, blacks are seven times more likely to be homicide victims than whites and 94 percent of black victims are killed by other blacks, according to institute officials.

In addition, black women are almost twice as likely as white women to be victims of aggravated assault, according to the institute.

"Many of our communities are

in crisis today," said Beverly Marshall, the institute's president.

The conference is being held at Gallaudet University in Northeast.

According to the newly released national statistics, police arrested 580 black youths per 100,000 for aggravated assault in 1998, a 27.5 percent decrease from 1994 when police arrested 800. Meanwhile, police arrested 180 white youths per 100,000 in 1998, compared to 220 in 1994.

Statistics also show 390 black youths per 100,000 were arrested for robbery in 1998, a 51 percent drop from 1994's rate of 800 per 100,000. At the same time, 60 white youths per 100,000 were arrested, down from a rate of 90 per 100,000 in 1994.

The number of juveniles arrested on weapons violations and murder charges also fell by as much as 60 percent.

The latest numbers drew praise from local activists and police officials who credit community outreach for the drop in youth arrests.

Two Columbine students fatally shot close to school

By Valerie Richardson
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

LITTLETON, Colo. — Two Columbine High School students were found shot to death yesterday at a sandwich shop a few blocks from the school, bringing yet more grief to a community best known as the site of the worst school shooting in U.S. history.

The victims, Nicholas Kunselman, 15, and Stephanie Hart, 16, were discovered behind the counter at a Subway sandwich shop at 12:45 a.m. by an unidentified female employee who stopped to see why the lights were still on. Investigators had no motive as of yesterday evening but ruled out murder-suicide, said Jefferson County sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis.

Nicholas was working the closing shift at Subway and Stephanie was keeping him company. The two were dating, said Courtney Scott, Stephanie's cousin, who left flowers and balloons at the scene.

The grim discovery came on the heels of a report in the Denver Post that Columbine gunmen Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold had planted 95 bombs, many more than originally confirmed by authorities. The shocking inventory led investigators to conclude that the April 20 massacre that left 15 dead had the potential to raze the school and kill hundreds of students and teachers.

In a meeting with the governor's Columbine Review Commission, Littleton Fire Department chiefs said Friday that the bombs malfunctioned because of a "very simple electronic failure," but refused to elaborate for fear that copycats might avoid the mistakes made by Harris and Klebold.

"There was no doubt that they were trying to destroy the school," said Troy Eid, the governor's chief counsel. "The bombs were carefully placed to do the maximum amount of human damage."

The deadly arsenal included 48



Denver Rocky Mountain News via AP

Jefferson County sheriff's deputies enter the sandwich shop where two Columbine High School students, a boy and girl, were fatally shot.

carbon dioxide bombs, or "crickets," 27 pipe bombs, 11 1½-gallon propane containers, seven incendiary devices with 40-plus gallons of flammable liquid, and two duffel-bag bombs with 20-pound gas tanks. The gunmen placed some of the pipe bombs at a nearby intersection, hoping the diversion would distract police, but the devices failed to explode.

Other explosives were found inside and outside the school, in their parents' homes and in the killers' cars, which were found in the school parking lot. Harris and Klebold planted propane bombs in the school cafeteria at about 11 a.m., about 30 minutes before they stormed the school.

The cafeteria explosives had been set to detonate at 11:17 a.m., which would have created a fireball that would have destroyed the lunchroom and second-floor library. The killers had then planned to mow down students and faculty as they fled from the inferno.

Harris and Klebold ultimately shot and killed 12 students and one

teacher before turning their guns on themselves.

The Subway deaths brought fresh tears to a school that has endured more than its share of tragedy. Columbine Principal Frank DeAngelis visited the crime scene on West Coal Mine Avenue briefly before school, but kept classes in session. Several students could be seen weeping outside the school as the news spread, while dozens of others placed flowers and mementos outside the strip shopping mall.

Some teen-agers scrawled messages in chalk on the sidewalk outside Subway, including "Stop the hate."

Authorities said they had obtained a videotape from the store's surveillance camera but declined to elaborate on its contents. They were also searching for a white male in his early 20s wearing a red jacket who was seen leaving the store last night, but said he was wanted for questioning and not necessarily because he was a suspect.

• This article is based in part on wire service reports.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE:
CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP**

January 28, 1999

"The new economy and new technologies are creating new opportunities for people who live nowhere near a city or an interstate, for people with disabilities, for people who work at home. But until every American has a chance to learn the skills that this new economy rewards, our work is not done."

President Bill Clinton
January 28, 1999

Today at the White House, President Clinton will unveil his plan for closing America's skills gap and help unemployed workers get back on their feet. The President's fiscal year 2000 budget includes a strategy to close the skills gap by investing in adult education and family literacy, worker training, and an increased commitment to help disadvantaged youth, reduce teen dropout rates, and help former dropouts complete their high school degrees.

A Presidential Plan To Close The Skills Gap And Increase Employment. Last year, President Clinton signed the Workforce Investment Act, transforming the job training system by streamlining services and empowering workers with a simple skills grant so that they can choose the training they need. However, more work needs to be done because America still faces a skills gap. To address this challenge, President Clinton is announcing that his fiscal year 2000 budget includes a \$965 million three-part initiative to address the skills gap.

Improving The Quality Of Adult Education. One of the greatest barriers adults face in gaining employment are poor reading and writing skills. The President's plan seeks to improve adult education and family literacy by:

- * **Expanding adult education grants** so education centers can hire more teachers and invest in computers, while challenging states and localities to raise the quality of their programs;
- * **\$70 million to expand access to high quality English language proficiency instruction;**
- * **\$20 million to help develop technology for adult learners,** including high quality software and advanced research and development;
- * **A new 10% tax credit for employers who establish certain workplace literacy programs;**
- * **New initiatives to implement adult education and lifelong learning strategies** on the state and local level.

A Universal Re-Employment Initiative. The President's fiscal year 2000 budget makes a five-year commitment to our nation's reformed job training system. Specifically, President Clinton proposes to put us on a path that ensures that within five years: (1) all displaced workers will receive training if they need it; (2) all workers who lost their job due to no fault of their own will get the re-employment services they need; and (3) all Americans would have access to One-Stop Career Centers, including a nationwide toll-free employment hotline, and job search information at Community-Based Organizations and mobile One-Stop Career Centers.

Getting Disadvantaged Youth Into The Workforce. The unemployment rate among disadvantaged youth, particularly minorities, remains much higher than the national average. To help address this problem and fund promising approaches to increasing the educational attainment and employment rates of at-risk youth, the President is proposing:

- * **Increased funding for YouthBuild, a program that aids disadvantaged young adults with education and employments skills;**
- * **New "Right-Track" partnerships to reduce the drop-out rate;**

- .
*
- * **Doubling the GEAR-UP program**, which helps mentor children and prepare them for college;
- * **A New Regional Youth Employment Initiative** to link the economic strategies of Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities with the need to increase the employment of disadvantaged youth;
- * **An additional \$65 million to prepare disadvantaged youth for success in college**, including, expanded outreach, counseling, and educational support, and a new initiative to help disadvantaged students stay in college.

1. Forgotten Half called for.....

Increased investment in community schools, solid academic content and accountability in our nation's high schools, ensuring that young people have affordable, accessible care (health, transportation) and high quality instruction

2. 21st Century Community Learning Center Program....

Has already benefited over 190,000 children in 800 schools in 46 states who are participating in after school programs that provide them with enrichment activities, tutoring and recreation; The President's 1/7/99 proposal will help roughly 1.1 million children participate in these programs

3. Other community based youth initiatives.....

Supports more after-school, mentoring and conflict resolution programs (4/22)

FY2000 budget requested a new \$10mill grant program to school districts to involve the community in planning and designing new schools (1/11)

Reducing class size in early grades by hiring 100,000 well prepared teachers (1/29)

Connecting children to information age, more e-rate (11/23/98)

FY2000 includes a \$965Mill three part initiative to address skills gap in job training ensuring that all Americans get the skills they need. Consists of: (1) improving the quality of adult ed [adult ed grants to hire more Ts, for adult ed to invest in computers; expand access to English lang classes; \$20mill to help develop tech for adult learners; 10%tax credit for employer who establish workplace literacy programs]; (2) a universal re-employment initiative [ensure displace workers get training, access to career center for all Americans]; (3) getting disadvantaged youth into the workforce [increased funding for youthbuild, new partnerships to reduce drop out rate, doubling of Gear Up Mentoring program, a regional youth employment initiative; \$65 mill to help disadvantaged youth prepare for successful college]. (1/28)

4. Number of Young people in college.....

Among 16-24 year olds those beginning a postsecondary ed program leading to a degree rose by one third from 1983-96- 35.5 to 47.4% (forgotten half)

HOPE scholarships offer up to a \$1,500 tax credit for students starting college.

Lifetime Learning Credits are geared to adults who want to go back to school, change careers or upgrade skills. They grant up to a \$1,000 tax credit for tuition and fees.

Pell Grants were increased (can't find more details thus far)

Gear Up Program gives young people mentors who help them get ready for college.

HEA lowered the interest rate on federal student loans.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE:
CLOSING THE LOOPHOLES IN OUR GUN LAWS**

May 21, 1999

"There are too many loopholes in the gun control laws we have. Today's vote is a step toward closing them."

Vice President Al Gore
May 20, 1999

At the White House, President Clinton and Vice President Gore expressed pleasure in Senate passage yesterday of a number of important proposals the President made to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children. The measure that was passed requires background checks at gun shows, mandates child safety locks for handguns, bans juvenile possession of assault rifles, and bars the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips.

Making Progress with Common-Sense Gun Laws. President Clinton and Vice President Gore commended the Senate for passing legislation yesterday which included a number of the President's most important, common-sense gun control proposals. The legislation which was passed:

- * closes the gun show loophole by requiring background checks at gun shows;
- * mandates child safety locks for handguns;
- * bans juvenile possession of assault rifles; and
- * bars the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips.

These are significant accomplishments in this Administration's efforts to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and juveniles.

Challenging Congress to Do Even More. The President challenges the House of Representatives to pass additional common-sense gun laws and looks forward to working with Speaker Hastert, who has stated his support for gun show legislation and new provisions to raise the age of handgun sales to 21.

Taking the Lead to Reduce Violence. The President continues to take the lead in pushing for legislation and other actions to improve the safety of our children, including:

- * fighting for Congress to adopt his proposals to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children;
- * launching a national grassroots campaign on youth violence;
- * challenging the entertainment industry to curb youth exposure to violence; and
- * proposing a stronger Safe and Drug-Free Schools initiative to help schools prevent violence.

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To: baersagawa@erols.com <baersagawa@erols.com>
Date: Tuesday, June 01, 1999 10:30 AM
Subject: HRC column 3/31/99

----- Forwarded by MaryEllen C. McGuire/WHO/EOP on
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Noa A. Meyer
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cc:
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TALKING IT OVER

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 1999, AND THEREAFTER

During World War II, France's Vichy government asked Morocco's King Mohammed V for a list of Jews to be handed over to the authorities. He refused and called on all Muslims to stand together with their Jewish brothers and sisters -- saying we aren't Jews or Arabs, only Moroccans. As I've traveled in Morocco this week, I've witnessed many examples of how this country continues to expand the circle of human dignity. And I've imagined how life would be different in other parts of the world -- especially in Kosovo -- if all of the world's leaders worked for tolerance and peace rather than divisiveness and war.

As the United States and its 18 NATO allies try to stop the ethnic slaughter in Kosovo before it spreads and claims more innocent lives, it is important to remember how the fighting in that region began.

The former Yugoslavia is home to many ethnic groups, standing as it does at

the crossroads of Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The ingredients for conflict have always been present, but for the most part, people of different religions and ethnic groups have found ways to live together for generations.

The current violence began 10 years ago, when the leader of Serbia, Slobodan Milosevic, fanned the flames of ethnic division for his own personal political advantage and exploited the consequences to wage war on

his neighbors and his own citizens.

What we are seeing now in Kosovo, as was the case earlier in Bosnia and Herzegovina, is nothing less than ethnic cleansing. Ethnic Albanian refugees, most of whom are Muslims, are streaming by the tens of thousands out of their homes, seeking refuge from the Serbian military and police forces who, they report, are burning homes and entire villages, destroying Albanian shops, separating men and boys from their families, executing them in cold blood, and rounding up and murdering community leaders. Those who are lucky enough to remain alive are told to leave Kosovo and never return again.

Last year, I met a doctor who worked with the refugees of the violence in Kosovo. She described what it was like to treat the displaced families as they came down from the mountains, scared and sick with disease and malnutrition. Even those who were not physically injured, she told me, bore the psychological scars of what they had seen and experienced.

All this began long before NATO launched its air strikes against the forces

involved in the repression of this largely defenseless people. It is now clear that, while the Kosovars were engaged in peace negotiations in France with representatives of the Serbian government, President Milosevic was planning a campaign for the systematic destruction of Kosovo -- a plan that he is now executing. Had NATO stood by and done nothing, there is no doubt that he would not only have begun his current offensive, but he would have continued with impunity until he killed or displaced most of the Albanian population.

That is why my husband and our NATO allies are determined to persevere until Milosevic has embraced peace or we have significantly limited his ability to wage war.

Achieving a permanent peaceful solution to the tragedy in Kosovo will not come without a price. But we must do whatever it takes to ensure that ethnic

tensions are resolved by the force of argument, not the force of arms.

It is no easy task to expand the circle of dignity to all people. As we have learned in the United States, and as I have seen in Morocco this week, governments can enforce rights and create a fertile climate for tolerance, but only individuals can decide whether to love or hate. Only individuals can decide whether there will be genuine harmony between those of different faiths, nationalities and ethnic groups.

In the last few days, I have asked some of the Moroccans I've met this question: "How do your children learn tolerance?" In each case, I've received the same answer: Children learn tolerance in their homes. They learn it in their schools. They learn it in their places of worship. And they learn it in their communities every time they see adults who refuse to stereotype or degrade other human beings.

It is time to learn this lesson and to teach our children to be tolerant and respectful of all people, to follow leaders who work for peace, and to make sure that the circle of human dignity is finally wide enough to include everyone.

To find out more about Hillary Rodham Clinton and read her past columns,

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To: baersagawa@erols.com <baersagawa@erols.com>
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TALKING IT OVER

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1999, AND THEREAFTER

"I'm writing because the faces on the news of the frightened children fleeing the war in Kosovo are haunting," begins a letter to the White House from Port Jervis, N.Y. "Our country **MUST** help these people, and soon." Here are some of the other letters the President and I have received about the refugees from Kosovo:

A woman in Pleasanton, Calif., wrote: "Can you tell me what it takes for a community (like my church) to sponsor a family from Kosovo? I can only imagine what it must be like for a family with nothing left, in the cold, hungry and forced to go to a country where they are unfamiliar with the culture and have no human ties. We can make it better for at least one family."

This from Sandy, Utah: "We have two extra bedrooms in our home and are willing to help house a refugee family. We support what you are doing and want to help in any way we can."

And finally, one from San Diego: "On behalf of my family, I would like to extend an invitation to host a family from Kosovo. We have been watching the news almost around the clock and feel compelled to help in some capacity. Macedonia has been sending refugees to homes inside their country, and we would like to provide the same. We believe that humanitarian efforts must

start with the individual. We are hoping that other households will help in the same manner."

These letters represent just a fraction of the outpouring of support for the refugees that has come to the White House, and they remind me of one reason I'm proud to be an American: Whenever and wherever people are in need, Americans stand ready to help.

This week, I traveled to Fort Dix in New Jersey, to represent the President

and the people of the United States in welcoming the first group of Kosovar refugees from Macedonia arriving in our country. Like hundreds of thousands of others, they've witnessed appalling atrocities.

In Djakovica, in Kosovo, 19 people -- members of three families -- who were

hiding in the basement of a house were discovered by Serbian authorities.

All were shot, and the house was burned. Bodies littered the streets of Meja, where the killing of scores of men was reported several days ago. One woman said, "I have seen so much horror, I just close my eyes."

Everywhere, refugees search for lost loved ones. One desperate, young couple frantically sought news of their 17-day-old infant, left behind in the intensive care unit of a local hospital when Serb forces drove them from

their home. The plight of a 10-year-old girl, who is caring for her infant brother while authorities try to locate their parents, is not unusual.

In one 24-hour period earlier this week, more than 11,600 Kosovars arrived in Macedonia, bringing to nearly 700,000 the number of refugees and displaced persons who have fled the terror that Slobodan Milosevic and his regime have inflicted on the ethnic Albanians living in Kosovo. The burden on the refugee camps in the area is overwhelming, and many countries have responded by agreeing to house those who are most vulnerable or have family members to welcome them.

Some of those coming to the United States have relatives anxiously awaiting

their arrival. Families, churches and agencies around the country will sponsor housing for others. Literally tens of thousands of Americans have offered help of some kind. Here's what you can do:

Because of the cost of transporting, storing and distributing unsolicited goods, clothing and services, relief agencies prefer monetary donations.

For

a list of those accepting contributions, you can call this toll-free number:

1-800-USAID-RELIEF

(1-800-872-4373). Since this hot line was set up on April 6, operators have fielded 43,631 calls. You can also get the list at this web site:

www.interaction.org

If you have relatives in the camps in Albania and Macedonia and you want to

bring them to this country -- or for information about local refugee

resettlement agencies in your area -- you can call this toll-free number:

1-800-727-4420 or e-mail kosovo@interaction.org.

Every offer of help is an offer of hope. The people of America are sending

the people of Kosovo a very strong message: You are not abandoned. You are not forgotten. Slobodan Milosevic has not succeeded in erasing your identity

from the pages of history, and he will not succeed in erasing your presence from the land of your parents and grandparents.

We can provide temporary help, but we know that what the refugees want and need most is to be able to return to their homeland. That goal is the reason

the United States and its NATO allies remain committed to the mission they have undertaken.

To find out more about Hillary Rodham Clinton and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com

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TALKING IT OVER

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 1999, AND THEREAFTER

Their faces may no longer appear on the front pages of our newspapers and magazines, but there are still nearly 750,000 Kosovar Albanians unable to return to their homes because of the ruthless determination of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. Nearly 250,000 are in Macedonia alone. Last week, I traveled to Macedonia to visit the Stenkovac I refugee camp, located outside Skopje in a region of lush, green hills dotted with small farms. Thousands of tents -- in rows as far as the eye can see -- cover a dusty expanse about the size of 80 football fields. As many as 31,000 refugees -- most of them children -- have crowded into the camp in the last six weeks.

It was a hot, dry day when I arrived at Stenkovac to meet some of the men, women and children who have made this tent city their temporary home. Most were separated from a family member in the crush to get out of Kosovo alive,

and everyone is surviving on the hope that one day soon they will return to their villages and be reunited with their loved ones.

A 63-year-old woman told me she doesn't know where her daughter and grandchildren are. They were with the daughter's in-laws when Serb police stormed the house, held guns to their throats and ordered them to leave.

One of the men I met cried when he remembered the funeral of a friend in his village: Serb police surrounded the mourners as they stood at the

grave,

threatening to kill them all. Then, they stripped the Albanians of their money and valuables and drove them away.

I also spoke with a man who, in fluent English, told me that his wife and children were visiting her father when the Serbs arrived, forcing him to flee without them. Six weeks later, he is still trying to find them.

I will never forget the last story I heard that day. A woman described the crush of refugees being herded onto trains to leave Kosovo. She held tightly

to the hand of her oldest daughter who, in turn, held onto the younger children. Horrified, she felt her daughter's hand slip away. Forced by the authorities to board a train, she realized that her girls and her husband, who was trying to find them, were lost. Today, she, too, lives without any word of where they are or even whether they are still alive.

For 10 years, Milosevic has oppressed the Albanian population in Kosovo. First, they were forbidden to go to the theater or sporting events, and their schools were closed. Then, block by block, Milosevic began ordering families out of their homes, until he was expelling Kosovar Albanians in the

massive numbers we have witnessed in the last two months.

Once, these people lived in their own homes. Parents worked, and children went to schools. Today, they huddle in crowded tents. They wait in line for food -- bread, canned fish, cheese, juice and milk. They wait in line to use

portable toilets and phones, and to get word of missing loved ones.

And these are the lucky ones.

Although the conditions they live in are unimaginable to most of us, they have food and rudimentary shelter. A remarkable assemblage of some 20 relief

organizations, led by Catholic Relief Services and under the authority of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, runs the Stenkovac I camp, providing care for the children, medical treatment and social services.

There are two UNICEF schools and a youth center run by an Israeli organization, where children of all ages can enjoy arts, crafts, games and music. The German Red Cross has opened a hospital. Medical teams have arrived from France and as far away as Taiwan. The International Rescue Committee, an American group, is trying to reunite families. And many of the

refugees themselves are volunteering their services around the camp.

Every single person I met at Stenkovac has one thing in common: Each one wants to go home. And, despite the horrors they have endured, they all told me how grateful they are to the United States and the NATO allies for standing up to Slobodan Milosevic. As the refugees told me their stories, their eyes filled with tears, just as their hearts are filled with hope.

Veton Sylejmani, who came to this country with his wife and 7-month-old son, Albert, summed it up best at the White House this week when he said, "I

don't know what else to say except God bless America."

We cannot let these people down. We must tell and retell their stories, because there is no more powerful argument for why the United States and

our

NATO allies are in Kosovo. There is no more powerful justification for why we will not give up until the evils perpetrated by Milosevic have ended and these refugees are once again living in their own homes in peace and security.

If you are interested in making a financial contribution to the refugee effort, you can call 1-800-USAID-RELIEF (1-800-872-4373) for a list of agencies. For information on helping to bring refugees to this country, the number is 1-800-727-4420.

