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WITHDRAWAL SHEET
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. memo	Robert Woodward to Barr re: Expaning provision for offsed of tax refunds, 2p	4/20/83	~~P5~~ ue 10/5/00

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]
P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
P-6 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.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]
F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
F-3 Release would violate a Federal statue [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: 3-18-83

TO: Bill Bm

FROM: DEE JEPSEN

SUBJECT:

The attached is for your:

- ☒ Information
- ☐ Direct Response
- ☐ Draft Letter
- ☐ File
- ☐ Review & Comment
- ☐ Appropriate Action
- ☐ Signature
- ☐ Other

Comments:

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR DEE JEPSEN

FROM: Ronald H. Hinckley RH

SUBJECT: Washington Post Article
"Degree's Earning Power Greater for Males"

DATE: March 15, 1983

Yesterday, the Washington Post ran a misleading Associated Press story (copy attached) with the headline indicated above. The story contradicted other information at my disposal, so I contacted the Census Bureau to determine the exact nature of the data that they had released. Attached are copies of a memorandum from Steve Tupper and the advanced copy of the press release that generated the story.

As you can see, Census Bureau staff were concerned that reporters would compare the figures for men and women, so they included the statement on page two from Bruce Chapman cautioning against just such comparisons. I have seen reports (a copy of one is attached) indicating that when the level of education and the continuity of previous work experience are held constant (i.e., when a man and a woman both exit college with a bachelor's degree and stay on the job for the same amount of time) women earn the same, if not slightly more, than men.

Also attached is a report from the same news release found in U.S. News & World Report. This report is more accurate, although the statement "Women won't fare as well," is equally misleading.

Both of these stories imply that equal levels of education provide different earning capacities for women. This is not true; other factors account for these different earning levels. The only comparisons that can be made are "within group" comparisons (men with high school educations compared to men with college educations and women with high school educations compared to women with college educations).

I am passing along this information, thinking that you might run into questions about these reports some where along the line.

out a contract.

Ve will vigorously recommend to membership that they turn n this contract," said Bryan. "I k they will."

ut Borman said that the 32-per-t raise by November, 1984,' was

At the time of his death Civella was on parole for health reasons after serving part of a four-year sentence for conspiring to bribe a prison warden. He was still under indictment in Kansas City on charges of conspiring with others in the alleged

said society Orange County coordinator Herb Schurter, who released McMannis' statement.

McMannis' announcement said that Welch, who is over 80, recommended the leadership changes, which were adopted by the society's

Heard, 21, was arraigned Saturday on seven counts of criminal sexual conduct and possession of a gun in the commission of a felony. He was held in lieu of $500,000 bond for a March 21 preliminary hearing. His brother was being sought by police.

Addenda

- Women planned a candlelight march in New Bedford, Mass., tonight to protest the rape of a 21-year-old woman on a barroom pool table while patrons cheered; the four men charged in connection with the rape remained in jail after failing to meet increased bail.
- Five residents of an adult foster care home in Gladstone, Mich., were killed and three others were injured in a fire that swept the facility. The cause of the blaze was under investigation.

From news services and staff reports

Degree's Earning Power Greater for Males

Associated Press

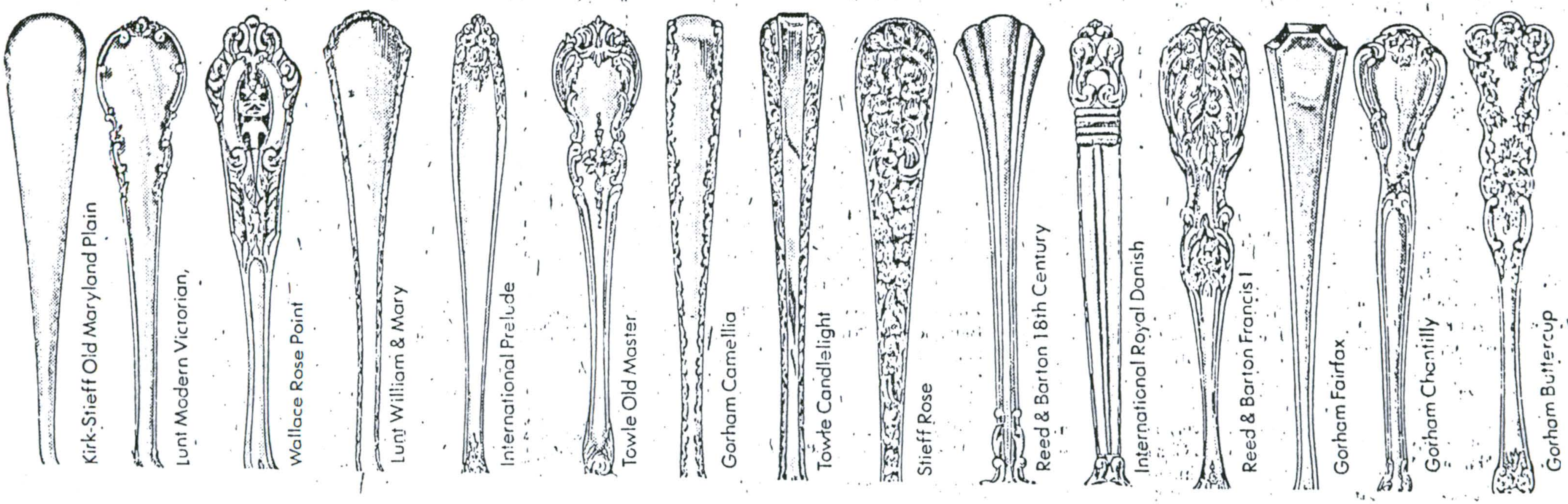
A bachelor's degree is now worth more than $300,000 in extra lifetime earnings for young men and slightly less than half of that for women, according to the Census Bureau.

