

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Edd Speaker to Julia doan re: Bios for Edd and Edwin Speaker [partial] (2 pages)	04/25/2000	P6/b(6)
002. paper	re: Edwin Speaker (4 pages)	n.d.	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 First Lady's Office
 Shirley Sagawa
 OA/Box Number: 24267

FOLDER TITLE:

Teen Conference Speaker Information: Speaker Family

2013-0124-S

rc1210

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]
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- 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]
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**Facsimile
Transmittal
Sheet**

Marsh USA Risk & Insurance Services
777 South Figueroa Street
21st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Phone: 213 346 5223 Fax: 213 346 5320
California License No. 0437153

MARSH
An **MMC** Company

Date: April 25, 2000 **Pages, with cover:** 2
To: Ms. Julia Doan **Fax:** 202 456 6244
Company: Office of the First Lady, The White House
From: Edd L Speaker
Subject: Bios For Edd & Edwin Speaker

Julia: The following bios are provided in accordance with your request:

[001]

Edd L. Speaker

Born in [REDACTED] (b)(6) lived in raised in Wharton Texas since age of 6 months. High School athlete excelling in football. Attended Texas Southern University on a football scholarship. High School interests and participation included sports, YMCA involvement (Hi-Y), acting and band. Business Major in college. Served in the United States Air Force, honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant. Served in the Strategic Missile Command at Vandenberg AFB, CA (4 years) Holds a Professional Certification in Financial Management from the Graduate Scholl of Business at Stanford University.

Currently married to Youree Speaker (2 years) with one child still living at home. (Edwin, age 17). Employed by Marsh USA, Risk & Insurance Services Inc. (14years) as a Senior Claims Consultant in their downtown Los Angeles Office. Three other children by previous marriages, all grown and living on their own.

On the Board of Trustees of Brookins Community AME Church. Received numerous commendations from both the IRS and Franchise Tax Board for volunteer work with the low income and elderly in the preparation of their tax returns. Recipient of the "Parent of the Year" Award in 1993 and "Volunteer of the Year" Award in 1994. Past member of the "Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women" and served as a counselor for victims of rape and domestic violence. Also past nominee for a national "Community Service Award" given by Sedgwick Inc. Ten years association with Challengers Boys and Girls Club of Los Angeles.

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Marsh USA Risk & Insurance Services

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April 25, 2000
Ms. Julia Doan

Edwin Speaker

Edwin was born on [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED]. He attended 74th Street Elementary School and St. Anselm Catholic School. He currently resides with his father (Edd L. Speaker) and his father's wife of 2 years (Youree Speaker) in Los Angeles Calif.

Edwin is an accomplished musician specializing in drums and percussions. He is a member of the Taft Marching Band, Concert Band and Jazz Band. He also is one of the back-up drummers with the Brookins AME Church Musical Department. He was the drum line captain for 2 years. This is Edwin's senior year at Taft High School after which he will be attending West Los Angeles College in the fall.

Edwin is in the process of restoring a 1965 Volkswagen and has taken this up as his hobby. He also works on the weekends as a host at the Red Lobster Restaurant.

Edd L. Speaker

Obstacles faced as a parent

- ❖ **Good Morning Mr. President, Mrs. Clinton, distinguished panelists and other dignitaries and members of the press. It is indeed a pleasure to be here, for my son and I, it represents treasured moments that will never be duplicated or forgotten. While preparing for this moment, I asked myself what can I say, and will there be enough time? The answer is no, it would probably take me at least 4 weeks to really get going. But I am going to take this time and share with you some of my thoughts and feelings regarding “Raising Responsible and Resourceful teenagers.**

First of all, What is a parent? Webster defines the word parent as “a father or mother. I define a parent as a primary care giver, the chief bottlewasher, valet, maid, chauffeur, baby-sitter and about 50 other assorted job descriptions, all of which are non-paid positions. It ultimately boils down to the parent is the person ultimately responsible for the child that will one day evolve into a “teenager”

Where did I begin in raising a responsible and resourceful teenager, I began by networking. Believe it or not, most parents share a common denominator; they want the very best for their children. You ask the question, what did networking do? I’ll tell you what it did; it helped me build my base of resources. Resources that would later prove invaluable. Resources that would later even play a significant part in my being asked to speak at this particular conference.