To find out more about Hillary Rodham Clinton and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com

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Remarks on Kosovo Relief Effort by First Lady Hillary Rodham
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<center>
<h3>Remarks on Kosovo Relief Effort

by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

</h3>

Dover Air Force Base

Dover, Delaware

April 9, 1999

</center>
<p>

Thank you very much, General McDuffie. I am honored to be here and to have a chance to see in action just a brief snapshot of what you're doing on behalf of this mission. I'm pleased to be joined here with those who support our military men and women and their families, and in particular, this base. I want to thank Governor and Mrs. Carper for joining us. I want to thank Congressman Castle. And I particularly want to thank Senator Biden. Because what he said today needs to be said over and over again to remind us why we're doing what we're doing and why each of you is an integral part of fulfilling America's mission of leadership at this point in the world's history.

<p>

I'm very grateful for all of the military personnel and the leadership who have pulled together the humanitarian side of this mission. We know very well that there are a lot of men and women who are supporting the bombing and are actually making those flights, and we want to think and pause for a minute to make sure we remember them and their families as well.

<p>

General McDuffie and General Handy have worked very hard on the military side to make sure the logistics are handled as well as they can be. And Brian Atwood, the Administrator of USAID, brings his considerable experience to bear on making sure the work you do here actually gets delivered and makes a difference in the lives of the men, women, and children we are trying to help.

<p>

But none of this would be possible -- none of the planning, none of the effort -- if it weren't for the men and women on this base. So let me thank Colonel Grieder and the entire Eagle Wing and Liberty Wing for all you're doing to bring the food that I saw being flown in to the people of Kosovo. Your contribution represents almost half of the 1.1 million HDRs that we are providing now. ~~There's no way these people we are trying to~~

help could get a meal because there are no cooking facilities where they're being temporarily placed, were it not for these HDRs. So every time you package one up and load it on a pallet and put it on an aircraft, I hope you'll have in mind the pictures and the faces that I do of the people who are going to be on the other end and receive this gift of the American people that you're making possible.

<p>

You know, I went to Bosnia shortly after the peace accords were signed, when it was safe enough to go to our base in Tuzla, but not very safe to go anywhere else. I couldn't get in to Sarajevo. But I was able to fly out of Tuzla into two base camps -- Camp Alicia and Camp Bedrock -- to visit with the men and women who were there on the front lines of America's peace-keeping efforts. And I also had an opportunity to visit with some of the people, principally women, who had survived that first of Milosevic's attempts to bring to bear the full weight of his dictatorial powers -- his use of propaganda, disinformation, the stirring up of ethnic and religious hatred -- for his own personal, political, partisan advantage. And I remember sitting in a room in Tuzla talking with a group of Bosnians. There were Serbs and Croats and Muslims. I couldn't tell who was who based on my observation of them. I listened to them explain to me how it came to be that all of a sudden, neighbor was turned against neighbor, and paramilitary units were given free reign to round up men and boys and put them in camps and summarily execute them. Or to rape women. Or to turn children into orphans. And one of the people with whom I was speaking said, You know, when it started in my village, I went to one of my neighbors and I said, Why is this happening? We've known each other, we've known our families so long. We've been at each other's weddings; we've attended the funerals of our loved ones. Why is this happening? And the response that I was given, she told me, is from the voice of an old friend: Well, we were told that if we didn't do this to you, you would do it to us. And the woman said, Well, who told you that? And the answer was, Well, we read it in a newspaper or we heard it on the radio. It was the message of hatred, it was the message of ethnic cleansing, that Milosevic and his allies were putting out in order to turn Bosnia into a killing field.

<p>

Now what we saw happen in Bosnia was part of a larger plan on the part of Milosevic. And this is a continuation of the plan. It didn't just start a few weeks ago. And these refugees, although they are now coming out in the tens of thousands, they were coming out in smaller numbers on a regular basis over the last year. Last Spring, I met in the White House with a woman who is a pediatrician from Pristina, the capital of Kosova. And she sat and detailed to me what it meant for her to be taking care of the women and children who are being driven into the mountains, who are fleeing before the Serb paramilitary units. She didn't have the medicine to take care of them. They were dehydrated. They were contracting diseases. She came to me to tell me what was going on firsthand, and this was a year ago. And so diplomacy was tried; interventions were tried; common sense, appeals to humanity were tried. In every way we knew how to try to talk to a person who wasn't interested in hearing about the suffering of women and children, but only interested in his own perverted view of what was a political strategy to keep himself and his allies in power.

<p>

So the peace efforts were not sufficient. And you know, you learn early enough in life that sometimes after you try everything you know, whether you like it or not, you have to use force to try to bring across a message, and to try to make it clear that you will not tolerate unacceptable behavior and actions that strike at the very core of what it means to be a human being.

<p>

So I wanted to come to thank those of you who are on the front lines of fulfilling the need that we as Americans and as members of the NATO alliance feel to send that message as forcefully as we possibly can, but to fulfill also, because of our values, the role of providing humanitarian relief to those who have been driven out of their homes. I know that this has been added to your other regular duties. Many of you have put in enormous extra hours of work in order to make sure that this mission can be accomplished. Many of you even gave up your Easter weekend to come in and do the work that needed to be done. A couple of the people I spoke with earlier told me that it wasn't even hard to get you to do that. It just took a phone call and you were on your way.

<p>

When you think about it, there would hardly be a more relevant way of fulfilling the meaning of Easter than trying to turn darkness and despair into hope and renewal. And that is what you are making possible.

<p>

I sometimes try -- when I visit places where terrible atrocities have occurred, where people have seemed to have lost all sense of empathy or compassion with their fellow human beings -- I try to imagine, as hard as it is for Americans to do that, I try to imagine what it would be like if something this terrible were to happen here. Instead of the people I don't know whose faces I see on the television screen, I try to superimpose the faces of people I do know and love, and imagine them being forced out of their homes and villages. Imagine them being pushed at gunpoint to walk into the hills without their belongings or their identity papers. Imagine children that I love and spend time with having to endure sub-freezing temperatures, rain, and even snow. And then I think about all of my friends huddled together in a no man's land, unable to go back home and unable to go forward into a place of refuge and safety.

<p>

If you think about it that way, then it's easier to understand that, as blessed as we are here in our country, there are countless people who don't share those blessings and look to us for the very simplest gift, right now, of survival. And when I met the men and women that I shook hands with and thanked, who were loading the HDRs and securing the pallets and getting them on the tonners and getting them into the bellies and I was able to say thank you, I could imagine this human chain from hand to hand here at Dover to our personnel who will be unloading and then distributing this food. And it is such a strong statement against what we are standing up to fight.

<p>

You are also representing countless other Americans -- the relief workers, other members of the military, ordinary citizens -- who want to lend a helping hand as well. The United States has already committed \$150 million to this humanitarian operation, and we will stand by the

Kosovar refugees until they can once again rebuild their own lives in security. Just this morning the President reiterated that the United States will not accept as permanent the results of this ethnic cleansing, not when a quarter of Kosovos people are living in refugee camps beyond Kosovos borders. And not when hundreds of thousands more are trapped inside, afraid to go home but unable to leave. This gift from the people of the United States of America, which is emblazoned on the side of every box and on every HDR, is the way we can fulfill our own values and reach out across this vast ocean to try to alleviate the plight of these refugees.
<p>

I know that many Americans are responding. Ive been checking on the results of the contacts that have been made at the White House. Weve received countless calls, letters and e-mails from people who want to know how they can help. A woman from Indiana wrote the White House saying, Ive watched the refugees on television all evening and Im deeply concerned. Is there anything the mothers of this country can do to assist the mothers who have been displaced? A veteran from Ohio wrote, I spent 25 years helping to defeat the Soviet Union. What can I do now to help the suffering of the refugees? And a group of junior high students from Minnesota wrote, We all feel it is horrible what is going on in Kosovo and we want to help the people who have no food and made it past the border. But I especially like what a woman from Florida wrote when she said, Tonight I will close my eyes haunted by the image of the refugees fleeing, the looks in the eyes of the children and the elderly. We are so blessed in our beloved country and I really believe the majority of American folks would like to help these folks in some way but really dont know how.
<p>

Well, I want Americans to know that you are helping. The relief efforts that our military and relief agencies are doing is an extension of all of us as Americans. But there are ways that individuals, who arent members of our Armed Forces or arent a member of a relief agency, can help as well. Theres a toll free number that you can call: 1-800-USAID-RELIEF. Already more than 22,000 people have called. And right after this I will be filming a PSA to give more Americans this number so that they can call as well. That is the way to not only help the Kosovar refugees, but to thank the men and women of this Dover team for what you are doing.
<p>

You know, I mentioned being in Bosnia and talking to the victims of Milosevics initial effort to dominate other people and to ethnically cleanse land that he believes should be off limits to them. That made a very big impression on me, but probably an even bigger impression came when I looked into the faces of the men and women in our military who are on the front lines keeping the peace there in Bosnia. I had the same feeling today when I met the members of the Dover team. You know, you go down a line of Americans and you shake hands and somebody says, Im from Pennsylvania; and somebody else says, Im from Oklahoma; and somebody else says, Im from Hawaii. And you look into faces that are every shape and color from the whitest white to the darkest black and everything in between, and you hear different accents of people who grew up in the city and grew up in the country, grew up in the north, grew up in the south. And theyre all Americans, and theyre all part of this Dover team, and theyre all part of the United States military.
<p>

When I was shaking hands today, just like when I was shaking hands in Bosnia, I couldn't tell you who among those I shook hands with was a Christian, a Muslim, or a Jew. I couldn't tell you what their political beliefs were, what their personal experiences were, because that's what we've worked so hard to overcome in our country. We've made a lot of progress. We have some problems, but year after year, decade after decade, we've tried to fulfill our ideals and values. And here at the end of this century we are the only remaining superpower. And we are not just because of our military mind, and not just because of the stock market going over 10,000. As important as those are, we are because of what we are inside and what we believe. And so every day when you come to work here, you're not only doing what's important to be done on this mission and all the others you are assigned, you are in small ways and large representing what is best in this country. And you are also representing what we are fighting to make possible for other people: that every man, woman, and child can live up to their own God-given dreams and potential. Thank you for making it possible for these desperate people to have a belief that there is a tomorrow and that they will be able to see once again their own dreams.

<p>

Thank you very much.

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Date: Tuesday, June 01, 1999 10:31 AM
Subject: HRC Column 4/7/99

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**TALKING IT OVER
BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON**

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1999, AND THEREAFTER

Like many people around the world, I have been haunted in recent days by the images of ethnic Albanians driven from their homes by Slobodan Milosevic. Taking place half a world away, their stories can sometimes feel remote. Tragically, though, they are all too real.

Last week, I wrote about a doctor who has treated refugees in Pristina, the capital of Kosovo, for the last year. Imagine the combination of relief and horror among members of my staff when they saw that doctor, Vjosa Dobruna, being interviewed on television. This dignified and passionate woman, who shared tea with me at the White House last spring, is now herself a refugee.

After a friend of hers, a famous human rights activist, was taken from his house, Dr. Dobruna went into hiding for seven days. "I slept in different houses," she explained. When she tried to go back to her apartment, she encountered police, who beat her driver and forced her to leave Pristina. Dr. Dobruna laments the deplorable conditions the refugees face. "It's a catastrophe," she says as she tells the story of a 17-day-old baby who died in her arms.

We've heard similar stories from other victims of Milosevic's ethnic cleansing. In the 14 months since he undertook his campaign, more than 800,000 -- one out of three ethnic Albanians in Kosovo -- have been

displaced from their homes. The conditions facing these people are horrific.

Many have walked miles from their towns and villages, forced at gunpoint to leave without belongings or identity papers. They have endured subfreezing temperatures, rain and snow. Thousands are trapped in a "no man's land" around the Macedonian border, without food, water or sanitary facilities. One doctor, who had worked for an international aid agency, reported that he and his children had been without food for four days and he didn't know how long they could hold out.

Another refugee said, "My child has been sleeping in the rain for four nights. Last night, I had to force him to wake up because his body was too cold, and he had to move to get warm. The blankets got wet, and there was nowhere to dry them, and our clothes were soaked as well."

Those who have escaped may be the lucky ones. Reports out of Pristina describe Serb soldiers and police herding Albanians into the center of the city and lobbing shells at them. And men have been separated from their families and are being held in factories, stadiums and other locations within the country.

One refugee said, "They had snipers who shot at us. They killed one of our neighbors, an old man, 70 years old, and a girl, 16, and a little boy who was only 5."

A housewife recalled with horror: "They were killing the children. They were killing the men. They were burning our houses and stealing everything in them -- TVs, furniture, everything. They took money and jewelry from the women. They came with guns into houses where we were hiding and ordered us to get out, and they were holding knives to our children's throats."

As is always the case in these situations, the American people have responded to the plight of the Kosovar refugees. As they've seen the all-too-vivid pictures and heard the devastating stories, they have reacted with customary generosity. Here at the White House, we've had countless calls offering contributions of money, supplies and services. Many have even said they would take refugees into their homes and adopt children orphaned by the fighting.

Before this latest Serbian offensive began, the United States had committed \$100 million in humanitarian assistance and sent in enough food to supply half a million people for three months. Now, the President has committed another \$50 million to the operation and announced the creation of a special coordinating committee for the relief effort as well as plans to accept up to 20,000 refugees on a temporary basis.

When individuals in this country or around the world ask what they can do to help, there is one single answer: The most important thing is to reach deep into their pockets and contribute whatever they can to the relief organizations that are working to provide food, shelter, clothing and medical care to the refugees.

I hope that people all over the world will look for ways to help victims of

this vicious aggression. If you would like to make a contribution, there is a toll-free number you can call for information: 1-800-USAID RELIEF, or 1-800-872-4373. Or if you have access to the Internet, you can go to USAID's

web site at www.info.usaid.gov.

It's time for us all to find ways to stand up against this terrible reminder of the violence and hatred that have marked too much of this century.

To find out more about Hillary Rodham Clinton and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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Subject: HRC column 4/15/99

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TALKING IT OVER

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 1999, AND THEREAFTER

"Fifty-four years ago, to the day, a young Jewish boy from a small town in the Carpathian Mountains woke up in a place of eternal infamy called Buchenwald. He was finally free, but there was no joy in his heart. He thought there never would be again."

So began the remarks of Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel at the Seventh Millennium Evening at the White House Monday night, "The Perils of Indifference: Lessons Learned From a Violent Century."

He went on to describe his reaction to the U.S. troops who freed him from the horrors of the concentration camp: "Liberated a day earlier by American soldiers, he remembers their rage at what they saw. And even if he lives to be a very old man, he will always be grateful to them for that rage and also

for their compassion. Though he did not understand their language, their eyes told him what he needed to know: that they too would remember and bear witness."

I asked Elie Wiesel to participate in a Millennium lecture more than a year

ago. I never could have imagined then that, this week, as people all over the world mark Yom Hashoah -- the day set aside to remember the Holocaust

--

we would be seeing children in Kosovo crowded onto trains, separated from their homes and families, and robbed of their childhoods.

How could this be happening again?

The Millennium lecture series is intended to offer us an opportunity to look back on our past and use it as a guide when imagining the future. Our previous evenings have been celebrations of American history, culture and scientific discoveries.

But in order to honor the past, we must learn from it. We must look not just at our noblest achievements but also at our greatest failings. When we choose the path of indifference, we ignore the lessons of the past.

Elie Wiesel understands the horrors that spring from indifference, and he has dedicated his life to bearing witness to them, lest they be repeated. Indifference can be tempting, he warns, even seductive. He senses our reticence and our hesitation: "It can be much easier to look away from victims, to avoid such rude interruptions to our work, our dreams, our hopes. It is, after all, awkward, troublesome, to be involved in another's pain and despair."

But, he explains, "Indifference is always the friend of the enemy. For it benefits the aggressor, never his victim, whose pain is magnified when he feels forgotten. The political prisoners in their cells, the hungry children, the homeless refugees -- not to respond to their plight, not to relieve their solitude by offering them a spark of hope is to exile them from human memory. And in denying their humanity, we betray our own. Indifference, then, is not only sin but also punishment."

In 1999, it isn't enough to refuse to commit crimes against humanity. It isn't enough to look deep into our hearts and say we find them free of hatred. We have to do more. Every time we let a religious or racial slur go unchallenged, or an indignity go unanswered, we are making a choice to be indifferent. We are making a choice to ignore history -- a choice that punishes not just us but our children as well.

This is why we are in Kosovo.

If we choose indifference when we see people forced from their homes at gunpoint and loaded onto train cars, we punish not just them but ourselves.

If we choose indifference when we see their identity papers confiscated, their very presence blotted from the historical record, we become the friend

of the enemy.

The President knows that any military action we take cannot put an end to ancient grudges or heal freshly opened wounds overnight. But our action can make it more likely that people will resolve their differences by force of argument rather than by force of arms and, in so doing, will learn to live together.

When Elie Wiesel accepted the Nobel Peace Prize, he remembered many years before asking his father how the world could have remained silent. And he imagined that same young boy asking him today, "What have you done with my future? What have you done with your life?" I would tell him, Elie says, that I have tried to keep memory alive and that I have tried to fight those who would forget.

This is what Elie Wiesel has done. He has taught us never to forget. He has

made us listen to the victims of hatred and evil. He has helped us understand the perils of indifference.

To find out more about Hillary Rodham Clinton and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 27, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AND THE FIRST LADY
ON GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

Presidential Hall

1:15 P.M. EDT

MRS. CLINTON: Thank you. Please be seated and good afternoon. It's an honor to join the President in welcoming all of you to the White House this afternoon. We are especially honored to be joined by a very large number of senators and representatives from both parties who are here on the stage for this event.

Also, Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Secretary Riley, Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder, Under Secretary of the Treasury Jim Johnson. And you will hear in just a few minutes from Senator Feinstein, Senator Chafee, Representative Conyers, Representative McCarthy. Also in the audience is Mayor Paul Helmke from Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Bob Walker, President of Handgun Control, Inc.

We have come together in the wake of a terrible tragedy that has put our entire nation in mourning, and that has reminded all of us once again that everything in life pales in comparison to our ability to keep our children safe and out of harm's way. Today, our thoughts and prayers remain with the families and friends and the citizens of Littleton, as they bid emotional farewells to their beloved children and a dedicated teacher.

Yet, even in the midst of this terrible tragedy, we also see the people of Littleton pulling together to pray and comfort and sustain each other. And many of the rest of us are gathering strength and hope from their example.

There are many people here today, out in the audience and on this stage, who have worked tirelessly to create the safe schools and communities that we all want for our children. I particularly want to thank Attorney General Reno and Secretary of Education Dick Riley and Secretary Bob Rubin, because they have worked together, tirelessly, to try to create better conditions to provide for the safety of our children. I also want to thank all the members of Congress who are here who have proved that ending the violence and limiting access to firearms can be, and should be, a bipartisan goal.

There are many others in this room who are on the frontlines in creating safer communities -- religious groups, advocates for gun control, victims groups, child advocates, law enforcement, community and parent organizations -- and we thank you all for coming. You represent, literally, thousands, if not millions, of your fellow Americans.

All of us here are searching for answers to what happened in Littleton. I don't know that

anyone will ever be able to explain fully the events of a week ago. Nor, I doubt, can we create a perfect set of solutions that, if followed, would have prevented what happened at Columbine High School, or would stop forever acts of violence that occur in our communities around our country. But that does not mean that we are either hopeless or helpless in the face of this tragedy. Instead, we have to work together to come up with the best possible solutions that we can craft, that we believe will make a difference for our children.

We come here to say simply that there are some tough things we must be willing to say, and some tough steps we must be willing to take if we are to stop the violence.

Now, I hope that everyone does know that the vast majority of America's schools are safe. But we also know that these schools in our country are not islands cut off from the rest of society. No school security system or metal detector can keep out the culture of violence that dominates the lives of so many of our children.

When our culture romanticizes and glorifies violence on TV, in the movies, on the Internet, in songs, and when there are video games that you win based on how many people you kill, then I think the evidence is absolutely clear -- our children become desensitized to violence and lose their empathy for fellow human beings. Studies show what many of us have believed, that such exposure causes more aggression and anti-social behavior.

So, today, we must fully acknowledge, once and for all, that America's culture of violence is having a profound effect on our children, and we must resolve to do what we can to change that culture.

It will take strong leadership. I remember well when the President convened a 1996 White House Conference on Children's Television, where television industry leaders joined him in agreeing to air more educational children shows, and also to work with the administration to establish a rating system to help parents navigate what's appropriate and what's not for their kids. And soon we will have the V-chip available for every home in our country.

But it will take more than strong leadership from the media and entertainment world to stop the culture of violence that surrounds our children. Kids need more caring, responsible adults in their lives. Yet, when single parenthood and two working parents are on the rise, too many of America's children are growing up alone. Parents are the central figures in their children's lives, but parents need help. They need help from the larger community, and that means all of us -- teachers, police, counselors, community and religious leaders, elected officials -- all of us have to help parents find the help they need. And we have to work together to keep our children and our communities safe.

We also know that we have to do everything possible to ensure that young people do not have easy access to weapons. We now know that includes not only firearms, but bomb-making materiel.

Now, any one of us that hasn't become completely amnesiac about our own growing-up years know that children will have disagreements and arguments; they sometimes will even have fights among themselves. Part of growing up is learning how to control one's impulses, which is often difficult for young people. But there is a very big difference between a schoolyard fight that many of us can remember and what happens today, with the access to the arsenal of guns, rifles and bombs that the two young men in Littleton were able to bring into their school. It is criminal how easy it is for children in America to obtain guns.