The bureau yesterday estimated that a male who is now 18 and who eventually receives a a college degree will earn $329,000 more during his lifetime than a male his age with only a high school diploma.

However, an 18-year-old woman who goes on to finish college can expect only $142,000 more in lifetime earnings than a woman with only a high school education.

The study said that an 18-year-old man who eventually gets a bachelor's degree can expect lifetime earnings of $1,190,000, compared to earnings of $861,000 for a man with a high school diploma.

A woman in the same age group can expect earnings ranging from $381,000 with a high school diploma to $523,000 with a bachelor's degree.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of the Census
Washington, D.C. 20233

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

March 14, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR Ron Hinckley
Office of Planning and Evaluation
White House

From: Steve Tupper ST
Special Assistant to the Director

Subject: Washington Post Article Regarding Lifetime Earnings

I understand from Bill Butz that the Washington Post described the lifetime earnings report and release incorrectly on page A5 (subscriptions distributed in the Bureau this morning did not have the story). Attached is a copy of the release and the publication which clarify their mistake. As you can see in the second paragraph on page 2, we specifically warned against male/female comparisons. We would be glad to respond or you may prefer to handle it at a higher level--I can be reached at (O) 763-2446 or at (H) 751-9012.

Attachments

Press Table Thurs., March 10, 1983

Public Information Office
(301) 763-4040

For Release Mon., March 14, 1983
CB83-38

Check Embargo Date

COLLEGE DEGREE INCREASES LIFETIME EARNINGS BY
NEARLY 40 PERCENT, CENSUS BUREAU REPORTS

People completing four years of college can expect lifetime earnings averaging nearly 40 percent higher than high school graduates, according to a report issued today by the Commerce Department's Census Bureau.

Men with four years of college should expect lifetime earnings between $1.190 million and $2.750 million while male high school graduates can expect from $860,000 to $1.870 million.

Lifetime earnings for women with four years of college should be $520,000 to $1.120 million, while the range for women high school graduates is from $380,000 to $800,000.

All figures are for money earned between the ages of 18 and 64 and are expressed in 1981 dollars.

Since total lifetime earnings depend on the annual growth rate of real earnings, the estimates vary according to future economic growth assumptions. The average annual increase in real earnings was between 2 and 3 percent in the 1960s but near zero in the last decade. Earnings estimates cited in the report reflect a range of from zero to 3 percent.

(more)

Commenting on the report, Bureau Director Bruce Chapman cautions against making unqualified comparisons between differences in men's and women's lifetime earnings:

"It is improper to compare the estimates for men and women without accounting for the significant differences in amount and continuity of previous work experience, and in other important characteristics, between men and women. Numerous studies show that this factor is a very important determinant of an individual's earnings capacity. In this study, however, we did not have the data needed to prepare separate estimates for groups with different work experience patterns."

The report contains tables and charts showing expected lifetime earnings for men and women by levels of age and educational attainment. Separate tables are based on year-round full-time employment.

The estimates are based on data collected in the March Current Population Surveys of 1979, 1980, and 1981. Projections assume that earnings differentials by age in the 1979-81 period will be representative of the future. They have been adjusted for estimated changes in yearly employment rates and life expectancy.

Copies of the report, <u>Lifetime Earnings Estimates for Men and Women in the United States: 1979</u>, Series P-60, No. 139 (GPO Stock No. 003-001-90725-9), are available for $4.50 each prepaid from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 or from Commerce district offices in major cities.