My first and foremost resource was my church. The church was and is instrumental in Edwin’s development as a responsible teen and in my development as a responsible parent. Edwin is now a church musician. He plays the drums. While networking at my church, I was led to children’s sports clinic. At this sports clinic, once again while networking, I was led to Challengers Boys & Girls Club. This organization would later become the catalyst that would send my son and I on a 10 year trek of nothing but positive experiences. It would help me overcome some of the more common obstacles of parenting such as after school care, summer programs, tutoring, job development, travel and much, much more. In fact, It was my involvement at Challengers Boys and Girls Club that caused me to be initially identified as a fit parent.

One of the first obstacles that I faced as a parent was finding after school care for my son. I found most after school programs were either inadequate or too expensive for me at that particular time in my life. Challengers Boys and Girls Club picked Edwin up from school and took him to the Boys & Girls club until I got off from work and picked him up.

The second obstacle was helping Edwin make a smooth transition from a private catholic school to the public school system.

Monitoring Edwin's educational progress & development was especially important to me and called for regular trips to his school during which I joined the PTA and participated in the school activities.

After Edwin's graduation from elementary school, I was faced with finding a school that didn't have real high gang activity and I was concerned with the rumors regarding gang activity at the local Jr. High. While wrestling with this dilemma, I read a newspaper article that talked about a foundation that was looking for kids in public school that wanted to attend private school. I immediately applied and was accepted within two week of applying. The approval letter indicated that all I had to do was to select the private school of my choice and have the school complete and return the bottom portion of the approval letter. The foundation would then pay ½ of the monthly tuition up to around \$2,000 annually. I enrolled Edwin in St. Anselm catholic school, which was on a few blocks from my home. Edwin could walk to school, a Challengers Boys & Girls club van would pick him up as soon as school was over and I could pick him up on my way home from work. Edwin remained in this program until he graduated from Jr. High and started to Taft High School in Woodland Hills, CA.

I was intensely concerned about maintaining some control of Edwin's social development. i.e. his choice of friends, where he could and could not go, what he could and could not do. I refused to base my decisions on whether or not the other kids in the neighborhood were allowed to do certain things and go certain places. I soon became well known in the neighborhood as being very strict regarding the behavior of kids that came to play with Edwin in his yard. There were three very strict rules regarding behavior at our home, no fussing, no fighting and no profanity. Violation of any of these rules meant immediate banishment from the Speaker yard or home. Even though the constant troublemakers were banned from playing with Edwin, I had to be diplomatic and careful in dealing with these kids so that Edwin would not be the target of retaliation. I still spoke to and talked with those kids and Edwin still spoke to them and was cordial to them because he still had to grow up with these kids. Some of those kids later became gang members but allowed Edwin to travel through the neighborhood relatively safely because of the respect that gave them.

I worked hard to try and teach Edwin the principle of self-respect as well as respect for others and their rights and feelings. One of the examples that I used to constantly quote to him was "You want to be the kind of person that people are glad to see coming" You don't want to have the personality the causes people to say " Oh No, here comes that creep again. I used myself as an example by constantly taking him everywhere with me and letting him see people's reaction to me, this included people that I knew and those that I didn't know. I taught him to initiate conversation with people that he didn't know and how to raise their comfort level and make for easier interaction between them.

I constantly talked about education, its benefits and the consequences of not having a good education. We had long conversations about college life, the fun part and the serious part. We talked about the academic expectations, the competitive environment, the no nonsense posture of most of the college professors. Once again by networking with other concerned I learned of several programs designed to acquaint kids with college life before they reached college age. Edwin attended a number of these programs. We talked about goal setting, how I set my goals as a teenager, what motivated me and how I was able to reach my goals.

I have been involved in my community for at least 20 years, I have volunteered in schools, participated in charitable fund raising such as the United Way, Red Cross and numerous other organizations. I always shared my experiences with

Edwin and he soon decided that he wanted to also be involved.

I will not stand here and attempt to take all the credit for Edwin's development and growth into a responsible teenager. While Edwin's mom and I are divorced, he has a very strong relationship with his mother. He spends time with her on a regular basis and I must conclude that she has definitely had a positive impact on his development. There also are teachers, mentors and a host of other individuals that have probably impacted his life in some way. In addition to all of this, Edwin has impacted his own life by making the right decisions, not caving in to peer pressure, which he assures me is ever present. We as parents can talk until we are blue in the face but in the end, the child or teenager must decide which path they will follow.

I could go on naming all of the things that I have tried to teach and instill in Edwin, but I can sum it up by saying that as a parent, you constantly reach for all of the positive personality components and character elements for our kids, and you hope and pray that you have done your best as a parent and that if not all, at least some of the things you talked about stick to your child. In the end, you embrace them, you love them and you never, ever, stop pushing them to be the best that they can be.

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