Just last year, 6,000 students were expelled for bringing guns to school. And Littleton is the latest tragic example of how the availability of those guns can turn a sense of alienation, of rage, of not belonging, of not fitting in, into a deadly encounter. Every day in America we lose 13 precious children to gun-related violence. Every two days, therefore, we lose the

equivalent of a classroom of students.

Guns and children are two words that should never be put together in the same sentence. And this President and this administration have been working hard and successfully to try to keep them apart. I think we all in America should take pride in the passage of the Brady Bill, which has denied handguns to 250,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers. And since the crime bill was enacted, 19 of the deadliest assault weapons are harder to find on our streets. We will never know how many tragedies we've avoided because of these efforts. But we do know how much more remains to be done.

Today, we will hear about further steps that we hope all of us are willing to take to make our schools and communities places in which all citizens can live in safety, free from violence and fear. In a few minutes, the people of Littleton, Denver and, indeed, all of Colorado will be stopping whatever they do for a moment of silence on behalf of those who lost their lives. I think it would be appropriate, here in the White House, that we join them; and that we not only use that moment of silence to remember the victims of this tragedy and the perpetrators, but that we think about all of the other children in America who tell us often that they're scared -- they're scared to go outside, they're scared because they know people who bring guns to school, they're scared because of what they see happening around them. Our first obligation is to try to make our children free from that kind of fear.

So if we could just take a moment in solidarity with the people not only in Colorado who have suffered this loss, but people throughout our country, on behalf of our children.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Carolyn, John Conyers, Senator Chafee, Senator Feinstein, all the many members of Congress who are here. I thank the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of Education. I'm glad to see our old friend, Mayor Helmke, and Bob Walker, and others here. We have, I think, over 40 members of Congress here and two senators who went back to the floor to fight for this issue to be put on the floor today.

I would like to do two things. First, I want to tell you specifically what we are proposing, and I'll do that. But secondly, I would like to tie what we are proposing to all these culture arguments, and talk about, if you will, at least two cultures that exist in America, and say that I think this, in the end, is going to come down to what our conception of America as a community is and what our responsibilities to one another are.

I want to begin by saying a lot of people have made remarkable contributions I think to this effort to get us to look at the violence of our culture and how it makes the most vulnerable of our children, without regard to their income or their social status, closer to the line of taking violent action, and how it complicates family life for everyone.

I want to thank Hillary for what she's done. I also want to thank Al and Tipper Gore, who have done enormously important work on this for years, to try to help us deal with the TV issues, the ratings, the V-chips, and now the new efforts we've been making with the Internet community to give parents some more control over that -- and the efforts we have to make to train the parents to figure out how to do it, since their kids all know more about it than they do.

But this is very important stuff. In June, Tipper Gore's going to host our White House Conference on Mental Health. And the Attorney General and Hillary and I were just talking about some of the things we can do to help to make sure all of our schools have the adequate mentoring and mediation, and even mental health services our kids need. All this

is very important. And we have to deal with that.

But if you believe that we have special cultural challenges, it seems to me that that's an argument -- that we ought to bend over backwards to try to remove the opportunities for bad things happening, if we have more kids that are vulnerable to doing those things -- not an argument that we ought to say, well, we should walk away from that, and just try to make sure everybody, individually, in the whole country, never does anything wrong.

And what's the real problem here? The problem is, we have another culture in our country, that I think has gotten confused about its objectives. We have a huge hunting and sport shooting culture in America, and unlike many of you, I grew up in it. I was 12 years old the first time I took a .22 and shot it at a can on a fencepost in the country. I know about this.

We always talk about the NRA -- the NRA has been powerful not only because they have a lot of money, but because they can influence people who vote. And in that culture, people believe everybody should be personally responsible for their actions; if you just punish people who do wrong more harshly, fewer people will do wrong; and everybody tells me I've got a constitutional right to keep and bear arms, so don't fool with me; and every reasonable restriction is just the camel's nose in the tent, and pretty soon they'll come after my shotgun, and I'll miss the next duck hunting season.

And we smile about that, but there are some people who would be on this platform today who lost their seats in 1994 because they voted for the Brady Bill and they voted for the assault weapons ban, and they did it in areas where people could be frightened. And the voters had not had enough time, which they did have within two more years, to see that nobody was going to take their gun away.

So we have more than one cultural problem here. And I want to make a plea to everybody who is waiting for the next deer season in my home state to think about this in terms of what our reasonable obligations to the larger community of America are.

Do we know for absolutely certain that if we had every reasonable law and the ones I'm going to propose here that none of these school violence things would have happened? No. But we do know one thing for certain; we know there would have been fewer of them, and there would have been fewer kids killed in the last several years in America. We know that for certain. We know that. (Applause.)

Cultures are hard to change. And cultures should never be used to avoid individual responsibility. But we -- when we get to where we change, then we wonder -- we look back and we say how could we have ever done it otherwise?

Let me ask you something. Next time you get on an airplane, think about how you'd feel if the headline in the morning paper right before you got on the airplane was "Airport Metal Detectors and X-Ray Machines Abolished as Infringement on Americans' Constitutional Right to Travel." Think about it. That's the headline in the morning paper. And right next to it there is another headline: Terrorist Groups Expanding Operations In The United States. And you read the two headlines, and you're getting on the airplane -- exercising your constitutional right to travel, which is now no longer infringed by the fact that you might have to go through the metal detector twice and take out your money clip or take off your heavily metal belt, and that somebody is X-raying your luggage as it gets on the airplane. It's unthinkable now, isn't it? This will become unthinkable, too, that we should ever reverse these things, if we ever have enough sense to do them. (Applause.)

But we still have a cultural and a political argument that says to defend Americans' rights to reasonable hunting and sport shooting you have to defend the indefensible, as well. This is -- it doesn't make any sense at all, unless you're caught up in this sort of web of distorted logic and denial.

But Carolyn McCarthy may have made the most important point here. We're all in here preaching to the saved -- you wouldn't be here if you didn't agree. But somebody needs to call these members that grew up where I grew up, that lived in the same culture I did, that belonged to both parties, and say, hey, we've got to make this like airport metal detectors and X-ray machines. This is about our community. This is about our responsibility to our children. This is about protecting our children and -- the vulnerable children themselves -- from people who are about to go over the line here. And this is crazy that we're living in a society that takes no reasonable steps to protect the larger community.

So it's not just a culture of violence that has to change, it's the culture of hunting and sport shooting that has to stop financing efforts to frighten their members, who are good, God-fearing, law-abiding, taxpaying citizens out there, into believing that every time we try to save a kid's life, it's a camel's nose in the tent. (Applause.)

I have had to go through those metal detectors as many as three times, back when I had a real life and I was traveling around, because I had all kinds of stuff in there -- (laughter) -- and every time I start to get a little aggravated, I think, boy, I don't want that plane to blow up. (Laughter.) You know, make me go through a dozen times if you want to. And the person behind me.

Now, we've got to think about this in that way. These are the folks we have to reach. When there are no constituents for this movement, the movement will evaporate. When people from rural Pennsylvania and rural West Virginia and rural Colorado and Idaho start calling their congressmen and saying, hey, man, we can live with this, we can live with this, this is no big deal, you know? I mean, we're just out there doing what we do. We'll gladly put up with an extra hassle, a little wait, a little this, a little that, because we want to save several thousand kids a year.

That is my challenge to you. That is what os going on. (Applause.)

Now, here are the things we want to do. A lot of you won't think they're enough, but you remember the culture. You change the culture, we'll change the laws. You change the message, we'll do it. And none of them have anything to do with anybody's legitimate right to hunt.

First of all, we ought to strengthen the Brady law. It's kept 250,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers -- (applause). The states now have the Insta-Check System, which is good. The mandatory waiting period has expired -- that's bad, because we need it in addition to the Insta-Check System to give a cooling-off period to people who are in a fit of rage. It's important.

The law that we would present, the act will also prevent juveniles who commit violent crimes from ever buying a gun. It would apply the Brady law's prohibition to juvenile violence. It would require Brady background checks on anyone who wants to buy explosives. Very important. (Applause.) And it would abolish, at long last, as Senator Feinstein said, a dangerous loophole that was likely exploited in Littleton, which allows people to buy weapons at gun shows without any background checks at all. (Applause.)

Now, you need to go make this case on this gun show deal. I don't know how many of you have ever been to one of these gun shows. I've been to gun shows in rural America. People walk around, and they've got their cars and they've got their trunk open, and people walk in and say, this is nice and that's nice, and this is a 100-year-old rifle, and blah, blah, blah. And then they say, this is just too much hassle, you know. People pay cash, and nobody, you know -- so, it's going to be a hassle for them. It's worth it. It's worth it. We're sorry -- it's worth it. (Applause.)

You don't have to pretend it won't be a hassle. Tell them you know it will be a hassle, it's worth it. People's lives are at stake here. What these shows started out doing -- which was a good way for people who live in rural areas -- it started out primarily in rural areas -- who enjoy hunting and interested in different kinds of weapons, to have an interesting experience on a weekend afternoon -- has turned out to be a gaping loophole through which criminals and deranged people and other people get guns they could not otherwise get.

And so we have to say -- we haven't asked you to abolish your gun shows, but we've asked you to undergo the inconvenience necessary to save more lives. We don't have to be insensitive, we just have to be determined. But I'm telling you, if we don't do something about this gun show loophole, we're going to continue to have serious, serious problems. And it's very important. (Applause.)

The second thing we've got to do is to strengthen the assault weapons ban, to close the loophole that allows dealers to sell older, high-capacity ammunition magazines manufactured abroad. Now, I bet you -- when Senator Feinstein was talking about this she thought, now, who in the world could be against this? I actually had a conversation with a member of Congress who said to me -- serious, a good person, it was a really good person, when we were doing this back in a '94 a really good person, this person I was talking to -- who told me -- (laughter) -- let me tell you, I just want you to understand what the argument was. He said, but you've got to understand, we've got people who use these bigger magazines for certain kinds of sport contests. And I said, well, so what? (Laughter.)

But he said, they'll beat me if I vote for this. I said, they'll beat you if they think all you're doing is making their lives miserable because some Washington bureaucrat asked you to do it. If you can explain to them that it's worth a minor alteration in their sporting habits to save people's lives, they won't beat you.

But my point is, you've got to help these people. You hear this and you think, God, this is a no-brainer. This is a hundred-to-nothing deal. Who in the wide world could ever be -- you have to understand, there is another culture out there. And almost everybody in it is God-fearing, law-abiding, taxpaying, and they show up when they're needed, and they don't like this because they don't understand that if they do what you're asking them to do, they can save a lot of lives. And we have got to fix this. This is just pure mathematics, you're going to have fewer people die if you get rid of these magazines. So you need to go out there where the problem is, and debate your fellow citizens, and discuss it with them. It's important.

The third thing the legislation would do is to raise the legal age of handgun possession from 18 to 21 years. (Applause.) It would also strengthen our zero tolerance for guns in schools -- which, as one of the previous members said, had led us to 6,000 suspensions or expulsions last year -- by requiring schools to report to the police any student who brings a gun to school, and requiring that the student get counseling. That, I think, is very important.

The provision holding adults criminally responsible would only apply, but -- this is quite important -- but it would apply if they recklessly failed to keep firearms out of the reach of young people. This would mandate a steep increase in penalties for adults who transfer guns illegally to juveniles. It would require child safety locks to be sold with all new guns. (Applause.)

Finally, it would crack down on illegal gun trafficking, doubling the number of cities now working with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to trace every gun seized by the police. I know this is very important to Congresswoman McCarthy. (Applause.)

It would require that dealers submit information not only on the guns they sell, but on used guns, which are often very hard for law enforcement agencies to trace. It would significantly increase penalties for gun runners caught trafficking large numbers of firearms. It would

establish a national system as soon as it's feasible to limit handgun purchases to one a month, following the lead of Virginia. (Applause.)

You know, I've got to say -- this is very interesting. When we were going over the list of things we wanted to propose, some people said, well, that might be a loser because it sounds to people who care about this like that's too many, and what is this. You know, the states that have had big problems in the past, with lost of illegal gun purchases, and guns then being used for illegal purposes -- Virginia did this, and it really helped them. This was a big deal. And I just talked to Senator Robb about this a couple days ago, and he said, you know, all I can tell you is it's working in our state. So I would ask you to seriously consider what this might mean for our efforts to control the law enforcement aspects of this.

So these are the things that I wanted to say. But I hope you'll remember what I said to you about the culture. We do have to keep working on the culture. Hillary's right about it, Al and Tipper Gore are right about it. We've got a lot of responsibilities. We've got to keep working on the services for kids. We've even got to work on helping parents actually communicate with their children.

One senator called me the last before last, and said he'd had a town meeting in his state with children. And he asked how many of the schoolchildren had actually talked to their parents about what happened in Littleton. And only 10 percent of the kids raised their hands. And one child said, I had to go and turn off the television and tell my parents we were going to talk about it. She said, they're just scared. They're scared, they didn't know how to talk about it.

So there are all these cultural issues. And then there's this big cultural issue of the gun and sport hunting culture. And I hope that -- a lot of my folks at home might take offense at what I said today, but I'm trying to help explain them to you. And I felt comfortable taking on these issues, and I thought maybe I was in a unique position to take on all these gun issues all these years because of where I grew up and because I understand how people think who don't agree with this.

But I'm telling you, we've got to keep working until

people start thinking about this stuff, the same way they think about X-rays and metal detectors at airports. That's the goal. We have to redefine the national community so that we have a shared obligation to save children's lives. And we've got to get out of this crazy denial that this won't make a difference. It's crazy, it won't make -- just because it won't make all the difference doesn't mean it won't make a difference. It will make a difference. (Applause.)

I implore you to remember what these members have said. I implore you to go out and get people going at the grass roots, as Carolyn McCarthy said. We need help. We can pass all this, if the American people want it bad enough. We can pass it all, if the American people want it badly enough. And we don't need to go through another Littleton for the American people to want it badly enough. You can help make sure that happens.

Thank you. (Applause.)



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REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. CLINTON
ON CHILDREN, VIOLENCE AND MARKETING

The Rose Garden

11:46 A.M. EDT

MRS. CLINTON: Good morning, and please be seated, and thank you for joining us today in the Rose Garden as we continue a national conversation about how to address the problems of youth violence in our communities and schools.

I want to thank everyone for coming this morning, and I'd like to acknowledge Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Mayor Deedee Corradini, Mayor Timothy Kaine, and County Executives Wayne Curry and Charles Ruppertsburger. In addition to the Chairman of the FTC, whom you will hear from in a minute, Robert Pitofsky, we also have Commissioner Sheila Anthony and Commissioner Mozelle Thompson. I'm also pleased that Pamela Eakes, who led the very innovative group, Mothers Against Violence in America, has worked with us on this event as she has on past events that are also part of our efforts to try to create ways in which every American can take his or her part in doing whatever we can against youth violence.

As a nation, we've reacted to the shootings at Columbine High School like almost no other event I can remember in recent memory. It has literally pierced the heart of America. Yet, in my conversations with young people and parents over the past few weeks, I've heard less talk about people feeling helpless or hopeless and more about a growing consensus that finger-pointing doesn't lead to solutions and that we have to move forward together to take steps to end the violence, not only in our schools, but in our broader community. And that it is time -- some might say past time -- that we all play a role in making a positive difference in the lives of our children.

I want to thank the Attorney General and the Chair of the FTC for joining us today, as well as the many parents, educators, religious leaders, members of the media and students who are here as well. I'm pleased that we will be hearing from a 4th grader this morning who will tell us how he became part of the solution in his home state of Washington.

I think all of us recognize that there is no single answer or solution to the problem of violence in our society, but that we must move on many fronts -- from passing common-sense gun control efforts to helping parents understand better how to exercise authority over the media that their children are exposed to, and enabling more parents to spend more time with their own children.

We've come together to talk about some of the ways we can begin to reverse the culture of

violence that is engulfing American children every day, particularly the role that the media plays in shaping the lives and values of our children and young people.

In 1972, a Surgeon General report said, and I quote: "We know that children imitate and learn from everything they see -- parents, fellow children, school, the media. It would be extraordinary, indeed, if they did not imitate and learn from what they see on television."

The report went on to say that violence on television causes children either to mimic directly the actions they see or to act generally in a more aggressive way. Yet, today, more than 25 years after this report was written, our culture is even more saturated with TV programs, movies and songs that romanticize and glorify violence. What kind of values are we promoting when a child can walk into a store and find video games where you win based on how many people you can kill or how many places you can blow up.

We can no longer ignore the well-documented connection between violence in the media and the effects that it has on children's behavior. One study has found, for example, that if an actor is rewarded for violent behavior, children are more likely to imitate it. Another tells us that media violence has a particularly negative effect on children who already have a tendency toward aggressive or antisocial behavior.

According to the American Psychiatric Association, viewers of violence not only become desensitized and fearful, they begin to identify with an aggressive solution to their own personal problems. America's culture of violence is having a profound effect on our children, and we have to resolve to do all we can to change that culture.

One of the ways we can do that is to give parents the tools they need to control what their own children are exposed to. And we've already moved forward in that direction. Today's announcement is another important step in the fight against violence. We know there is a lot of work to be done. But I'm encouraged that so many leaders and citizens are coming together and talking honestly not only about the challenges we face, but what we have to do, together, to meet those challenges.

I'm particularly heartened that as a result of the meeting the President convened at the White House a few weeks ago, there was general agreement from a broad cross-section of Americans that we would launch a national grass roots campaign to prevent youth violence. We would model the campaign on successful national efforts like Mothers Against Drunk Driving, which showed us that we can change the culture when enough people from all walks of life say enough is enough. So I look forward to seeing everyone working together on this new nationwide effort to prevent youth violence.

Now, I'd like to introduce someone who cares deeply about the future of our children and who has fought tirelessly to create safe schools and communities. Our Attorney General, Janet Reno. (Applause.)

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT: Give him another hand. He was great. Bravo. (Applause.) Thank you.

When I was listening to Arthur speak, I didn't know whether to offer him a job as a White House speechwriter -- (laughter) -- or just wait for the opportunity to vote for him someday. Let me say -- (applause) -- thank you very much. Thank you.

And we thank your mother for bringing you here, and congratulations. (Applause.) And Representative Mary Lou Dickerson, thank you; and Pam Eakes, founder of Mothers Against Violence in America, thank you.

I thank the Attorney General, and Chairman Pitofsky, for their remarks and their

commitment. I thank Mayor Corradini, Mayor Kaine, County Executive Curry and County Executive Dutch Ruppersburger for the interest that our local government leaders have. I thank Representative Sheila Jackson Lee for her passionate commitment to this issue. And, all of you, welcome to the White House.

And most of all, I want to say again how much I appreciate Arthur Sawe for coming here, and for sharing a child's perspective. We have other children in this audience today, and we are really here about them, and their future.

As Hillary said, the tragedy at Littleton had a profound effect on America. It certainly had a profound effect on us, and on our family -- particularly after we had the chance to go to Colorado and visit with the families of the children who were killed, and many of the young children who are still grievously wounded -- and the kids at the school with them, who are hurting still, and the teachers.

I do think that what Hillary said is right: we sense a determination, not only in that community but throughout our country, not just to grieve about this, but to do something about it. The national grassroots campaign against violence against children is rooted in our faith that we can do better.

We know we can prevent more youth violence if we work together, across all the lines that divide us. We know we can do it if we're all willing to assume responsibility, and stop trying to assign blame. Of course, the responsibility begins at home. It must be reinforced and supported at schools and houses of worship in the community as a whole. Those of us in public service must also do our part. There is broad and growing consensus for us to do more.

Let me say I am also very grateful that the gun manufacturers came here last month and voiced their support for common-sense restrictions to make it more difficult for guns to get into the hands of children and criminals. I'm encouraged that the Senate acted to close the deadly gun show loophole, to require safety locks to be sold with every handgun, to ban the importation of large-capacity ammunition clips, and ban violent juveniles from owning guns as adults. I hope the House of Representatives will pass these common-sense measures as soon as they return from the Memorial Day recess. (Applause.) We have a lot to do this year, but this should be put at the top of the agenda, and not put on hold.

As you have already heard, members of the entertainment industry must also do their part. They, and the rest of us, cannot kid ourselves. Our children are being fed a dependable daily dose of violence -- and it sells. Now, 30 years of studies have shown that this desensitizes our children to violence, and to the consequences of it.

We now know that by the time the typical American child reaches the age of 18, he or she has seen 200,000 dramatized acts of violence, and 40,000 dramatized murders. Kids become attracted to it, and more numb to its consequences. As their exposure to violence grows, so, in some deeply troubling cases of particularly vulnerable children, does the taste for it. We should not be surprised that half the video games a typical seventh-grader plays are violent.

Anyone who doubts the impact of the cultural assault can look at what now, over 30 years, amounts to somewhere over 300 studies, all of whom show that there is a link between sustained exposure, hour after hour, day after day, week after week, year after year, to violent entertainment and violent behavior.

What the studies say, quite simply, is that the boundary between fantasy and reality violence, which is a clear line for most adults, can become very blurred for vulnerable children. Kids steeped in the culture of violence do become desensitized to it and more capable of committing it themselves.

That is why I have strongly urged people in the entertainment industry to consider the consequences of what they create and how they advertise it. One can value the First Amendment right to free speech and at the same time care for and act with restraint. Our administration has worked to give parents more tools to protect their kids, to block violent programming from entering their living room with the V-chip and the rating system. We've made progress on parental screening for Internet and ratings for Internet game sites.