-X-

Check Embargo Date

Single feminists and the married woman worker

BRUCE POWELL MAJORS

Among many feminists today, women often are taken to be a homogeneous class with uniform interests. There is *a* women's movement, *a* women's vote, "women" are said to be more sensitive to issues of fairness than men, and "women" are said to earn 59 cents for every dollar men earn.

If this is a mistaken conception of women, then one should be suspicious of any policies based upon it. Economist Thomas Sowell, in his recent work, *Knowledge and Decisions*, argues that it is a mistaken conception, resulting from an "unwillingness to look beyond gross statistics for obviously systemic variables." According to Sowell:

> With women the key variable is marriage. Even before "affirmative action" quotas, women in their 30s who had worked continuously since high school earned slightly *more* than men in their 30s who had worked continuously since high school. Female academics earned slightly *more* than male academics when neither were married — again even before "affirmative action" — and unmarried female PhDs became full professors to a slightly *greater* extent than did unmarried male PhDs. In short, the male-female differences in incomes and occupations are largely differences between married women and all other persons.

Feminists are not unaware of this point. From an article on lesbians who once had been married, published in a recent issue of *The Washington Blade*, we learn that:

> Married gay men often stay married because they see marriage as necessary for maintaining a career. For women, however, being single may be an advantage.

"There's an assumption that a woman who is married is going to take maternity leave and, if her husband is transferred, will follow him rather than remain in her job," Mary Ann Daly, a lesbian poet and folksinger, comments.

There is a danger then, that a feminist movement led largely by single women might advocate policies, in the name of all women, that are detrimental to the interests of married women. And indeed, this is exactly what the feminist movement sometimes does.

Consider the current feminist proposal for "comparable-worth" regulations. Such regulations would force employers to pay men and women equally, not just for "equal work," but for "comparable work." What this means is that judges, lawyers and bureaucrats, either feminists themselves or under political pressure from feminists, would look at a given enterprise and segregate and rank its work force into two separate pay scales, one for males and one for females. They then would coerce employers to pay the women on the bottom of the female pay scale as much as they pay the men on the bottom of the male pay scale, and so on for each arbitrarily defined set of groups on the scales. For example, cleaning personnel and nightwatch persons would be mandated equal pay, if one group were predominately female and the other predominately male — regardless of any other considerations, such as how many people are willing to take either type of job, or how disagreeable or difficult employees perceive either job to be.

What effect will this have on married women? Married women are often economically segregated into fields that require less than the average commitment to one's career — jobs where an employee may interrupt her career to bear and raise children, leave work if children become ill, and quit without disrupting company affairs if her husband moves to another city because of his job.

If the law requires that married women be paid as much as more-committed employees, employers will no longer find it profitable to employ these women. They will lose their jobs to machines, to men and to single women. Single women, on the other hand, may be able to use such regulations, and the threat of expensive court suits based on them, to force particular sexist employers to promote them, when such a promotion is economically justifiable (which means, when some other employer would hire them at this higher salary).

At this point, mustn't the single feminist admit that she has a conflict of interest with the married working woman — at least when it comes to using government to carve up the economic pie? Perhaps not. Feminists could claim that married women will *demand* that their husbands share the domestic chores equally (thereby allowing wives to commit themselves to their careers), if they and their families are faced with the loss of the second paycheck.

But do feminist leaders have the moral right to *assume* that every wife wants to make her career her primary concern? Do feminist leaders have the moral right to define the timetable by which all wives will introduce domestic equality into their own families? Do feminist leaders have the right to have the government impose most of the costs of sexual equality on married women, rather than bearing the costs themselves by voluntarily supporting their own private programs to educate the public about the benefits of sexual equality?

The modern women's movement had as its original manifesto Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*, a book which was primarily a lament about the condition of the suburban wife completely excluded from any chance at a career. In a move that would make Phyllis Schlafly or Midge Dector quite happy, today's feminist leadership is threatening to return the married working woman to this condition.

Bruce Powell Majors is a research associate of the Institute for Humane Studies.

next year. The plan: Run a black candidate for President in Democratic primaries in states where minorities have a large percentage of voters.

There's no hope of picking the nominee. The object is enough convention delegates to have a say in the eventual winner and in drawing up the platform.

Some possible candidates: Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley; Walter Fauntroy, Washington, D.C., delegate to Congress; Gary, Ind., Mayor Richard Hatcher; civil-rights leader Jesse Jackson, and Ohio's Representative Louis Stokes.

Who would it hurt? Liberals like Mondale who need black primary votes.