Still, when violent entertainment made for adults is marketed to children, it undermines the rating system designed to protect them. And if you look at some of these ads, it's hard to argue with a straight face that the games were made for adults in the first place. Like the one Arthur mentioned.

Advertisements have a particular role here. They have the power to egg children on and lure them in. Every parent knows what response a commercial for sugar cereal or the latest Star Wars toy will get from their children. People advertise because it works. They want that product and, one way or the other, they're determined to get it. So we ought to think twice about the impact of ads for so-called "first person shooter video games," like the recent ad for a game that invites players to -- and I quote -- "get in touch with your gun-toting, cold-blooded murdering side."

I was given -- today, Arthur brought me the magazine with the ad that he mentioned, and he was kind enough to mark it for me. There really is a gun here. It says: More fun than shooting your neighbor's cat. I was given another ad that says: What kind of psycho drives a school bus into a war zone? And here's a school bus, heavily armed. This came out right after the incident in Springfield, Oregon.

Here's an ad that turns the argument I just made on its head: Psychiatrists say it's important to feel something when you kill. And then it goes on to say, you ought to get this technology because it bumps and you feel it. It says: Every sensation, every vibration, every mutilation, nine programmable weapons buttons. Customizable feedback software. Push the stick that pushes back and feel your pain. And here's one that's the most unbelievable of all. It says: Kill your friends guilt-free.

Now, obviously, Arthur has the inner strength and the good upbringing to reject that kind of violent appeal. Most of our children do. But not all of our children do. We cannot be surprised when this kind of thing has an impact on our most vulnerable children. Is it 100 percent to blame? No. It's easier to get guns in this society. Parents on average spend 22 hours a week less with their children than they did 30 years ago because of the demands of work and commuting, the busyness of daily life.

But when you put it all together, there are bound to be explosive negative consequences. That's why today I am asking the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission to study the extent to which the video game, music and movie markets do actually market violence to children, and whether those industries are abiding by their own voluntary systems of regulations.

To any company that sells violent products, I say, children are more than consumers. I understand nobody made anybody buy any of this stuff. But every day, a responsible society declines to do some things for short-term gain that it can do. And that is what we have to think about. These children are our future, our most precious resource. Raising them is any society's most important job.

Don't make young people want what your own rating systems say they shouldn't have. I might say again, as has already been acknowledged, they shouldn't have. I might say again, as has already been acknowledged, many, many people in the entertainment industry have worked with us on this -- on the ratings system, on the V-chip, on the screening technology for the Internet.

I noticed one network executive, a few days ago, actually cancelled a program because its violent content was inappropriate, and I applaud that. But I also read with concern the news that some of the new programming coming up for this fall on some networks will be even more violent than last year's. The time has come to show some restraint, even if it has a short-term impact on the bottom line.

I also want to challenge the owners of movie theaters and video stores, distributors -- anyone at any point of sale -- enforce the rating systems on the products that you sell. Check the IDs, draw the line. If underage children are buying violent video games or getting into R-rated movies, the rating system should be enforced to put a stop to it. (Applause.)

And if, as many of us suspect, there is still too much gratuitous violence in PG-13-rated movies, the rating systems themselves should be re-evaluated.

I want to thank Senators Brownback, Lieberman, Hatch and Kohl, for the bipartisan work they have done on this issue. Again, I want to commend State Representative Mary Lou Dickerson from Washington, who read about young Arthur, helped to create a task force on video game violence, and thanks to her work with Pam and the Mothers Against Violence in America and the Washington Retailers' Association -- who are all represented here today -- video game retailers in Washington state now voluntarily sign a pledge to parents, committing themselves to check IDs and block sales of violent games to minors. That's something that ought to happen in every state in the United States of America. (Applause.)

Again I say, we can do something about this. It will take a grass roots campaign. It will take everybody doing his or her part. This is a problem we face together, a problem America can solve together. There is no more urgent task for our future.

You were all looking at this young man speaking today, thinking, what a wonderful thing that a person that young could speak so clearly, so confidently, about things that are so right. You look around at the other young people here today who are involved in this effort in some way or another, and you thank God that we have this legacy of children.

A lot of those kids that haven't made it through all these school violence incidents were just as good, just as fine, had just as much to give the world. We've got to quit fooling around with this. We've got a chance. Our hearts are open, our ears are open, are heads are thinking.

I know this stuff sells. But that doesn't make it right.

Thank you, and God bless you. (Applause.)

12:16 P.M. EDT



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March 2, 1999

Mr. Doug Harbit
President
National Institute for Dispute Resolution
Conflict Resolution Education Network
1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Doug

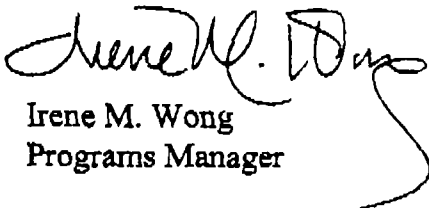
It was pleasure speaking with you yesterday. I apologize for being so vague about what MetLife is interested in exploring with National Institute for Dispute Resolution (NIDR). Following is more information which I hope you find helpful.

Since 1984, the MetLife has produced a document called the Survey of the American Teacher. The survey is conducted by Louis Harris and Associates and focuses on a different educational topic each year. The topic of our 1999 survey is Violence in America's Public Schools III (draft major findings are enclosed). Both in 1994 and 1998, the survey topics also focused on issues related to violence in the schools.

Annually, to release the findings of the Survey, MetLife hosts an event. The majority of these events have been panel discussions featuring "experts" in the field giving their viewpoints on issues raised by the survey. In many cases, we have joined forces with a leading non-profit organization with expertise in the topical areas of the survey. It is for this reason we want to explore working with NIDR to craft an event to release the survey or to participate in an existing event NIDR may be hosting. I am aware of other events such as the upcoming National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention conference. However, the timing of the conference does not coincide with the release of our survey, which we expect to be printed by April.

I have enclosed a list of previous surveys and their related release events and would welcome your suggestions on how we might work with NIDR on a release of the 1999 survey findings. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 212-578-3194. Thank you.

Sincerely



Irene M. Wong
Programs Manager

Enclosures

MetLife Surveys of the American Teacher/Events

- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1984 - (Breakfast event - NYC Hotel)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1985, Strengthening the Profession - (?)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1986, Restructuring the Teaching Profession (National Press Club, panel discussion and luncheon)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of Former Teachers in America, 1986 (National Press Club, panel discussion and luncheon)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1987, Strengthening Links Between Home and School (National Press Club, panel discussion and luncheon, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1988, Strengthening the Relationship Between Teachers and Students (National Press Club, panel discussion and luncheon, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1989, Preparing Schools for the 1990s (National Press Club, panel discussion and luncheon, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1990, New Teachers: Expectations and Ideals -Part I Entering the Classroom (Event at MetLife Memorial

Hall, panel discussion – educators were brought in by train from Washington, DC)

- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1991, The First Year: New Teachers Expectations and Ideals (Media briefing, panel discussion, and reception at the Rayburn House Office Building, House of Representatives, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1992, The Second Year: New Teachers' Expectations and Ideals (National Press Club, panel discussion and luncheon, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1993, Teachers Respond to President Clinton's Education Proposals (Press package distribution to media)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1993, Violence in America's Public Schools (Conference at the US Chamber of Commerce, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1994, Violence in America's Public Schools: The Family Perspective (Conference at the US Chamber of Commerce, Washington, DC)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1984-1995, Old Problems, New Challenges (National Press Club--press conference/Education Commission of the States, panel discussion and luncheon)
- The Metropolitan Life survey of the American Teacher 1996, Students Voice Their Opinions on:
 - *Violence, Social Tension and Equality Among Teens--Part I*

·Their Education, Teachers and Schools--Part II

·Learning About Values and Principles in School--Part III

·Learning About Multiculturalism--Part IV

(Press release and distribution to media)

- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher, 1997: Examining Gender Issues in Public Schools (Press release, distribution to media, and distribution through a major project with a nonprofit organization)
- The Metropolitan Life Survey of the American Teacher 1998, Building Family-School Partnerships: Views of Teachers and Students (Press conference and panel discussion at the US Chamber of Commerce in Washington, DC.)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Violence in schools affects teachers and students, both directly, as victims or aggressors in violent acts, and indirectly, by contributing to feelings of worry and concern. While there have been some perceived improvements regarding violence in schools over the last five years, this problem remains serious and common. The results of this survey of public school teachers, public school students and law enforcement officials indicate that these three groups are more likely today than five years ago to perceive general improvements to the problem of violence in schools. However, their personal experiences do not support this perception. Compared to five years ago, public school teachers, public school students and law enforcement officials today are more likely to report that violence in public schools has decreased in the past year. This trend is particularly true for teachers and students in urban schools. Furthermore, nearly all public school teachers and students feel safe when they are at school, with more students in 1998 than in 1993 feeling very safe when they are at school. However, students in urban schools are less likely than those in suburban or rural schools to feel safe in school, and substantial minorities of students in urban schools do not view schools as safe havens. Students in urban schools are more likely than those in suburban or rural schools to feel less safe in their school building than in their neighborhood.

Although, overall, these perceptions appear to reflect recent decreases in national crime rates in communities, key aspects of teachers' and students' personal experiences in schools tell a different story. As in 1993, one-quarter of public school students have been the victim of a violent act that occurred in or around school. The experience of teachers has become worse. One in six public school teachers report having been the victim of violence in or around school. This represents an increase compared to 1993 when one in nine teachers reported having been the victim of violence in or around school. Teachers and students in urban as well as suburban or rural schools are equally likely to have been the victim of school violence. More teachers in 1998 than in 1993 report that there are students who regularly carry weapons to their school. In fact, one in eight public school students report

that they have carried a weapon to school at some point in time. Two percent of public school teachers have brought something to school with them for protection. Similar numbers of students and teachers brought weapons to school in 1993.

A closer examination of students who have been victims of school violence reveals several distinguishing characteristics of this population. Students who have been victims of school violence are more likely than those who have not been victims to be male, to have poor grades, and to live in neighborhoods with a lot or some crime. Student victims of violence are also more likely than those who have not been victims to have hardly any or no parental involvement with school, and to be alone when they come home from school. Furthermore, student victims of school violence are more likely than non-victims to have committed acts of violence themselves, to have been suspended or expelled from school, and to have carried a weapon to school.

As in 1993, the majority of public school teachers and law enforcement officials believe that the causes of violence in local public schools center on the family, including lack of parental supervision at home and lack of family involvement with the school. Students themselves are most likely to report that parents have a very strong influence as role models for them. However, teachers are most likely to cite friends as having a very strong influence as role models for students and secondary school students most frequently cite peer group pressure as a major cause of violence in schools.

The results of the current study indicate a perception among teachers, students and law enforcement officials that levels of violence in schools are decreasing and that teachers and students feel safe at school. The results also demonstrate that teachers' and students' personal experiences with school violence have not improved over the past five years and that significant minorities of teachers and students have worries and concerns about school violence. Violence in schools remains an important issue for teachers, students and law enforcement officials.

MAJOR FINDINGS

I. Defining the Problem

A. Changes Over Time

Compared to five years ago, public school teachers, public school students and law enforcement officials today are more likely to report that violence in public schools has decreased in the past year. However, teachers, students and law enforcement officials are not necessarily confident about a continuation in this trend - one quarter of public school teachers, three in ten public school students and three in ten law enforcement officials think that violence in their school will increase in the next two years.

- One in five public school teachers (21%) report that the level of violence in their school has decreased in the past year. In 1993, one in ten teachers (11%) reported a decrease.
- Three in ten public school students (29%) report that the level of violence in their school has decreased in the past year. In 1993, one in eight (13%) reported a decrease.
- One-quarter of law enforcement officials (26%) report that the level of violence in local public schools has decreased in the past year. In 1993, one in twelve (8%) reported a decrease
- One quarter of public school teachers (23%) think that violence in their school will increase in the next two years.
- Three in ten public school students (28%) think that violence in their school will increase in the next two years.
- Three in ten law enforcement officials (30%) think that violence in local public schools will increase in the next two years.

B. Location of Violence

As they did in 1993, public school teachers, public school students and law enforcement officials differ in their perspectives on where most acts of violence in or around their schools occur. Although half of law enforcement officials report that most acts of school violence occur in the school neighborhood, one-third of public school teachers and nearly one-third of public school students report that most acts of violence in or around their school occur on the school grounds

- One-third of public school teachers (32%) report that most acts of violence in or around their school occur on the school grounds.
- Three in ten public school students (30%) report that most acts of violence in or around their school occur on the school grounds.
- Nearly half of law enforcement officials (47%) report that most acts of violence in or around local public schools occur in the school neighborhood.
- Only one in six officials (16%) report that most acts of violence occur in the school building.

C. Student Involvement in Violence

Law enforcement officials in 1998 are more likely than those in 1993 to report that students are rarely or never involved in acts of violence that take place in or around the public schools (38% vs. 22%).

D. Gangs

The influence of gangs involve and concern sizable minorities of public school students. Teachers and students in urban areas are more likely than those in suburban or rural areas to report that gangs and gang violence are particular problems.

- Three in ten public school students in grades 7 – 12 (30%) think that gang violence is a very serious problem at their school.
- Public school students in urban areas are more likely than those in suburban or rural areas to consider gang violence a very serious problem (42% vs. 23%).
- Two in ten public school students (21%) agree that most students in their school look up to gang members.
- One-quarter of public school teachers (25%) and three in ten law enforcement officials (30%) agree that most students in their schools look up to gang members.
- One in eight public school students (13%) agree that gangs play a big part in daily life in and around their school.
- One-third of public school teachers (34%) and more than four in ten law enforcement officers (44%) agree that gangs play a big part in daily life in and around their schools.
- Public school teachers in urban areas are more likely than those in suburban or rural areas to agree that gangs play a big part in daily life in and around their schools (53% vs. 25%).

E. Gender

While only a small minority of public school teachers and law enforcement officials believe that the level of violence in their school has increased recently, large proportions of teachers and law enforcement officials report that girls' involvement as aggressors in violent acts at their school has increased compared to five years ago. Public school students report that similar, small proportions of girls are involved in violence, either as aggressors or as victims.

- Nearly half of public school teachers (45%) report that girls' involvement as aggressors in violent acts at their school has increased as compared to five years ago.
- One in seven public school teachers (14%) report that girls' involvement with gangs has increased in the past year at their school.
- Nearly two-thirds of law enforcement officials (64%) report that girls' involvement as aggressors in violent acts at local public schools has increased as compared to five years ago.
- Three in ten law enforcement officials (27%) report that girls' involvement with gangs has increased in the past year at local public schools.
- Fifteen percent of public school students report that girls are very often or often the aggressors in their school.
- Fifteen percent of public school students report that girls are very often or often the victims of violent acts in their school.
- Three percent of public school students report that most girls in their school are involved with gangs.

F. Impact on Teachers and Students Leaving School

Public school teachers and law enforcement officials report that violence in their school has a greater effect on students leaving their school than on teachers leaving their school. However, schools with a fair or poor quality of education, all or many minority students, or all or many lower income students increase the likelihood that teachers view the problem of violence as a factor on teachers leaving their school. The majority of public school students say that the problem of violence in their school is a factor on students leaving their school.

- Four in ten public school teachers (41%) say that the problem of violence in their school is a factor on students leaving their school.
- Two in ten public school teachers (19%) say that the problem of violence in their school is a factor on teachers leaving their school.
- Two-thirds of law enforcement officials (67%) say that the problem of violence in local public schools is a factor on students leaving their schools.
- Nearly half of law enforcement officials (46%) say that the problem of violence in local public schools is a factor on teachers leaving their school.
- Six in ten public school students (63%) say that the problem of violence in their school is a factor on students leaving their school.

II. Teachers' and Students' Experiences

A. Feeling Safe at School

As in 1993, the majority of public school teachers feel very safe when they are at school. Public school students in 1998 are more likely than public school students in 1993 to feel very safe when they are at school (56% vs. 50%). However, a sizable minority of students feel less safe in their school building than in their school neighborhood. Furthermore, both teachers and students who are in urban locations are less likely than those who are in suburban or rural locations to feel very safe when they are at school.

- Three-quarters of public school teachers (75%, 1998; 77%, 1993) feel very safe when they are at school.
- Only one percent of public school teachers do not feel safe when they are at school.
- Six in ten public school students (56%) feel very safe when they are at school.
- One in twelve public school students (8%) do not feel safe when they are at school.

- Two in ten public school students (21%) feel less safe in their school building than in their neighborhood.
- Public school teachers who are in urban locations are less likely than those who are in suburban or rural locations to feel very safe when they are at school (66% vs. 79%).
- Public school students who are in urban locations are less likely than those who are in suburban or rural locations to feel very safe when they are at school (44% vs. 61%).

B. Concerns About School Violence

The majority of public school teachers are not worried about being physically attacked in or around their school. Although the majority of public school students are not worried about being physically attacked in or around their school, this number is less than it was five years ago (1998, 67%; 1993, 76%). Furthermore, sizable minorities of students are very concerned about school shootings and students having easy access to handguns and other firearms.

- Nearly nine in ten public school teachers (85%) are not worried about being physically attacked in or around their school.
- Less than one percent of public school teachers are very worried about being physically attacked in or around their school.
- Two-thirds of public school students (67%) are not worried about being physically attacked in or around their school.
- Fifteen percent of public school students are very worried about being physically attacked in or around their school.
- Three in ten public school students (30%) are very concerned about school shootings, like those that recently have been in the news, happening in their school.

- One-quarter of public school students in grades 7 - 12 (26%) are very concerned about students at their school having easy access to handguns and other firearms.

C. Personal Experiences with Violence

Compared to five years ago, more public school teachers have been the victim of a violent act that occurred in or around school. Students' experiences have not changed. As in 1993, one-quarter of public school students have been the victim of a violent act that occurred in or around school. However, the majority of students have had a student verbally insult them in their school during the past year. As in 1993, very few public school students have threatened someone with or used a weapon in or around school. Personal violent behavior most frequently reported by students include verbally insulting someone and pushing, shoving, grabbing or slapping someone.

- One in six public school teachers (16%) has been the victim of a violent act that occurred in or around school: in school building, 13%, on school grounds, 2%, in school neighborhood, less than 0.5%. In 1993, one in nine teachers (11%) was a victim of violence.
- Nine in ten public school teachers who have been the victim of a violent act in or around school (90%) report that a student committed the violent act.
- One-quarter of public school students (24%, 1998; 23%, 1993) have been the victim of a violent act that occurred in or around school: in school building, 8%, on school grounds, 10%, in school neighborhood, 7%.
- Four in ten public school students (44%) have verbally insulted someone in or around school.
- Nearly four in ten public school students (36%) have pushed, shoved, grabbed, or slapped someone else in or around school.

- Two percent of public school students have threatened someone with a knife or gun in or around school.
- Two percent of students used a knife or fired a gun in or around school.

III. Perspectives on Causes

A. Causes of Violence

As in 1993, the majority of public school teachers and law enforcement officials believe that the causes of violence in their school center on the family: lack of parental supervision at home and lack of family involvement. However, for students in grades 7 - 12, the cause of violence in schools most frequently cited is peer group pressure. Also, students in 1998 are more likely than students in 1993 to believe that involvement with drugs or alcohol is a major factor in why violence occurs at their school (39% vs. 23%).

- Public school teachers mention the following as major factors in why violence occurs at their school: lack of parental supervision at home (77%), lack of family involvement (69%), peer group pressure (58%), and involvement with drugs or alcohol (32%).
- Law enforcement officials mention the following as major factors in why violence occurs in local public schools: lack of parental supervision at home (75%), lack of family involvement (69%), peer group pressure (49%) and involvement with drugs or alcohol (40%)..
- Public school students in grades 7 - 12 mention the following as major factors in why violence occurs in their school: peer group pressure (50%), involvement with drugs or alcohol (39%), lack of parental supervision at home (36%), and lack of family involvement (25%).

B. Characteristics of Teacher Victims

Less than half of public school teachers, public school students and law enforcement officers believe that violence to teachers targets particular groups. Similar results for teachers and law enforcement officials were found in 1993.

- Four in ten public school teachers (37%) believe that there are particular groups of teachers who are more likely to be victims of violence.
- Three in ten public school students (28%) believe that there are particular groups of teachers who are more likely to be victims of violence.
- Nearly one-quarter of law enforcement officials (23%) believe that there are particular groups of teachers who are more likely to be victims of violence.

C. Characteristics of Student Victims

The majority of public school teachers and public school students believe that there are particular groups of students who are more likely to be victims. However, only four in ten law enforcement officials believe that particular groups of students are targeted for violence.

- Six in ten public school teachers (63%) believe that there are particular groups of students who are more likely to be victims of violence.
- Half of public school students (53%) believe that there are particular groups of students who are more likely to be victims of violence.
- Four in ten law enforcement officials (39%) believe that there are particular groups of students who are more likely to be victims of violence.

IV. Weapons and Self-Protection

A. Students with Weapons

Public school teachers report that 0.8% (median) of students at their school regularly carry weapons such as handguns or knives to school. Law enforcement officials (1.8%, median) and public school students in grades 7 - 12 (5%, median) report slightly higher averages. However, fewer than ten percent of law enforcement officials believe that no students in their area regularly carry weapons to school. In contrast, two in ten secondary school students and four in ten public school teachers believe that no students at their school regularly carry weapons to school.

- Public school teachers report that 0.8% (median) of students in their area regularly carry weapons such as handguns or knives to school. Furthermore, four in ten public school teachers (40%) believe that no students at their school regularly carry weapons to school.
- Public school teachers in 1998 are more likely than teachers in 1993 to report that at least some students in their school regularly carry weapons to school (53% vs. 48%).
- Public school students in grades 7 - 12 report that 5% (median) of students in their area regularly carry weapons such as handguns or knives to school. Furthermore, two in ten public school students in grades 7 - 12 (22%) believe that no students at their school regularly carry weapons to school. Eight in ten public school students in grades 3 - 6 (79%) believe that no students at their school regularly carry weapons such as handguns or knives to school.
- Law enforcement officials report that 2% (median) of students in their area regularly carry weapons such as handguns or knives to school. However, one in eleven law enforcement officials (9%) believe that no students in their area regularly carry weapons to school.

B. Types of Weapons Carried by Students

Knives are the type of weapon most frequently mentioned by law enforcement officers, teachers, and students who report that at least some students in their schools regularly carry weapons to school. Although half of teachers mention handguns, students and law enforcement officials are less likely to mention this weapon as the type of weapon that students tend to carry.

- Nine in ten law enforcement officials who report that at least some students in local schools regularly carry weapons (92%) mention knives as the type of weapon that students tend to carry. Two in ten law enforcement officials (22%) mention handguns.
- Eight in ten public school teachers whose schools have some students who regularly carry weapons (79%) mention knives as the type of weapon that students tend to carry. Half of teachers (49%) mention handguns.
- Six in ten public school students who report that at least some students in their school regularly carry weapons (59%) mention knives as the type of weapon that students tend to carry. One in seven students (14%) mention handguns.

C. Self-Reported Weapons Carried by Students

As in 1993, one in eight public school students (12%) have carried a weapon to school at some point in time. Students in urban areas as well as suburban or rural areas are equally likely to have carried a weapon to school (15% vs. 11%).

D. Student Access to Weapons

Although few students regularly carry any weapons to school, half of public school teachers (53%), students (47%) and law enforcement officers (51%) believe that students have easy access to handguns or other firearms.

E. Teachers' Self-Protection

As in 1993, two percent of public school teachers have brought something to school with them for protection. Teachers in urban areas as well as suburban or rural areas are equally likely to have brought something to school with them for protection (3% vs. 1%).

V. Examining Some Solutions

A. Personal Participation in Programs

Nearly half of public school teachers (47%) have participated in a violence prevention program to help teachers deal effectively with or reduce violence in school. Teachers who have been victims of school violence are more likely than those who have not been victims to have participated in such a program (58% vs. 44%). Teaching in an urban location does not increase the likelihood that a teacher participated in a program. Nearly two-thirds of law enforcement officials (65%) have participated in a school violence prevention program to help teachers and students deal effectively with or reduce violence in school.

B. Schools' Steps to Stop or Reduce Violence and their Evaluation

The steps taken by schools to stop or reduce violence most frequently reported by public school teachers include: security guards or police in or around the school (23%), classes on how to talk about problems rather than fight (18%), safety or anti-violence programs (17%), meetings for individual classes or the entire school to address violence (16%), and monitors in the hallways (16%). Teachers in urban locations are more likely than those in suburban or rural locations to have security guards or police (31% vs. 20%). Nearly four in ten teachers (36%) believe that the steps taken by their school have helped to reduce violence a great deal.

C. Adequacy of Schools' Efforts

The majority of public school teachers (66%), public school students in grades 7 - 12 (62%), and law enforcement officials (60%) believe that the amount of effort spent on addressing violence in their schools is adequate.

D. Typical Responses When a Student Commits Violence

Public school teachers most frequently mention suspension (57%) and expulsion (31%) as the typical punishment for a student who has physically attacked someone or threatened someone with a weapon.

VI. A Picture of Students' Lives

A. Student Profiles

Although the large majority of students live in households with two parents (including step-parents) (71%), where there is no problem buying things they need (54%), and in neighborhoods with hardly any or no crime (78%), substantial minorities of students' lives do not reflect these situations. Two in ten students (17%) live in a single parent household, one in eleven students (9%) live in households where they have a hard time buying needed things, and two in ten students (21%) live in neighborhoods where there is a lot or some crime.

Victims of school violence are more likely than those who have not been victims to have been suspended or expelled from school (41% vs. 9%), live in neighborhoods with a lot or some crime (31% vs. 17%) and have hardly any or no parental involvement with school (35% vs. 24%).

B. Role Models

Two times as many public school teachers believe that friends have a very strong influence as role models for students as believe that parents or teachers have a very strong influence. Students, however, are most likely to report that parents have a very strong influence on them.

- Teachers are most likely to report that the following people have a very strong influence on students in their school: friends (62%), entertainment stars or professional athletes (32%), parents (29%), and teachers (25%).
- Students are most likely to report that the following people have a very strong influence on them: parents (65%), friends (37%), entertainment stars or professional athletes (33%), teachers (33%), and community leaders or clergy (32%).

VII. Teacher Profiles

Teachers who have been victims of school violence do not differ from those who have not been victims by gender, race, or proportion of minority or lower income students in their schools. Teachers who have been victims of school violence are slightly more likely than those who have not been victims to teach in a school in an urban location (38% vs. 30%). Teachers with more than fifteen years of teaching experience are more likely than those with less experience to have participated in a violence prevention program (61% vs. 52%).



Catherine Milton

Executive Director

May 5, 1999

Ms. Neera Tanden
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Building, Room 100
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Tanden:

I write in reference to your upcoming White House Summit Meeting on Youth and Violence that will take place next Monday. I commend your decision to convene the summit. However, there is one constituency that I think has been overlooked, the youth of America.

Adults acting out of adult concerns about teen-agers is not enough. We must listen to the young people of America to learn from them what is happening in their world. We need to know the pressures they face, their fears, and what they think their parents, schools, and legislators should do about it. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said so simply, "Violence, at its root, is the voice of the unheard. We must hear the voice of youth.

Just last week, Save the Children gathered some 100 young people together for a Youth Summit Meeting on Capitol Hill. The theme of the day, "Ask Me... Please!!! I'm Part of the Solution," is illustrative of Save the Children's belief that young people's opinions must be heard and weighed when decision-makers are designing legislation affecting children. Coming from big cities or small, urban centers or rural settings, the youth found that no matter their background, they were all facing similar challenges. The youth poignantly reminded senators, their staff and the media that adults and youth must work together if we hope to create a better society for all."

We urge you, to include young people in this historic meeting. We can work with you to bring to the meeting a representative cross-section of teens, the same kind of demographically and geographically diverse group that attended our conference. Invited youth might include:

Jahmy Hines, Los Angeles, Jocelyn Billy, Chinle, AZ, Jared Pyle, White Oak, Tennessee
Kelia Flores, Bridgeport, CT, Audrey Ingalls, San Francisco, CA, Theresa Lee, Dermott, Arkansas

We can also provide adults skilled in facilitating sessions with youth. I will contact your office tomorrow to see if we can be of assistance. Thank you for your consideration and for taking leadership in this manner.

Sincerely,

Catherine Milton
Executive Director

**White House Strategy Session on
Children, Violence, and Responsibility
May 10, 1999**

DRAFT

Proposed Participants

1. **The President**
2. **The Vice President**
3. **The First Lady**
4. **Mrs. Gore**
5. **The Attorney General**
6. The Secretary of the Treasury -(T) HOLD
7. **The Secretary of Education**
8. The Secretary of Health and Human Services - (T) HOLD
9. General Barry McCaffrey -(T) HOLD
10. Television Slot: Les Moonves, President, CBS Television or Bob Iger, CEO, ABC or Robert Wright, CEO, NBC
11. Motion Picture Slot: Edgar Bronfman, Jr., CEO, Seagrams (Universal/MCA) or Howard Stringer, President, Sony USA or Michael Eisner, CEO, Disney
12. Steven Spielberg, Dreamworks or Robert Redford (Klain)
13. Gary Ross or Screen-writer
14. Steve Case, CEO, America On-Line
15. Doug Lowenstein, President, Interactive Digital Software Association
16. Jack Valenti, President, MPAA
17. Hilary Rosen, President, RIAA
18. Edward Fritts, President, NAB
19. Decker Anstrom, President, NCTA
20. Roxanne Spillet, President, Boys & Girls Clubs of America
21. Sandra Feldman, President, AFT
22. Bob Chase, President, NEA
23. Ginny Markill, President-Elect of the Parents-Teacher Association
24. Pam Eakes, Mothers Against Violence
25. T.C. Williams, peer mediator
26. Youth -TBD --KK
27. Youth -TBD --KK
28. Dr. Prema Mathai-Davis, CEO, YWCA of USA
29. Abraham Foxman, National Director, ADL
30. Rev. Thomas McDade, Secretary of Education, US Catholic Conference
31. Reverend Eugene Rivers
32. Robert Ricker, Executive Director, American Shooting Sports Council
33. Robert Delfay, President and CEO, National Shooting Sports Foundation
34. L.E. (Ed) Schultz, President and CEO, Smith and Wesson
35. Paul Glock, Gun Manufacturer
36. Sarah Brady, Handgun Control, Inc. (HCI) --JC
37. Gil Gallegos- National President, Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and Deputy Chief Albuquerque Police Department
38. Carl Bell, M.D.
39. Robert Pynoos, M.D.
40. James Garbarino, PhD.
41. Nancy Dickey, President, American Medical Association

Closed Press.

*- Only people
in bold
invited
- still "considering"
others*

42. **Dr. Maya Angelou**
43. Oprah Winfrey
44. **Eli Segal**
45. **Judge Alan Page**
46. **Ken Salazar, Colorado, Attorney General**
47. **Judy McGrath, President, MTV**
48. Recording Artist - TBD
49. **Drew Altman, President and CEO, Kaiser Foundation**
50. Governor Tom Keane or Susan Baker
51. Members of Congress -- Leadership or designee --JM
52. Members of Congress -- Leadership or designee --JM
53. Members of Congress -- Leadership or designee --JM
54. Members of Congress -- Leadership or designee --JM

Clinton

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Draft 5/06/99 8:00pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
DEPARTURE STATEMENT ON YOUTH VIOLENCE
THE WHITE HOUSE
May 7, 1999**

Good morning. This weekend, I will be visiting the communities so terribly damaged by tornadoes this week. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Oklahoma, and with the people of Tennessee, who also endured terrible storms and destruction.

Before I depart, I want to say a few words about something else that is on all our minds in the wake of the tragedy in Littleton, Colorado: what we can do to keep our children safe from violence.

For years, it seemed that many of our most troubling social problems were insurmountable -- that the teen pregnancy rate could not be reduced, that drunk drivers were immune to social pressure, that traffic fatalities were unavoidable. But the American people knew better. Working together with national, state, and local leaders, in their communities, their schools, and their homes, they are solving these problems from the grassroots up. Teen pregnancy is down. Drunk driving is socially unacceptable and criminally prosecuted. And the use of seat belts and child safety seats is nearly universal.

To protect our children and turn them away from violence, we need the same kind of grass roots effort -- a national campaign that draws on all of our commitment, all of our resources, and depends on all of us taking responsibility.

On Monday, we will begin laying the groundwork for that campaign, at a White House strategy session that includes the people who can really make a difference: parents and young people, teachers and religious leaders, law enforcement, [gun manufacturers], and representatives of the entertainment industry. Together, we will talk about how we can take responsibility -- to shield children from gratuitous violence, to keep parents involved in their children's lives, to reach out to troubled young people and do more to keep guns out of their reach.

Today, I am pleased to announce Eli Segal, one of my closest advisors, will lead our national campaign. Under Eli's leadership, AmeriCorps grew into a volunteer army that has already helped 100,000 young people serve their communities and earn money for college. Under Eli's leadership, the Welfare-to-Work Partnership has grown from just five companies two years ago to more than 10,000 companies who have helped us move more than 400,000 people off the welfare rolls. And under Eli's leadership, our national campaign for youth violence will help us fight the culture of hate and turn around the terrible trend of youth violence.

I am looking forward to our meeting on Monday, and to working together with the American people to give our children the childhood they deserve. Thank you.

White House Strategy Session on Children, Violence, and Responsibility May 10, 1999

Mission Statement

The purpose of this meeting is to lay the groundwork for a national campaign to reduce youth violence, in the same way that we have been able to reduce drunk driving and teen pregnancy and increase seatbelt use. The campaign will elicit and coordinate efforts from all sectors of society, including the entertainment industry, gun manufacturers and gun control advocates, educators, parents, and young people. The White House meeting on May 10 will be a two-hour, closed-door, brainstorming session to discuss new and creative ways for all of us to take responsibility -- by reducing youth exposure to gratuitous violence, increasing parental involvement and supervision, and decreasing youth access to guns.

May 9, 1999

HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE FROM GUNS

Date: Saturday, May 8
Time: 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Location: The White House
Washington, D.C.
From: Neera Tanden and
Ruby Shamir

I. PURPOSE

To highlight the importance of keeping children safe from guns as part of efforts to honor families for Mother's Day.

II. BACKGROUND

Overview

This event focuses on the problem of children's easy access to guns. At the event, you will announce a Mother's Day pledge intended for all – those who own guns and those who do not. We developed this pledge with Handgun Control Inc. as a vehicle to focus attention on this issue. The pledge will also appear on your web site, Lifetime Television's web site, and Handgun Control's web site.

The majority of the people in the audience are parents and roughly 30 are parents who lost children to gun violence. You will participate in a photo receiving line with these families at the end of the event (list attached). The speakers at the event have each been personally affected by gun violence; they are Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), Rebecca Lynn, Catherine Murphy, and Tom Mauser (see section on bios).

Gun Legislation

The Youth Gun Crime Enforcement Act, recently introduced by the President, will strengthen the Brady Law and the assault weapons ban, restrict access to guns by youth and crack down on illegal gun traffickers. The President's proposed bill will: (1) raise the age of the youth handgun ban from 18 to 21 years of age; (2) ban youth possession of semi-automatic assault rifles; (3) prohibit violent juveniles from ever owning guns; (4) require child safety locking devices for guns; (5) reduce illegal gun running by limiting the purchase of handguns to no more than one per month; (6) halt the importation of large capacity ammunition magazines; (7) require Brady background checks for the purchase of explosives and at gun shows; and (8) help law enforcement trace more crime guns to their source.

Senator Schumer is the bill's main sponsor on the Senate side and we expect him to introduce the bill next week. Senator Lott has indicated that the Senate would move to Juvenile Crime legislation next week, and while some Senate Democrats are doubtful that this will happen, they are preparing amendments on school safety and on guns. The Administration's efforts are

focused on three particular amendments: (1) child access protection; (2) regulation of gun shows; and (3) raising the age of the youth handgun ban to 21.

Statistics on Gun Violence

According to a 1996 Department of Justice report, there are approximately 200 million guns in private hands even though only 25 % of all adults in America own guns. The study found that 20% of all gun-owning households had a loaded, unlocked gun in the home, a figure that was significantly higher among households that had a handgun, as opposed to a long gun. Further, the study found that 53% of long guns and 57% of handguns are usually kept unlocked. Additionally, 26% of all guns and 55% of handguns are usually kept loaded. Loaded guns of either type are more likely to be unlocked than are unloaded guns. The result is that one in three handguns, and one in six long guns, is kept loaded and unlocked.

Gun violence is also on the rise, as the firearm injury rate is ten times higher than the polio epidemic in the first half of the century. The Centers for Disease Control estimates that by 2003 the leading cause of death from injury will be from gunshots.

- In 1996, 4,643 children and teenagers were killed by firearms in murders, suicides, and unintentional shootings.
- Gunshot wounds are the second leading cause of death for all people aged 10-34.
- According to a February 1997 report by the Centers for Disease Control, the rate of firearm deaths among children 0-14 years old is nearly twelve times higher in the United States than in 25 other industrialized countries combined.

Bios of Speakers

Rep. Carolyn McCarthy was first elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1996 and was re-elected for her second term in 1998. A life-long resident of Mineola, New York, she is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) with over 30 years experience in the health care field. Carolyn married Dennis McCarthy in 1967 and they raised one son, Kevin. On December 7, 1993 her husband was killed and her son was injured when a crazed gunman randomly shot into a rush hour commuter train returning from New York City to Long Island. Rather than allow this tragedy to defeat her, Rep. McCarthy turned the incident into a public campaign against gun violence. She began by speaking across the country on the roots and causes of gun violence and she soon became a vocal advocate for commonsense laws to reduce gun violence in New York State and on a national level. Rep. McCarthy introduced an omnibus guns bill and we have incorporated a number of her provisions in our bill.

Rebecca A. Lynn is an admissions evaluator for the Admissions Office at the University of Oregon. Born in Long Beach, California, she has one sister and three brothers, one deceased. A divorced mother, she has two children, Mike J. Dohner, age 17; and Betina A. Lynn, age 19. Her daughter Betina was shot twice, once in the back and once in the foot, in last year's school shooting in Springfield, Oregon that left 2 dead and 22 injured. Since the shooting, she and her daughter Betina have been fighting for common sense gun laws in Oregon. Earlier this year in

Oregon, they helped rally support for a child access prevention bill and a measure that would require background checks at local gun shows in Oregon. Both measures are still pending before the Oregon legislature. When the Children's Gun Violence Prevention Act was reintroduced in March of this year, Rebecca and Betina appeared at a Capitol Hill press conference with Senator Ted Kennedy and Representative Carolyn McCarthy.

Catherine Murphy is a New York City policewoman married to another law enforcement officer. They have always stressed gun safety, and disarmed and locked up their service weapons when at home. That did not help their eleven-year-old son, Christopher, who was accidentally shot and killed in December of 1997 by a friend playing with his older brother's illegal gun. Since the shooting, Catherine has become a leading gun safety advocate. Last year, the City of New York adopted a child safety lock ordinance measure, known as Christopher's law, in memory of her son. Last year she also became a leading advocate for the Children's Gun Violence Prevention Act, a bill sponsored by Senator Ted Kennedy and Representative Carolyn McCarthy.

Tom Mauser, who works for the Colorado Department of Transportation, is the father of 15 year old Daniel Mauser, a Columbine High School sophomore who was killed two and a half weeks ago. Daniel Mauser, who excelled in math and science and earned straight A's, was studying through his lunch hour in the library in the school library when he was ambushed and killed. Tom Mauser and his wife, Linda, have one other child, 13-year-old Christie. Mr. Mauser led the protests against the NRA when the organization held its Denver convention about a week ago.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Speaking Program

- Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)
- Rebecca Lynn
- Catherine Murphy
- Thomas Mauser
- The First Lady

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- You will greet Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), Rebecca Lynn, her daughter Betina Lynn, Catherine Murphy, Thomas Mauser, and President of Handgun Control Inc. Bob Walker in the Blue Room.
- You will proceed to a speaking program in the East Room.
- You will make brief welcoming remarks and introduce Representative Carolyn McCarthy.
- Representative Carolyn McCarthy will make remarks and introduce Rebecca Lynn.
- Rebecca Lynn will make remarks and introduce Catherine Murphy.
- Catherine Murphy will make remarks and introduce Thomas Mauser.
- Thomas Mauser will make remarks and introduce you.
- You will make remarks and close the program.

V. PRESS PLAN

- Open Press.

VI. REMARKS

- Provided by Lowell Weiss

Mother's Day Event Guest List: Survivors
May 8, 1999

Mary Leigh and Charlie Blek, Laguna Hills, CA

Their 21-year-old son, Matthew, was shot and killed in New York City by a teen with a junk gun. The Bleks founded Orange County Citizens for the Prevention of Gun Violence in 1995, and are leading advocates for responsible gun laws in California.

Katina Johnstone, Staten Island, NY

Ian Johnstone, Staten Island, NY (16-year-old son of David)

Her 43-year-old husband, David, was shot and killed in San Francisco by a teen. She founded New Yorkers Against Gun Violence in 1993, and has organized three national Silent Marches. She was a plaintiff in Hamilton v. Accutek, a successful lawsuit against the gun industry.

Tom Vanden Berk, Chicago IL

His 15-year-old son, Tommy, was shot and killed by a teen in Chicago. Tom is an executive director of the Uhlich Children's Home in Chicago and a founder of Help for Survivors.

Alfredo Valentin, New York City, NY

His seventeen-year-old son, Derek, was shot and killed by a teen in New York City. Alfredo is an active member of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence.

Lynn Dix, Berkeley, CA

Lynn's son, Kenzo, was shot and killed by accident when his friend showed him his father's gun. Lynn sued the gun-maker, Berretta, for failing to design the gun with a device to prominently indicate that a round is loaded in the chamber.

Kimberly Rowland, Pleasanton, CA

Kimberly lost a dear friend in the 101 California massacre. She has organized memorial marches on the anniversary of the 101 California and two local ballot initiatives to reduce access to guns.

Freddie Hamilton

Freddie Hamilton lost her youngest child, a 17-year-old son. She is the founder and ex-director of the "Child Development Corporation" in Brooklyn.

Jean Jamata

Jean Jamata's 19-year-old daughter shot and killed herself.

Yvonne Pope

Yvonne Pope's 20-year-old son was shot and killed on the basketball court by an 18-year-old.

Ann Cargill

Ann Cargill's son was shot by a carload of kids armed with an assault weapon.

Francis Davis

Francis Davis lost all three of her sons during different shootings.

Alice McEnaney

Alice McEnaney's son has survived with permanent damage from a shooting at the State University of New York at Albany. He tried to disarm at fellow student.

Geraldine Rodriquez

Geraldine Rodriquez lost her 17-year-old son.

Andrea Slade-Lewis

Andrea Slade-Lewis lost her son.

Caron Brock

Caron Brock lost her 19-year-old son. He was an exceptional basketball player with many awards.

Kay King

Kay King lost her son, Police Sergeant Patrick King, when he was shot from behind in a New Jersey restaurant by a killer who had said he wanted to "take out" a police officer. The shooter then killed himself. Patrick's wife Maureen and sons Patrick and Todd are also attending.

Rebecca Lynn

Rebecca Lynn (speaker) is from Springfield, Oregon. Her daughter, Betina, was seriously wounded in the school shooting there on May 14, 1998. Her son Mikel Dohner and Betina are accompanying her.

Tom Mauser

Tom Mauser's (speaker) son Daniel was killed in the Columbine High School shooting at Littleton, Colorado on April 20.

Patty May

Patty May, of Fairfax, Virginia lost her son to an unintentional shooting by his friend. Her daughter, who mistakenly felt herself responsible for the shooting killed herself with a gun three weeks later.

Tamara Mechem

Tamara Mechem of Littleton, Colorado lost her son to an unintentional shooting by his friend. Her daughter, who mistakenly felt herself responsible for the shooting, killed herself with another gun three weeks later.

Catherine Murphy

Catherine Murphy, (speaker) and her husband Pedro, two New York City police officers lost her 12-year-old son, Christopher, to an unintentional shooting by another teenager who lived next door. The New York City law mandating the sale of trigger locks is named Christopher's Law in his honor. Cathy's son, Justin, who will be with her, misses his brother very much.

Jacqueline and Michael Peranio

Jacqueline and Michael Peranio of Florida lost their eleven-year-old daughter when their thirteen-year-old son Christopher shot her unintentionally. Christopher will also be attending the event.

Judy Soto

Judy Soto's eleven-year-old son, Omar, was killed unintentionally by a friend who found his family's firearm. Judy was a leader in passing one of the first Child Access Prevention laws, in Florida in 1989.

David and Dottie Whitt

David and Dottie Whitt's son Lance was unintentionally shot by a friend who thought he was playing with an unloaded gun. They live in Springfield, Virginia.

Virginia and Marvin Miller

Virginia and Marvin Miller are the parents of FBI agent Michael Miller, killed in a shootout at DC Police Headquarters. Their surviving son, Bryan, is Executive Director of Ceasefire New Jersey, the largest gun control advocacy group in the state.

Veronica Trott

Veronica Trott lost her 17-year-old son. No one was ever convicted.

Julia Dunkin

Julia Dunkin, the Executive Director of Survivors of Homicide in Washington, lost her husband and son to gun violence. Her organization provides support and financial assistance to families to families who suffer the same tragedy.

Shirley and Terrica Gibson

Shirley and Terrica Gibson are the mother and sister of Capital Police Officer Brian T. Gibson, who was killed last summer by a mentally disturbed gunman at the U.S. Capitol.

Ed and Marsha Simon

Ed and Marsha Simon of Cederhurst, New York, lost their son, Matthew, when he committed suicide with a rifle he had just purchased at Wal-Mart.

Patrice Daly

Patrice Daly's 14 year old son was shot when he went to a friend's house. There was a loaded gun in the friend's room.

PROMOTING SCHOOL SAFETY & PREVENTING YOUTH VIOLENCE President Clinton's Record

SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Hosting the White House Conference on School Safety. Convening experts, parents, principals, students, law enforcement and local community leaders, the President and First Lady held the first-ever White House Conference on School Safety on October 15, 1998, to provide an opportunity for Americans to learn more about how they can make their own schools and communities safer. The Conference focused both on the recent incidents of extreme violence as well as the causes of youth violence more generally. It included members of communities affected by school shootings and was linked by satellite to schools and communities across the nation.

Launching a Community-Wide Response to School Safety and Youth Violence. Last month, the President launched the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, which will provide up to \$180 million this year -- and a total of \$380 million over the next three years -- to help 50 communities develop and implement community-wide responses to school safety and youth violence. This initiative, which was also a product of the White House School Safety Conference, represents an unprecedented collaboration between the Departments of Justice, Education and Health and Human Services to provide comprehensive educational, law enforcement, mental health, juvenile justice, and other services to help communities prevent youth violence and drug abuse, in and out of school. Communities have until June 1, 1999 to apply for as much as \$3 million each through this initiative.

Helping to Make All Schools Safe, Disciplined and Drug-Free. In 1994, President Clinton expanded the Drug-Free Schools Act into the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act, making violence prevention a key part of this program. Safe and Drug-Free Schools provides support for violence and drug prevention programs to 97 percent of the nation's school districts. At the White House Conference on School Safety, President Clinton announced his plan for a significant overhaul of the nearly \$600 million Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program to focus more on effective violence prevention initiatives. Under the President's proposal, schools will be required to adopt rigorous, comprehensive school safety plans that include: tough, but fair, discipline policies; safe passage to and from schools; effective drug and violence policies and programs; annual school safety and drug use report cards; funding for mental health services; links to after school programs; efforts to involve parents; and crisis management plans.

Responding to the Early Warning Signs of Troubled Youth. President Clinton directed the Secretary of Education and the Attorney General to develop a guide to help teachers and principals identify and respond to the early warning signs of troubled youth that can lead to school violence. In August 1998, the Departments of Justice and Education released *Early Warning, Timely Response: A Guide to Safe Schools*. The guide, aimed at teachers, principals, parents, and others who work with young people, provides information on how to identify and respond to the early warning signs of troubled youth that can lead to violence in schools. In addition, the guide also instructs schools on how to develop a violence prevention plan and

provides a crisis procedure checklist for schools to use if violence occurs. Finally, the guide lists actions students can take -- such as listening to troubled friends, involving trusted adults, and asking law enforcement to conduct school safety audits -- to help create safer schools. More than 200,000 guides already have been distributed to schools across the nation, and 150,000 additional copies will be distributed next week.

Creating a New Federal Response for Violent Deaths in Schools. President Clinton has proposed a \$12 million School Emergency Response to Violence -- or Project SERV -- in his FY 2000 budget to help schools and local communities respond to school-related violent deaths, such as those that occurred last school year in Jonesboro, Arkansas; Paducah, Kentucky; Pearl, Mississippi; and Springfield, Oregon. Developed with input from local officials and educators in these and other communities, Project SERV will enable the federal government to assist local communities in much the same way that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assists in response to natural disasters. The program will also help communities build the infrastructure necessary to bring more mental health services into their schools.

Hiring School Resource Officers, Targeting Assistance to Schools with Serious Crime Problems. To help give schools with crime problems the tools they need to put the security of our children first, at the White House Conference on School Safety, the President announced a new \$65 million initiative to hire up to 2,000 community police and School Resource Officers to work in schools -- and to train police, educators and other members of the community to help recognize the early warning signs of violence.

Forging School-Based Partnerships Between Schools and Law Enforcement. Under the School-Based Partnerships grant program, the Clinton Administration released \$16.4 million in grants to 155 law enforcement agencies in September 1998. The School-Based Partnerships grants will be used by policing agencies to work with schools and community-based organizations to address crime at and around schools. This initiative emphasizes using principles of community policing and problem-solving methods to address the causes of school-related crime. The grants will help forge or strengthen partnerships between local law enforcement and schools to focus on school crime, drug use and discipline problems.

Issuing the First Annual Report on School Safety. In December 1997, President Clinton called for an Annual Report on School Safety, which was released on October 15, 1998 and sent to every school in the nation. The report includes: an analysis of all existing national school crime data and an overview of state and local crime reporting; examples of schools and strategies that are successfully reducing school violence, drug use and class disruption; actions that parents can take locally to combat school crime; and resources available to schools and communities to help create safe, disciplined and drug-free schools.

GUN CONTROL

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Children. A number of laws and initiatives are keeping guns out of the hands of children and away from criminals. For instance, since the Brady Law's enactment, over 250,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers have been denied handguns, and the 1994 Crime Bill banned 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies -- keeping assault

weapons off America's streets. The Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative (YCGII) is cracking down on the illegal gun markets that supply firearms to juveniles and criminals in 37 target cities. The ATF has already traced more than 77,000 crime guns in the YCGII cities, which has led to the investigation and arrest of hundreds of illegal gun traffickers supplying guns to juveniles and criminals. The Administration's FY 2000 budget proposal proposes adding ATF agents to new YCGII cities to assist in gun trafficking investigations. In addition to these programs, President Clinton signed a directive to every federal agency, requiring child safety locking devices with every handgun issued to federal law enforcement officers. And, in an historic agreement, eight major gun manufacturers have voluntarily agreed to provide child safety locking devices with all their handguns, helping to protect our children.

Enforcing Zero Tolerance for Guns and Other Weapons in Schools. In October 1994, President Clinton signed into law the Gun-Free Schools Act, requiring states to have in effect a law requiring local education agencies (LEAs) to expel students who bring guns to school. The President issued a Presidential Directive later that month to enforce "zero tolerance" for guns in schools, a policy requiring the expulsion of students who bring guns to schools. In school year 1996-97, the U.S. Department of Education estimates that, under zero tolerance policies, 6,093 students were expelled from public schools for bringing a firearm to school.

CULTURE

Giving Families A New Tool -- A Content-Based Television Ratings System. Striving to protect children from violence and adult content on television, the President and Vice President garnered a breakthrough agreement from the television industry to create a content-based voluntary ratings system. The new system went into effect October 1, 1997, giving parents the information they need to determine if TV shows are appropriate for viewing by their children and identifying which programs they want to block from their homes through screening technology (the V-chip). The voluntary rating system includes age- and content-based ratings.

Helping Parents Control What Comes Into Their Living Room with the V-Chip. Four years ago, President Clinton and Vice President Gore used the Family Policy Conference in Nashville to call for V-chip legislation -- to give parents new tools to help them screen out television programs that are not fit for their kids. Under strong leadership from the White House, the following year saw Congress enact the Telecommunications Act of 1996 which included V-chip legislation. Now, by January 2000, all new televisions are scheduled to include this screening technology.

Hosting the White House Conference on Children's Television. In July 1996, the President, Vice President, and First Lady convened the White House Conference on Children's Television to improve and expand education television for children. Conference participants included parents, industry representatives, advocates, experts and advertisers. At the Conference, the television industry joined with the President and agreed to air more educational and instructional children's shows.

Encouraging More Educational Television. At the President's urging, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted clear and concrete rules to encourage the

development and promotion of TV programming that would be both welcomed by parents and watched by children. The rules require three hours of regularly scheduled, half-hour weekly educational and instructional programming as a requirement for license renewal.

Promoting a “Family Friendly” Internet. The President and Vice President have worked to make cyberspace a safe place for children. The Administration has enlisted the assistance of numerous stakeholders, including industry leaders, teachers, parents, Internet users and librarians to work towards the creation of a “family friendly” Internet. The Administration’s three part strategy includes: 1) industry commitments to provide blocking, filtering and labeling technology for use by parents and teachers using the ’Net; 2) effective enforcement of existing laws; and 3) increased parental awareness and involvement. This strategy is designed to give parents and teachers the tools they need to prevent children from getting access to inappropriate material on the Internet, and to guide them towards high-quality educational resources.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

Increased Funding for Children’s Mental Health Services: From 1993 to 1999, the President has increased funding for children’s mental health services from just \$5 million to \$78 million. Significant parts of this funding will be used to provide link schools with mental health services.

Substantial New Increases to Improve Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment. In 1999, the Congress responded to the Administration’s proposal to substantially increase substance abuse prevention and treatment activities. Congress has approved a critical \$275 million increase in the Substance Abuse Block Grant at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). With this increase, over \$1.5 billion will be allocated to the block grant in FY1999 enabling tens of thousands of high-risk youth, pregnant women, and other underserved Americans to get much-needed drug treatment and prevention services.

New Investments in Mental Health Services at SAMHSA. The President’s FY 99 budget included a new \$13 million increase in mental health block grant. With this increase, the block grant will contain \$288 million in mental health spending this year. These services provide much needed treatment, counseling and services for thousands of people with mental illnesses.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Providing Safe After-School Opportunities for More than a Million Children a Year. Last year (FY98), the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program was expanded to \$200 million. This funding is already supporting hundreds of school-based after-school programs in rural and urban schools in 44 states and the District of Columbia, including weekend and summer programs. This year, the President proposed to triple this initiative -- to \$600 million -- to provide safe and educational after-school opportunities for up to 1.1 million school-age children in communities across the country. In addition, the Education Department released a report in June 1998, titled *Safe and Smart: Making the After-School Hours Work for Kid*. This report shows that after-school programs can lower juvenile crime and improve academic performance. *Safe and Smart* was sent to every school district in the country.

Cracking Down on Truancy. Truancy prevention initiatives have been shown to keep more children in school and dramatically reduce daytime crime. The Education Department issued a guidebook to the 15,000 school districts nationwide which outlines the central characteristics of a comprehensive truancy prevention policy and highlights model initiatives in cities and towns across the country. Since then, the Education Department has provided grants to local school districts to develop innovative truancy prevention programs of the kind described in the guidebook.

Encouraging Schools to Adopt School Uniform Policies. School uniforms have been found to be a promising strategy to reduce violence while promoting discipline and respect in school. Because of this, the Clinton Administration has encouraged schools to consider adopting school uniform policies by sharing with every school district a school uniforms manual prepared by the Department of Education in consultation with local communities and the Department of Justice. Since the President highlighted school uniforms, a growing number of schools have adopted these policies including: New York City, Dade County, San Antonio, Houston, Chicago and Boston.

Supporting Curfews at the Local Level. Community curfews are designed to help keep children out of harm's way and enhance community safety. Because of their success, President Clinton has encouraged communities to adopt curfew policies. A 1997 survey by the U.S. Conference of Mayors has shown that 276 of 347 cities surveyed -- or 80 percent -- had youth curfew laws, up from 70 percent in 1995.

Developing a Comprehensive Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Strategy. President Clinton has proposed a comprehensive strategy to (1) target gangs and violent youths with tougher punishments and by expanding anti-gang task forces and the use of racketeering statutes (i.e., RICO) for gang-related offenses; (2) crack down on kids and guns by prohibiting violent juveniles from buying guns and increasing penalties for selling handguns to youths; and (3) keep kids off the streets and out of trouble by expanding after-school programs and promoting anti-truancy initiatives and youth curfews.

Supporting Civic, Community and Faith-Based Organizations. Recognizing the important role that civic, community and faith-based organizations can play in reducing crime, the Administration launched a new Values-Based Violence Prevention Initiative to make \$2.2 million in grants available to 16 community-based collaboratives, including religiously-affiliated organizations, that target youth violence, gangs, truancy, and other juvenile problems by promoting common-sense values and responsibility.

Encouraging Conflict Resolution. The Departments of Education and Justice have developed and distributed 40,000 conflict resolution guides to schools and community organizations, providing guidance on how to develop effective conflict resolution programs; Education and Justice are training community officials and educators on these conflict resolution measures.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 6, 1999

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House
H-232 Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Hastert,

On the eve of Mother's Day, a celebration that honors the contribution mothers make to their children and their families, we are writing to ask that the House of Representatives honor all of our mothers by scheduling a vote on gun safety legislation by the end of June.

In the wake of the Littleton shootings, mothers and fathers across the country are facing new concerns about their children's safety and access to guns. A 1993 Harris survey found that 59% of schoolchildren in grades six through twelve said they "could get a handgun if they wanted one," and a third of those polled said they could get one "within an hour."

Moreover, between the years 1987 and 1993, juvenile homicides involving a firearm grew by 182%. Children are getting guns and children are using guns in violent crimes. Clearly, the laws that we have on the books are not working.

What can Congress do? There are a range of gun safety legislative proposals that have been introduced in the House, and we believe they all deserve a fair and public hearing, including:

- closing the loophole on gun show sales;
- raising the eligibility age on gun ownership from 18 to 21;
- requiring child safety locks; and
- holding guns to consumer safety standards like other products.

We know that guns are not the single cause of the increase in juvenile violence. Our culture has become awash in violence. From television to video games to the Internet, our children are inundated with violent imagery that can have a damaging effect on their psychological well-being. However, we must recognize that it is access to guns that can turn a disturbed teenager into a mass murderer. It's time to strengthen our gun laws to keep firearms out of the hands of children.

Mr. Speaker, we ask you to schedule two days of debate on gun safety by June 20th,

Father's Day. Let's devote a few days of our lives to save the lives of children. This Mother's Day, it's the greatest gift we could give to America's moms.

Sincerely,

**Members Signed on to Gun Safety Legislation Letter to Speaker Hastert
5/6/99**

1. Rep. Tammy Baldwin (WI)
2. Rep. Corrine Brown (FL)
3. Rep. Julia Carson (IN)
4. Rep. Donna Christian-Christensen (VI)
5. Rep. Eva Clayton (NC)
6. Rep. Diana DeGette (CO)
7. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (CT)
8. Rep. Anna Eshoo (CA)
9. Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX)
10. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX)
11. Rep. Stephanie Tubbs Jones (OH)
12. Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick (MI)
13. Rep. Barbara Lee (CA)
14. Rep. Zoe Lofgren (CA)
15. Rep. Nita Lowey (NY)
16. Rep. Carolyn Maloney (NY)
17. Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (NY)
18. Rep. Cynthia McKinney (GA)
19. Rep. Carrie Meek (FL)
20. Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA)
21. Rep. Patsy Mink (HI)
22. Rep. Grace Napolitano (CA)
23. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)
24. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (CA)
25. Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA)
26. Rep. Janice Schakowsky (IL)
27. Rep. Louise Slaughter (NY)
28. Rep. Ellen Tauscher (CA)
29. Rep. Nydia Velazquez (NY)
30. Rep. Maxine Waters (CA)
31. Rep. Lynn Woolsey (CA)

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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO

30 DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

ASSISTANT TO THE MINORITY LEADER

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, May 6, 1999

Contact: G. James Papa
202/225-3661

DELAURO: GUN SAFETY DESERVES DEBATE

WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT) was joined by women Democrats today as she released a letter to House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-IL) that calls for broad and open discussion of gun safety legislation. On the eve of Mother's Day, the women members implored Hastert to schedule two days of debate on gun safety before Father's Day, June 20.

"Mothers and fathers across the country are facing new concerns about their children's safety and access to guns," said DeLauro. "Children are getting guns and children are using guns in violent crimes. We are asking that the House take the time to look at all the major gun safety proposals."

The letter, signed by thirty-one women members, simply calls for a fair and public hearing on gun safety legislation, including proposals that:

- o close the loophole on gun show sales
- o raise the eligibility age for gun ownership from 18 to 21
- o require child safety locks
- o hold guns to consumer safety standards

"In America, we take all kinds of precautions to protect our children," said DeLauro. "We ensure the safety of everything from baby rattles to strollers to car seats. But, when it comes to our most dangerous and deadly product -- a gun -- there are no protections for children. We protect our kids from rattles, but not from guns? There is something wrong with this picture."

DeLauro is a co-sponsor of the Children's Gun Violence Prevention Act (H.R. 1342), which would make guns safer by requiring handguns to 1) have a minimum trigger resistance so children under five cannot pull it; 2) pass a "drop test" designed to prevent accidental firing; 3) have a manual safety; and 4) be sold with qualified child safety locks.

"This Mother's Day, mothers across this country are asking us to take common sense steps to protect their families," said DeLauro. "As mothers and daughters and sisters, we're calling for a chance to debate common sense gun safety measures."

DeLauro was joined at the press conference by Congresswomen Carolyn McCarthy (NY), Julia Carson (IN), Nita Lowey (NY), Carolyn Maloney (NY), Juanita Millender-McDonald (CA), Grace Napolitano (CA), Ellen Tauscher (CA), and Lynn Woolsey (CA).

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Lost Boys : Why Our Sons Turn Violent and How We Can Save Them

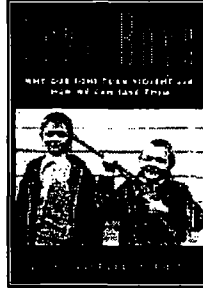
by James Garbarino

Book Information

at a glance

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Reviews

From Kirkus Reviews , April 12, 1999

An impressively well researched, thoughtful, and helpful study of why some American boys become violent, even murderous, and about what can be done, beyond the simpleminded response of building more prisons, to prevent such behavior and to help boys when preventive efforts fail. Garbarino (Human Development/Cornell.) delves into the confluence of psychological, social, existential, and spiritual factors that make some acting out boys become violent. These include lack of sufficient attachment to at least one loving and reliable adult, living in drug- and crime-infested neighborhoods, suffering abuse or some other trauma, and lacking the kind of a spiritual anchor that provides a system of meaning beyond the self. In the last quarter of his book, Garbarino proposes a variety of responses (he doesn't believe in a single magic bullet solution) to aid at-risk and violent boys. His ideas are often innovative and generally involve the boys families as well as social institutions. For example, he recommends that incarcerated juvenile offenders be placed in institutions more akin to monasteries than the boot camps that are the rage today. Garbarino bases his findings on both an extensive review of the literature and wide-ranging discussions with a significant number of boys in prison. With the exception of occasional meaningless statistics (television allegedly accounts for about 10 to 15 percent of the variation in violent behavior) and a few hyperbolic generalizations (being a boy is inherently traumatic in our culture), his writing is straightforward, clear, and engaging. At a time when too many policy makers look at juvenile offenders with a combination of contempt and rage, Garbarino's important book offers them, and those who work with adolescent and pre-adolescent boys, a far more sophisticated and socially constructive approach. -- Copyright ©1999, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

Synopsis

A leading psychologist examines the recent explosion of adolescent violence, identifies children at risk, and offers proven methods to prevent aggressive

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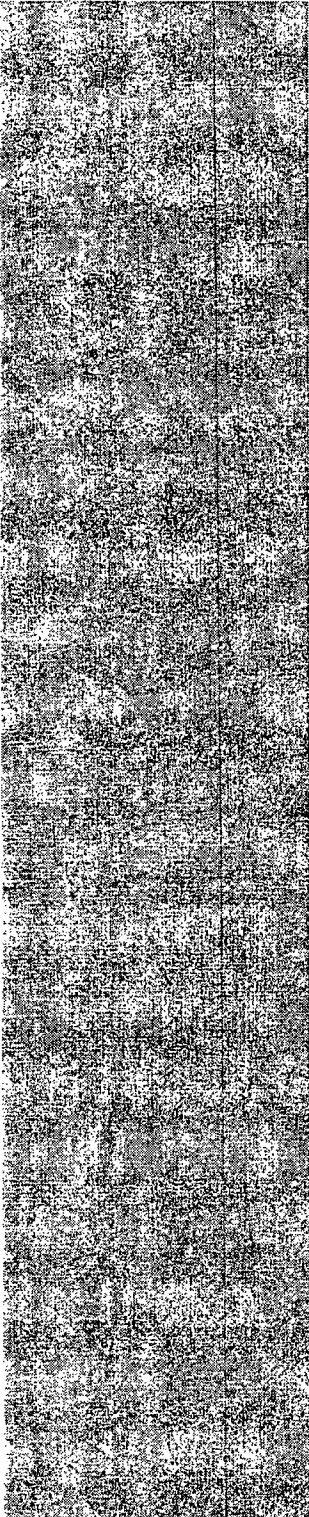
behavior.

The author, Jim Garbarino jg38@cornell.edu , April 16, 1999

Putting a human face on youth violence is my goal.

My work as a professor at Cornell University and as an invited lecturer at conferences and meetings all over the country means that virtually every single week I have a chance to talk to groups of people about issues affecting children, youth, and families. However, one of the highlights of these situations is the opportunity to talk directly to individuals who come up after the lecture or after class and to hear what they have to say. This is why I am pleased to be able to speak to individuals who have come to Amazon.com for information about my new book *Lost Boys*. If we were sitting down for a chat this is what I would say to you about the book: For the past 25 years I have been searching for answers to three questions: "why do human beings hurt each other?" "what effect does this hurt have on the development of children and adolescents?" and "how can we transform our lives to heal the hurt?" This work has taken me to war zones around the world to understand the impact of political violence. This work has taken me all over the world, from Yugoslavia to Mozambique, from Cambodia to Nicaragua, from Israel and Palestine to Northern Ireland. For example, in the wake of the Gulf War I was sent to Kuwait and Iraq on behalf of UNICEF to assess the impact of the violence on children there. In my work here at home as a psychologist and a researcher I go to neighborhoods, schools, and prisons all over North America, where I try to understand how violence at home compares with violence abroad and what lessons we can learn from the one to help us deal with the other. For the last four years I have been focusing my work on the problem of lethal youth violence in America: kids who kill. This means that I sit down hour after hour with violent boys and young men to hear their stories. I have learned a great deal from these hours spent listening. I have learned to see beyond the outside toughness so many violent youth project to glimpse their inner sadness and pain. And I have come to see the central importance of spiritual development in understanding and dealing with the issue of youth violence--preventing it and curing it. This is what *Lost Boys* is all about. I think it has something to offer to every adult who cares about kids -- as the parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, friend or neighbor of a particular boy or in some general way as a teacher, a counselor, a coach, a police officer, a lawyer or a therapist. I hope readers will come away from *Lost Boys* with a renewed sense of hope and sympathy for the difficulties many boys face in growing up in our society and the devastating costs to all of us when boys grow up hurt and sad, costs that take the form of violence directed at self or others. Remember that about the same number of boys kill themselves as kill other people in our society. In many ways *Lost Boys* is a work of love. It reflects my love for the boys in my life-- my son, my step-son, and my nephews. Learning how to love them has taught me a great deal. And it reflects my love for the girls in my life -- my daughter and my niece-- because the quality of the lives "my girls" will live depends to a great extent upon the relationships they will have with the boys of today who will become the men of tomorrow. *Lost Boys* is also a work of love in that it reflects the love I have found in my own spiritual life. This recognition of the central importance of spirituality runs through the book as a complement to all the psychology, sociology, biology, and anthropology I use to make sense of violence in the lives of boys. If you find *Lost Boys* helpful and want to share your experience or if you simply want to be in touch because you have something to say to me you can reach me via e-mail at jg38@cornell.edu

Customer Comments



Average Customer Review: ★★★★★ Number of Reviews: 1

cb53@cornell.edu from United States , April 16, 1999 ★★★★★

Extremely timely and enlightening book about youth violence.

This book by Dr. James Garbarino comes at a time when a lot of Americans wonder: What will happen next with youth violence? How far is this going to go? Are youth becoming monsters?

Like many Americans and others from around the world, I have been asking myself these questions. I have been horrified by the incomprehensible crimes committed by such young boys as the ones we all watched in replays of horrifying school shootings. "Lost Boys" is the first book I have read which really helped me understand how kids can commit "senseless" crimes. It also gave me hope that we, as members of society, do not need to be helpless witnesses of this madness. I recommend this book to anyone living in a violent society.

Customers who bought titles by James Garbarino also bought titles by these authors:

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 New York, NY 10023
 (212) 580-5308
 (212) 874-1973 fax

DATE: August 13, 1999
FAX: See Below
FROM: Salome Brant and Gigi Causey (assistants to Peter Yarrow)
RE: **UPDATE: "Don't Laugh At Me" Project**

Total Pages To Follow: 3

Please contact (212) 580-5308 if there are any problems with this transmission

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August 13, 1999

UPDATE: "Don't Laugh At Me" PSA/Teacher's Guide Project

Note: Conversations and developments occur each day and progress in each of the areas listed below if very rapid at this point.

Screen Vision

Screen Vision is a company that places on-screen advertising in over 10,000 movie theaters throughout America. Screen Vision does a nationwide, yearly campaign with an on-screen Public Service Ad and audience collection in movie theaters for the Variety Clubs. Dennis Fogerty, President of Screen Vision, is cementing a commitment from the ad agency Doyle, Dane & Burbank (DDB) to create a 30- to 45-second film version of "Don't Laugh At Me" for a solicitation on behalf of Variety Clubs.

Clint Eastwood was the on-screen celebrity for such a campaign last year. Peter, Paul & Mary may be asked to be included, on screen, for the "Don't Laugh" PSA. Fred Tarter, who introduced Peter to Dennis Fogerty, is a dear friend of Peter's and will help in any way he can. He is also co-owner of Screen Vision, with Mr. Fogerty. The team at DDB who might create the film PSA is headed by Greg Popp, Executive Director and Head of Production, Adam Glickman, Writer, and Craig Feigen, Art Director. The budget for the production of such a project (which will be created pro-bono by DDB) is estimated to be around \$600,000.

Office of the First Lady

Melanne Verveer, Chief of Staff for the First Lady, Hillary Clinton, informed us that the First Lady had watched the "Don't Laugh At Me" video and we should soon be receiving a letter of support.

Educators for Social Responsibility

Larry Dieringer, National President of Educators for Social Responsibility (ESR) is fully behind the "Don't Laugh At Me" project and will be working with Linda Lantieri of Resolving Conflict Creatively (RCC) to develop the "Don't Laugh" Teacher's Guide. Mr. Dieringer is currently working on a budget for the Teacher's Guide.

501 (C) 3 Umbrella

Tom Asher, an attorney who represents Norman Lear's personal foundation will be handling the 501 C 3 for the "Don't Laugh" Project. He is hoping to structure the project in such a way that there can be an assured stream of income to support the project beyond the initial \$60,000 launch money that Peter is in the process of raising. The project may run through the Proteus Fund, an umbrella 501 C 3 that has the specific mandate for shepherding such projects, or through a special "Operation Respect" or "Don't Laugh At Me" 501 C 3. Tom is extremely well respected and extraordinarily knowledgeable in this area, and a good friend of Peter's.

Milt Glaser

Milt Glaser, the world-renowned graphic designer, has been sent the video and written materials on the "Don't Laugh" Project. Peter will shortly be conferring with him about doing artwork for the package and maybe a classroom poster. Paul Davis, another renowned graphic artist, may also be approached to consider making a poster.

Pro-Bono Song Permission

Peter spoke to Steve Seskin who will coordinate the obtaining of pro-bono publishing rights of "Don't Laugh At Me" for all aspects of the campaign. Steve Seskin and Allen Shamblin are co-writers and their publishing companies are Sony/ATV Tunes LLC and Davis Aaron Music/Built On Rock Music respectively.



PY Productions
 27 West 67th Street
 New York, NY 10023
 (212) 580-5308
 (212) 874-1973 fax

*Shirley
 JMI*

DATE: August 20, 1999
TO: See Below
FROM: Salome Brant and Gigi Causey (assistants to Peter Yarrow)
RE: UPDATE: "Don't Laugh At Me" Project

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Phillip Self (Sony Publishing)	615-244-6387
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Jacque Turner	516-431-2954
Steve Seskin	

Dear everyone associated with the "Don't Laugh At Me" project,

We just got this wonderfully supportive letter from first lady Hillary Clinton. Her help with this project, and its possible inclusion in the Presidential initiative that she mentioned, I feel sure will underscore and broaden our mandate and efforts.

All The Best,

With Thanks,

Peter Yarrow.

PS Another update with further outreach efforts will be coming to you next week.

PPS please email or fax your email address to us at pyprod@aol.com so that future correspondence that can be easily sent by email will be forwarded in that fashion. Other correpondences, with images, letterheads, etc. will be faxed as before.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 17, 1999

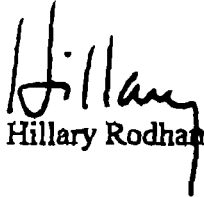
Peter Yarrow
PY Productions
27 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023

Dear Peter:

I had the opportunity to view your moving video, "Don't Laugh At Me," last weekend. What an effective way to reach into the hearts of young people and teach them the lessons of tolerance and kindness. I was pleased to hear of your plans to distribute the video through children's and education organizations, and hope that it will receive the wide audience that it deserves. If you send another copy, I will share it with the new nonprofit organization being formed to address the problem of youth violence which the President will announce August 27th.

As always, you have found a way to use music to teach us all important lessons about our times, and how we can make a difference. Thank you for this piece, and for all you have done and will continue to do.

Sincerely,


Hillary Rodham Clinton



PY Productions
 27 West 67th Street
 New York, NY 10023
 (212) 580-5308
 (212) 874-1973 fax

DATE: September 2, 1999
TO: See Below
FROM: Salome Brant and Gigi Causey (assistants to Peter Yarrow)
RE: **UPDATE: "Don't Laugh At Me" Project**

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Phillip Self (Sony Publishing)	615-244-6387
Allen Shamblin	615-591-9860
Jacque Turner	516-431-2954
Steve Seskin	

Dear friends and supporters of the "Don't Laugh At Me" project,

It has been a very productive time for the "Don't Laugh At Me" project. Included in this update is information about lots of exciting new outreach possibilities as well as encouraging expressions of support. During the next week we will begin the process of creating the Teacher's Guide which will actually be a series of exercises and dialogues for a class to perform, led by a teacher, social worker, psychologist, etc. (depending upon the circumstance in which the video and Teacher's Guide are used).

One exciting development is that Milt Glaser, perhaps the most eminent graphic artist in the world, has volunteered to create the graphics for the "Don't Laugh At Me" packet, pro-bono. In fact, many people, including the esteemed attorneys Victor Kovner and Tom Asher, are volunteering time and talent because of their enthusiasm for the project, and their belief that it can truly make a difference.

Please feel free to call me with any thoughts or further connections that we might consider as we broaden the network of potential participants in the "Don't Laugh At Me" project.

I send my best, and thanks to all.

Peter Yarrow

PY/sb



PY Productions
27 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023
(212) 580-5308
(212) 874-1973 fax

September 2, 1999

UPDATE: "Don't Laugh At Me" PSA/Teacher's Guide Project

Note: Conversations and developments occur each day and progress in each of the areas listed below if very rapid at this point.

First Lady Hillary Clinton

Letter of support received from First Lady, Hillary Clinton (you may already have received a faxed copy). Additional copies of the video and synopsis of "Don't Laugh" outreach efforts were sent as per request of the First Lady for potential interface with the new Presidential non-profit organization mentioned in the her letter of support.

Attorney General Janet Reno: Justice Department and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Peter Yarrow and the Attorney General spoke on Monday, August 23rd after she had viewed the "Don't Laugh At Me" video and written material. Her response was very enthusiastic and resulted in a meaningful, exploratory conversation with Donni LeBoeuf, of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, who reviewed the video and written materials with Sarah Ingersoll, Special Assistant to Mr. Shay Bilchik, Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice. Ms. LeBoeuf will review possible "Don't

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Salome Brant and Gigi Causey to Shirley Sagawa et al. re: Update [partial] (1 page)	09/02/1999	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Shirley Sagawa
OA/Box Number: 17349

FOLDER TITLE:

Youth Development/Afterschool/Violence

2013-0124-S

rc1197

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]

Laugh" project interfaces with Mr. Bilchik regarding programs linked to the Justice Department such as:

- 1) "Hate Crimes Prevention Center", Middle School program.
- 2) "Flashpoint"; a juvenile offenders program in Boston that utilizes film clips in the public school context.
- 3) "Bullying Prevention"; a program in South Carolina's Elementary and Middle Schools.
- 4) The National Youth Network works in conjunction with organizations like the Boys & Girls Clubs, 4H Clubs, etc. Possible interfaces with the National Youth Network; regional meetings, adult sponsors program and newsletter alerts.

Peter Yarrow and Ms. LeBoeuf discussed other possible connections re the Office of Juvenile Justice website, mailing list, clearing house, etc. Evaluation by Mr. Bilchik and other staff will precede further discussions anticipated in about a week.

Ad Council Endorsement of the "Don't Laugh" PSA

Peter Yarrow submitted an application for Ad Council endorsement of the "Don't Laugh" 30-second video PSA. A one-minute PSA is also being discussed. Murray Gaylord, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Ad Council, requested some changes; blurring of advertising signage during a shot of a Special Olympic athlete, extension of the end shot of the four logos to 3.5 seconds (of the Special Olympics, Variety Clubs, Children's Defense Fund and Save the Children) and the creation and inclusion of a slogan for the "Don't Laugh" project PSA at the end of the video. Roy Elvove of BBDO, who produced Peter, Paul & Mary's "Where Have All The Children Gone" spot (for the National Crime Prevention Council) created a "Don't Laugh" slogan that has met with great enthusiasm from the Ad Council. "RIDICULE IS NO LAUGHING MATTER" will be placed at the end of the 30-second (and 60-second PSA, if it is created), and possibly the three and a half minute video that will be distributed in schools across America.

Fundraising Efforts to Complete the \$60,000 Needed for Initial Launch of the "Don't Laugh" Project

- 1) The Lear Family Foundation has committed to a \$20,000 grant.

- 2)

(b)(6)

[001]

- 3) A grant proposal for \$10,000 has been submitted the Nathan Cummings Foundation.
- 4) Preliminary "packets" (videos and written material) have been sent to twelve other potential funding sources. Note: no one yet approached has turned down the request to fund the project. Peter Yarrow will follow up with those twelve potential donor sources, starting this week.
- 5) Smaller personal donations have been promised from a couple of other sources.

"Character Education", a National Initiative (linked to McGraw Hill Publishing)

Charlotte Frank, Vice President of Research and Development at McGraw Hill Publishing facilitated a phone meeting between Esther Schaeffer, Executive Director and CEO of Character Education, one of the many remarkable programs we are approaching that are dedicated to purposes similar to that of the "Don't Laugh" project. After an in depth discussion with Peter, Ms. Schaeffer invited Peter to attend the Character Education Conference on October 23rd honoring Sandy McDonald, one of the creators of Character Education. They discussed Peter's presenting the "Don't Laugh" project in the context of a mini-concert during the awards dinner. Peter accepted (pro-bono). Ms. Schaeffer believes that the "Don't Laugh" project could bring increased visibility and public awareness to their "Character Education" initiative as well as other excellent sensitization and education programs that foster tolerance, non-violent and creative conflict resolution (all aspects of which need to be addressed if a classroom is to change its interactive norms relating to self-generated mandates for an elimination of ridicule, ostracism, shaming, etc.).

Note: We anticipate the linkage of the "Don't Laugh" project to other programs, whereby, synergistically, the "Don't Laugh" project either amplifies or underscores a project already in place or encourages the exploration of a new follow-up program after exposure of the "Don't Laugh" project to a class.

Additionally, Ms. Schaeffer of Character Education expressed the opinion that the visibility of Peter might offer an important new element, focusing attention on many programs including Character Education, that deserve broader visibility, public awareness, and utilization.

Cross-pollination of many tolerance/sensitization projects might be encouraged by the "Don't Laugh" project.

Peter Yarrow Appearances for Networking the "Don't Laugh" Project

Peter will appear at the October 22nd Character Education Conference in Charlotte, NC, the Urban Music Educator's Conference in New York City (also on October 22nd) and at the Whole Life Expo in Austin, TX on October 7th.

Creation and Writing of the Teacher's Guide to Accompany the Video

Discussions with Linda Lantieri of Resolving Conflict Creatively (RCC) and Larry Dieringer, President of Educators for Social Responsibility (ESR) have resulted in an immediate start date for the creation of the Teacher's Guide. Conferences are being scheduled this week among Ms. Lantieri, Mr. Dieringer, Jim Carnes of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and Vincent Lawrence, Manager of Music Products at McGraw Hill Publishing, to specify process, responsibilities, tasks and timeline for the writing of the Teacher's Guide. All the above representatives will have input.

Westwood One/Radio "Don't Laugh" PSA

Stan Reynolds, past President of Variety Clubs and main organizer of the "Westwood One" campaign has successfully raised the funding (up to \$50,000 if necessary) for the toll free, call in, telephone technology for the "Westwood One" national PSA campaign. We await approval of an easy to remember phrase corresponding to a 1-800 number before we produce/record the first PSAs (for example, 1-800-RESPECT is not available, among many others). Peter Yarrow will record the first spot. Stan Reynolds and Peter will make a list of, and contact, other media-visible people to record spots that will be appropriate for the various formats of the Westwood One Networks (Adult Standard, Adult Contemporary - younger -, Country, etc.). We expect to go on-air in late September. Bravo and congratulations to Stan.

Screen Vision Progress Report

Dennis Fogerty, President of Screen Vision has written a letter of intent (you may already have received a faxed copy) to pursue the placing of a "Don't Laugh" 45-60 second PSA in 10,000 movie theaters, thereby generating donations for the Variety Clubs. Doyle, Dane & Burbank, the nationally known, Chicago based advertising firm, intends to shoot a new video for this theater presentation. The production will be pro-bono but the impressive budget (that DDB will absorb) is anticipated to be as high as \$600,000. The video will be screened in movie theaters between January 1, 2000 and Valentine's Day.

McGraw Hill Distribution of Video and Teacher's Guide (the Package) Progress Report

Charlotte Frank and Vincent Lawrence of McGraw Hill Publishing have confirmed that McGraw Hill will distribute "the packet". They are also comfortable with other sources of distribution such as the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and Educators for Social Responsibility (ESR). This essential and labor intensive task will be performed pro-bono by McGraw Hill.

Also, discussions are underway to consider distribution via the internet, downloading the video and Teacher's Guide free to all who want it. Sources for such internet downloading may be websites at McGraw Hill, SPLC, ESC. Other organizations such as the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) will be approached for possible website downloading of "the packet".

501(C)(3) Status of "Don't Laugh" Project Progress Report

Donations can be sent to the Proteus Fund/Don't Laugh Project at 264 North Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01002. Proteus Fund, the project's fiscal sponsor, is a section 501(C)(3) public charity that supports an array of charitable and educational programs throughout the United States and abroad. Operation Respect is a Delaware non-profit corporation which will operate the project and has been approved for grants by Proteus Fund. In time, Operation Respect may acquire its own 501(C)(3) status.

Late Breaking Developments

- 1) The Video Software Dealer's Association (VSDA)
is anxious to explore the display of the "Don't Laugh At Me" video for inclusion on entry display video loops in retail video stores. They might also provide another vehicle for distribution to schools (loan or free of charge). (Please see the attached letter from Carrie Dieterich, Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations at the VSDA and dated August 30, 1999.)
- 2) The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC)
John A. Calhoun, President and CEO of NCPC, is extremely supportive of the project. He has offered to "spread the word" to NCPC's 130-member coalition and hundreds of schools teaching their Teens, Crime and Community curriculum. (Please see attached letter and list of 130-member coalition from John A. Calhoun, dated August 26, 1999.)

- 3) The National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)
is very interested in exploring collaborations with the "Don't Laugh" project. They are interested in arranging for an appearance by Peter and Linda Lantieri of Resolving Conflict Creatively, at their NAESP Convention, March 18-21, to introduce the "Don't Laugh" project. They wish to review the Teacher's Guide materials (currently being conceived/created under the leadership of Ms. Lantieri) for a feasibility and point of departure perspective on collaborative efforts. (Please see attached letter from Marguerite Leishman, dated August 17, 1999.)
- 4) BBD&O Outreach
Roy Elvove of BBD&O is approaching MGM Home Entertainment with the idea of placing the "Don't Laugh At Me" PSA at the end of upcoming home video releases. (Of course, we would only attach the PSA to appropriate films). (Please see attached letter from Roy Elvove, dated August 9, 1999.)
- 5) Screen Vision
Progress and commercials should be ready by December of 1999. A 10,000 movie theater fundraising drive utilizing the "Don't Laugh At Me" PSA is anticipated for a January 2000 start with Variety Clubs as the beneficiary. (Please see attached memorandum from Screen Vision.)
- 6) Huckleberry Youth Programs
A strong letter of support from Lisa Graham, Community Relations Director of Huckleberry Youth Programs, was received. Ms. Graham believes that the video should "be in every school across the country". (Please see attached letter from Lisa Graham dated August 30, 1999.)



Video Software
Dealers Association

Carrie Dietrich
Vice President of Marketing & Public Relations

August 30, 1999

Via Fax

Ms. Dawn Wiener
Enchanted Rock Productions
505 W. 13th Street
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Peter Yarrow - "Don't Laugh At Me"

Dear Dawn:

The VSDA would like to support Peter Yarrow's message of tolerance among young people (and all of us) and his video "Don't Laugh At Me". We have looked at various ways we can do this and feel that the most effective ways are:

1. Approach the in-store loop production companies to add this song to their monthly reel for retail stores. This is probably the fastest and most effective way to reach a large number of consumers through video stores.
2. Provided we can obtain affordable copies of the video, we would provide one copy to all VSDA retail members and include an order form for them to order additional copies.
3. Provide our retailers with a "tip sheet" on using the video within the community. For example, they could contact their local schools and let them know the video is available for rent or sale in their store or they may wish to loan it free of charge to schools and youth groups. We would leave that decision up to each member.

I know you were anxious to hear back from us because his schedule is filling up, so I hope this helps. Please give me a call when you have a moment and we can discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carrie", with a horizontal line underneath it.

cc: B. Anderson

16530 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 400
Encino, California 91436
Voice (818) 385-1500
Fax (818) 385-0567
<http://www.vsdas.org>



National Crime Prevention Council

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

August 26, 1999

Peter Yarrow
27 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023

Re: Don't Laugh at Me

Dear Peter:

I had the pleasure this weekend of reviewing "Don't Laugh at Me." When one considers the terrible aloneness of so many of our kids, the disconnection from family, school, neighborhood, and hope, we know all too well the tragic implications of ridicule, shaming, "dissing."

There are many curricula out there that attempt to deal with this particular subject, but few can open the discussion as well as this poignant and pointed piece, "Don't Laugh at Me" can. In the hands of the committed teacher, accompanied by a teaching guide, I think we can dramatically reduce the incidence of shaming and ridicule, and more importantly, create a positive, supportive classroom atmosphere.

As you know, I run the National Crime Prevention Council, the nation's focal point for crime prevention, whose work includes award-winning public service advertising, training and technical assistance, publications, and major demonstration programs in numerous cities and crime-besieged neighborhoods, and youth groups and schools throughout the country.

I'd be more than delighted to spread the word about "Don't Laugh at Me" to our 130-member coalition (see attached listing) and the hundreds of schools teaching our Teens, Crime, and the Community curriculum.

Peter, again, I commend you for your wonderful missionary efforts and look forward to working with you. You have my commitment.

With every good wish,


John A. Calhoun
President & CEO

JAC/adf
encl.

cc: James E. Copple
Jean F. O'Neil
Jacqueline Aker

Officers/Executive Committee
President
U.J. Brubaker, Jr.
Pastor President & CEO
ADT Security Systems, Inc., FL

Executive Vice President
Mrs. Arthur G. Whyne
Civic Leader, CT

Sincerely
Robert F. Dargatzis
Civic Leader, VA

Treasurer/Finance
Edward L. Malinen, Co-Chairman
Douglas Elliman, NY

David A. Dean, Esq., CEO
David A. Dean and Associates, P.C.
Dean International, Inc., TX

Mrs. Peggy Stewart
Civic Leader, DC

Executive Director
John A. Calhoun
National Crime Prevention Council, DC

Directors
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Cleveland Real Estate Partners, OH

Jean Agostini, Associate Professor
Yale Child Study Center, CT

Rudy M. Bellotti
Assistant Vice President
The Coca-Cola Company, GA

Orlway P. Burson, President
Law Enforcement
Assistance Foundation, NY

George K. Campbell, President
Polarity Security Services, Inc., MA

George Cravley
Assistant Executive Director
Norfolk Redevelopment &
Housing Authority, VA

Dennis Gibas
Director of Business Development
Motorola, IL

Carole Hillard
Lieutenant Governor, SD

Robert Kern, President Emeritus
The Advertising Council, Inc., NY

Philip Lovell, Co-Chair
National Youth Network, DC

William F. May, Chairman & CEO
Status of Liberty/Ella Island
Foundation, NY

J. Ben Miller, Principal
Colliers Turkey Mountain, NC

Charles A. Moppe, Chief
Portland Police Bureau, OR

Richard Newton, IT
Program Assistant
Center for Youth at Risk, DC

Leonard H. Roberts
President of Peco Steel
CEO Elect, Terey Corp., TX

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

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

Miss Virginia Stewart, President
Stewart's Unlimited, SC

Joseph Y. Viorita, I
Regional Chairman & CEO
Ame Ram A Cal System, Inc.

I
Advisory Director
IT Youth Advisory Director

CRIME PREVENTION COALITION OF AMERICA

Last Modified: June 30, 1999

State Members

Alabama Crime Prevention Clearinghouse
 Arizona Crime Prevention Association
 Arkansas Crime Information Center
 California Attorney General's Office
 California Crime Prevention Officers Association
 California Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning
 Colorado Crime Prevention Association
 Crime Prevention Association of Connecticut
 Florida Bureau of Criminal Justice Programs
 Florida Crime Prevention Association
 Georgia Crime Prevention Association
 Georgia Department of Community Affairs
 Hawaii Department of the Attorney General
 Idaho Crime Prevention Association
 Idaho Department of Law Enforcement
 Illinois Attorney General's Office
 Illinois Crime Prevention Association
 Indiana Crime Prevention Coalition
 Iowa Crime Prevention Association
 Iowa Department of Public Safety
 Kansas Bureau of Investigation
 Kentucky Crime Prevention Coalition
 Maryland Crime Prevention Association
 Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute
 Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council
 Crime Prevention Association of Michigan
 Minnesota Crime Prevention Association
 Minnesota Office of Drug Policy and Violence Prevention
 Mississippi Crime Prevention Association
 Mississippi Division of Public Safety Planning
 Missouri Crime Prevention Association
 Missouri Department of Public Safety
 Nebraska Crime Prevention Association
 Nevada Office of the Attorney General
 New England Community-Police Partnership
 New Jersey Crime Prevention Officers' Association, Inc.
 New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety
 New Mexico Crime Prevention Association
 New York Division of Criminal Justice Services
 New York State Crime Prevention Coalition
 North Carolina Crime Prevention Officers' Association

North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety
 North Dakota Office of the Attorney General
 Ohio Crime Prevention Association
 Ohio Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Services
 Oklahoma Criminal Justice Resource Center
 Crime Prevention Association of Oregon
 Oregon Board on Public Safety Standards and Training
 Crime Prevention Association of Western Pennsylvania
 Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency
 Pennsylvania Crime Prevention Officers Association
 Rhode Island Crime Prevention Association
 Rhode Island Governor's Justice Commission
 Texas Crime Prevention Association
 Texas Governor's Office
 Utah Council for Crime Prevention
 Vermont State Police
 Virginia Crime Prevention Association
 Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
 Washington Crime Prevention Association
 Washington State Attorney General's Office
 West Virginia Criminal Justice and Highway Safety Office
 Wisconsin Crime Prevention Practitioners Association, Inc.
 Wisconsin Department of Justice
 Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance

National Agencies

The Advertising Council, Inc.
 American Association of Retired Persons
 American Crime Prevention Association
 American Probation and Parole Association
 American School Counselor Association
 American Society for Industrial Security
 Boy Scouts of America
 Boys & Girls Clubs of America
 Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
 Corporation for National Service
 General Federation of Women's Clubs
 Girl Scouts of the USA
 Institute of Criminal Justice Studies
 International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators
 International Association of Chiefs of Police
 International Association of Directors of Enforcement Standards and Training
 International City/County Management Association

International Society of Crime Prevention Practitioners
 International Union of Police Associations
 National Association of Attorneys General
 National Association of Broadcasters
 National Association of Counties
 National Association of Elementary School Principals
 National Association of Police Athletic Leagues
 National Association of Town Watch
 National Council of La Raza
 National Council on Crime and Delinquency
 National Crime Prevention Council
 National Crime Prevention Institute
 National Criminal Justice Association
 National District Attorneys Association
 National Exchange Club
 National Family Partnership
 National 4-H Council
 National Governors' Association
 National League of Cities
 National Network for Youth
 National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives
 National Organization for Victim Assistance
 National Peer Helpers Association
 National Recreation and Park Association
 National Sheriffs' Association
 National Urban League, Inc.
 National Victim Center
 Police Executive Research Forum
 U.S. Conference of Mayors

Federal Agencies

Drug Enforcement Administration
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 General Services Administration
 U.S. Department of Air Force
 U.S. Department of Army
 U.S. Department of Justice
 Office of Justice Programs
 Bureau of Justice Assistance
 Bureau of Justice Statistics
 National Institute of Justice
 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
 Office for Victims of Crime
 U.S. Department of Navy
 U.S. Forest Service, Law Enforcement and Investigations Division
 U.S. Marine Corps
 U.S. Postal Inspection Service



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Serving All Elementary and Middle School Principals

August 17, 1999

Peter Yarrow
PY Productions
27 West 67th Street
New York NY 10023

Dear Peter:

Thanks for sharing your project, "Don't Laugh at Me" with me and the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

As we have discussed, NAESP is interested in the possibility of collaborating with you to distribute the video and teacher guide to our members. There are a number of ways we could reach our members with the information about the free video and teacher guide, including through our newsletter.

Charlotte Frank has talked with our executive director, Vincent Ferrandino about the project. Before we can move forward with an endorsement or promotion about the project, we would like to review the teacher guide and curriculum.

Once we have had the opportunity to review the curriculum materials, we can discuss the feasibility of a presentation by you and perhaps Linda Lantieri at the NAESP Convention in New Orleans next March. One possibility would be to include the song and a short presentation during one of the General Sessions. The dates of the meeting are March 18-21, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. If Linda would like to make a presentation during one of our concurrent breakout sessions, she would be welcome to do so.

I look forward to talking with you again. Please send any further information about the project to my attention at NAESP. My mailing address is: Marguerite Leishman, Director of Conventions, NAESP, 1615 Duke Street, Alexandria VA 22314.

Best regards:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marguerite Leishman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Marguerite Leishman
Director of Conventions

BBDO

NEW YORK

August 9, 1999

Mr. David Bishop
President
MGM Home Entertainment
2500 Broadway
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Dear Mr. Bishop:

We are writing to you at the suggestion of Chris Saito, Executive Director of Marketing for MGM Home Entertainment, with the hope that you might consider placing the enclosed public service ad (PSA), created by the legendary folk trio Peter, Paul & Mary, at the end of any upcoming/appropriate home video releases.

As you will see, the PSA, entitled "*Don't Laugh At Me*," is designed to diminish the epidemic of ridicule, shaming and disrespect among our children that too often leads to depression, suicide and violence, such as we've tragically seen at Littleton, CO. The message is simple: in place of ridicule, shame and disrespect, practice compassion, generosity and respect. In so doing, the PSA hopes to encourage the consideration of alternatives to violence. The ad has been endorsed by Special Olympics, Save The Children, the Children's Defense Fund and Variety Clubs.

Distribution of this video is planned for every school in America, with a teacher's guide for discussion of these issues. However, with Hollywood under siege as politicians seek to place blame on the film studios for many of today's violence-related problems, we thought that inclusion of this PSA on soon-to-be-released home videos would be rightly seen as a positive, proactive step to address the root problems which may have contributed to the shooting at Columbine. And, MGM Home Entertainment would be seen as a leader in Hollywood in spearheading this initiative.

I have enclosed additional background materials, including a letter written by Peter Yarrow (of Peter, Paul & Mary) to First Lady Hillary Clinton, to help illustrate the size and scope of this effort. Needless to say, should you agree to support this project, MGM Home Entertainment would be widely credited.

I will be in touch to follow up. In the meantime, thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Roy Elvove
Senior Vice President
Communications Director
212/459-5797

An Agency of the BBDO Worldwide Network

A Division of BBDO Worldwide Inc. • 1285 Avenue of the Americas • New York, NY 10019-6095
Tel: (212) 459-5000 • Telex: 175423 • Facsimile: (212) 459-6645



**Screenvision Cinema Network
"Don't Laugh At Me" Project**

Background:

Screenvision Cinema Network is America's largest cinema advertising company. Long ago, the cinema industry adopted Variety Clubs The Children's Charity. Screenvision's roll in supporting Variety Clubs has been to create and distribute advertising for the charity to movie theaters. For the last four years, Screenvision's advertising messages for Variety have played before hundred's of millions of movie patrons. In looking for a new theme for the creation of the next advertising in the series, Screenvision was introduced to Peter Yarrow and the song, "Don't Laugh At Me". Screenvision recognized the relevance of the song for its strategy to help the children of America. Peter agreed to be a part of the new advertising.

The Project:

Screenvision has secured the commitment of a creative team and the production staff of DDB, one of the world's largest advertising agency groups, to create the new advertising on a pro bono basis. DDB and Screenvision will gather writers, art directors, a commercial production company, an editorial facility and the other partners necessary to fulfill the project. Together a professional commercial film will be created using vignettes shot to sync with the song. In fact a new verse may be created specially to highlight the work of Variety.

We are looking to create a few versions of the commercial. One which will be 60 seconds to play in movie theaters to support Variety's Gold Heart promotion in January/February 2000 and another which will be 30 seconds that will be a more general support piece that can run on television and on closed circuit TV systems.

These efforts are in progress and the commercials should be ready by December of 1999.

SCREENVISION CINEMA NETWORK, LLC
597 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10017 PHONE: (212) 752-5774 FAX: (212) 752-0086
screenvision@screenvision.com

NEW YORK • LOS ANGELES • CHICAGO • DETROIT • SAN FRANCISCO



August 30, 1999

Peter Yarrow
 PY Productions
 27 West 67th Street
 New York, NY 10023

Dear Mr. Yarrow:

I just received a copy of your video, "Don't Laugh At Me." and I must say that it was one of the most moving videos I have seen in quite some time.

I work for Huckleberry Youth Programs in San Francisco and our mission is to reach out to homeless, runaway and other at-risk youth throughout our community. Our agency began in the Haight Ashbury district in 1967 with the opening of the nation's first runaway shelter, Huckleberry House. Most of the young people who come to us struggle with depression, emotional abuse, family violence, abandonment and poor academic performance. This encourages them to engage in risky behaviors such as drug/alcohol abuse, unprotected sex and running away, most frequently as a means to escape feelings of hopelessness and helplessness. Since our inception, over 30,000 teens and their families have benefited from our 24-hour crisis shelter and adolescent health services.

I plan to share this video with our Executive Director, Bruce Fisher and with other members of the youth non-profit community in San Francisco. I believe this video should be in every school across the country helping to teach young people to respect and understand the many differences of others.

Thank you for including me in your distribution and I look forward to keeping in touch. As ideas or suggestions arise, I will gladly forward them to you.

All the best in your outstanding effort!

Warmest regards,

Lisa Graham
 Community Relations Director

cc: Don Graham

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

3310 Geary Boulevard
 San Francisco, CA 94118
 415 668 7677
 Fax: 415 668 0631

0-17-01: 4006792@comcast.net

www.huckleberryyouth.org

SAN FRANCISCO SERVICES

Huckleberry House
 1292 Page Street
 San Francisco, CA 94117
 415 671 7929
 Fax: 415 621 1353

Colo Street Youth Clinic

595 Colu Street
 San Francisco, CA 94117
 415 386 9141
 Fax: 415 386 8217

YOUTH SERVICES

Henry Grove Lodge Shelter

9 Grove Lane
 San Anselmo, CA 94960
 415 457 3200
 Fax: 415 455 2418

Huckleberry Teen

Health Program

Mariposa Plaza

361 Third Street Suite 11

San Rafael, CA 94901

415 268 4244

For: 415 211 0945



PY Productions
27 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023
(212) 580-5308
(212) 874-1973 fax

DATE: August 20, 1999
TO: Melanne Verveer, Shirley Sigawa Ruby Shamir
COMPANY: Office Of The First Lady
FAX: 202-456-6244 202-456-6687
FROM: Salome Brant (assistant to Peter Yarrow)
RE: Thank You From Peter Yarrow

Total Pages To Follow: 0

Please contact (212) 580-5308 if there are any problems with this transmission

Dear Melanne, Shirley and Ruby,

I cannot tell you how pleased and proud I am to have received the letter of support from First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton for the "Don't Laugh At Me" project. Your efforts and heart-felt encouragement have been an important part of evolving this exciting project. I feel we are at the threshold of making a significant contribution, of making a wake up call to all Americans that could begin to shift the National perspective of children and adults relative to issues of respect, tolerance and its absence; ridicule, scorn and shaming. Please know how grateful I, Salome and Gigi are and that Noel Paul and Mary join me in our most sincere thanks to you all.

Warmest Personal Regards,

Peter Yarrow

PY/sb (dictated but not read)



PY Productions
 27 West 67th Street
 New York, NY 10023
 (212) 580-5308
 (212) 874-1973 fax

DATE: August 20, 1999
TO: See Below
FROM: Salome Brant and Gigi Causey (assistants to Peter Yarrow)
RE: UPDATE: "Don't Laugh At Me" Project

Total Pages To Follow: 2

Please contact (212) 580-5308 if there are any problems with this transmission

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FAX</u>
Rob Mayer (Nathan Cummings Foundation)	212-787-7377
Stan Reynolds (Variety Clubs)	515-243-6664
Walk Street	310-399-6350
Charlotte Frank & Vince Lawrence (McGraw Hill)	212-512-4769
Joseph Levine & Jim Carnes (Southern Poverty Law Center)	334-262-2419
Marguerite Leishman (NAESP)	703-518-6281
Dawn Weiner (Enchanted Rock Films)	512-472-9386
Dennis Fogerty (Screen Visions)	212-752-0086
Janet Reno (Attorney General)	202-307-6777
John Garamendi (Yucaipa Company)	202-857-8068
Genet Garamendi (TLC)	301-771-4053
Roy Elvove (BBDO)	212-459-6861
↳ Melanne Verveer & Shirley Sigawa (Office of the First Lady)	202-456-6244
Linda Lantieri (Resolving Conflict Creatively)	212-509-1095
Tim Shriver & Charmaine Dittmar (Special Olympics)	202-628-0067
George Guimaries (Save The Children)	203-222-1067
Carol Blymire (Discovery Networks)	301-771-4064
Bob Morrison (VH1)	212-846-1827
Lara Bertgthold (Lear Family Foundation)	310-551-4070
Shelia Cospers (Austin Music Network)	512-322-0947
Victor Kovner (Davis Wright Tremaine)	212-489-8340
Smith & Betsy Bagley	202-785-1446
Senator John Kerry (c/o Tricia Ferrone)	202-224-8525

Senator Ted Kennedy	202-224-2417
Jim Hirsch (Old Town School of Folk Music)	773-525-7842
Perry Steinberg (APB)	617-243-9037
Don Graham (Progressive Music Marketing)	323-969-0272
Chick Watkins (Westwood One Radio)	805-294-9384
Fred Tarter (Stagebill)	212-679-3816
Marian Wright Edelman & Jodi Torkelson (Children's Defense Fund)	202-662-3580
Senator Jay Rockefeller	202-224-7665
Hank Kashiwa (Volant Sport)	303-456-7810
Murray Gaylord & Lynn Lee (The Ad Council)	212-922-1676
Margie Tabankin	310-395-9676
Larry Dieringer (Educators for Social Responsibility)	617-864-5164
Tom Asher (Proteus Fund)	413-256-0069
Don Biederman (& Marna)	310-470-2875
Jack Calhoun & Jacqueline Aker (National Crime Prevention Council)	202-296-1356
Charles Benton (Benton Foundation)	773-878-2895
Paula Antonovich (Benton Foundation, DC)	202-638-5771
David Altschul (Warner Brothers)	818-953-3276
Phillip Self (Sony Publishing)	615-244-6387
Allen Shamblin	615-591-9860
Jacque Turner	516-431-2954
Steve Seskin	

Dear everyone associated with the "Don't Laugh At Me" project,

We just got this wonderfully supportive letter from first lady Hillary Clinton. Her help with this project, and its possible inclusion in the Presidential initiative that she mentioned, I feel sure will underscore and broaden our mandate and efforts.

All The Best,

With Thanks,

Peter Yarrow.

PS Another update with further outreach efforts will be coming to you next week.

PPS please email or fax your email address to us at pyprod@aol.com so that future correspondence that can be easily sent by email will be forwarded in that fashion. Other correpondences, with images, letterheads, etc. will be faxed as before.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 17, 1999


Peter Yarrow
PY Productions
27 West 67th Street
New York, NY 10023

Dear Peter:

I had the opportunity to view your moving video, "Don't Laugh At Me," last weekend. What an effective way to reach into the hearts of young people and teach them the lessons of tolerance and kindness. I was pleased to hear of your plans to distribute the video through children's and education organizations, and hope that it will receive the wide audience that it deserves. If you send another copy, I will share it with the new nonprofit organization being formed to address the problem of youth violence which the President will announce August 27th.

As always, you have found a way to use music to teach us all important lessons about our times, and how we can make a difference. Thank you for this piece, and for all you have done and will continue to do.

Sincerely,


Hillary Rodham Clinton