The campaign against drunkenness and teen drinking is spreading.

Five more states are raising the drinking age this year--joining 19 others that have done so since 1976. About 30 states have passed or are considering tougher drunk-driving laws. Now the nation's colleges are taking action.

Some schools like Ohio Wesleyan ban drinking in public. Yale will not allow alcohol at university events for freshmen. Tougher age verification and punishment for drunkenness are common. Kent State has a course in alcoholism.

The alcohol industry is conducting a nationwide education campaign on billboards, radio and TV and in print advertising to warn of the dangers of excessive drinking. Special campaigns are aimed at teenagers, pregnant women.

And the federal government is considering rules that would prohibit drinking by railroad crews, require mandatory alcohol testing.

The Internal Revenue Service is putting more effort into catching mobsters, drug dealers and con men--anyone who makes money illegally.

These cases will take up almost 50 percent of the workload for IRS criminal investigators--up from 25 percent. That means less effort will be focused on people who make their money legally but fail to pay taxes.

Investigators will be more aggressive, too, using techniques like "sting" operations, undercover agents, recorded conversations. One example: An IRS-run money-laundering sting that recouped 2.8 million dollars in taxes, penalties.

Next big environmental issue? Acid rain that spoils water, vegetation.

Town meetings in New Hampshire overwhelmingly support cuts of 50 percent this decade in Midwest sulfur emissions that scientists think cause the rain.

Presidential candidates Hart, Mondale, Cranston back the measure. Remember, town meetings gave the nuclear-freeze issue a boost last year.

The cost of cleanup would be great, however. American Electric Power Company, which serves seven Midwest states, says such a requirement would cost 7 billion dollars in new capital spending, raise customers' bills 50 percent.

New Census Bureau estimates say a man graduating from college can look forward to earning almost 1.4 million dollars in his lifetime. A male high-school graduate can expect just over a million dollars. A dropout, $845,000.

Women won't fare as well. An average 18-year-old who will graduate from college can expect $846,000; high-school graduates, $634,000; dropouts, $500,000. Those figures will rise as more women stay on the job longer.

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	ACTION OFFICER
Communicating Administration's positive record	Implement communications plan as proposed in 52% Solution, phases I and II.	Faith Whittlesey New staff week of 5/2
Insurance Equity	Decision memo recommending a bi-partisan, independent Commission to be created by Executive Order.	CCHR/Bob Carleson 4/26/83
Pension Equity	Bring four items of agreement before Cabinet Council for approval and include options for timing on sex neutral tables issue.	CCHR/Bob Carleson 4/26/83
Child Support	Child Support Enforcement Bill	HHS/Secretary Heckler 4/26/83
	Using IRS in non-AFDC cases to be determined at CC.	CCHR/Bob Carleson 4/26/83
	Conable Bill. May be able to support extending day care credit and sliding scale tax exemption if revenue neutral. Cannot support refundability.	Michael Uhlmann to check on cost implications and then refer to CCHR if revenue neutral. CCEA – Bill Barr Incomplete

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	ACTION OFFICER
Tax Equity	Question of IRA equity up to $ 2,000 for spousal account.	CCEA/Roger Porter 5/12/83
Day Care	State regulations that inhibit day care center formation to be identified and reported to the states by 50 States Project. Summary Report ??	Faith Whittlesey *
	Communicate current efforts at HHS, Women's Bureau DoL, and Private Sector Initiatives.	Faith Whittlesey *
ERA	Try and Stay low-key. Everyone knows the President's position. No one expects a change. No specific response. Revisit when and if necessary. Must follow-up on alternatives: 50 States Project 15 targetted states Bring state reps. to WH Task Force on Legal Equity progress report.	 K. Hopkins drafting talking points Done - 4/22 (waiting for clearance from MU) Faith Whittlesey * Michael Uhlmann reports to ELH Incomplete.
...al Pay for Equal ...k	No Commission Two tracks-- CEA to study discrimination and the wage gap to update 1974 study. Deadline must be determined.	 Martin Feldstein Jim Kaiser 5/12 Preliminary Memo Completed

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	ACTION OFFICER
(Continued)	3-4 page memo on background and other wage gap studies.	Michael Uhlmann 4/26/83
	Communications re CEA study to be coordinated and a target date determined.	Faith Whittlesey *
	Second track: Study occupational segregation within the Federal government in relationship to possible barriers to managers and Executive level promotions. Remove barriers and sensitize managers.	CCMA/Ralph Bledsoe → 4/28 CCMA meeting Occupational opportunities for women
Response to Republican Congresswomen and Senators	Helpful to have an overall written response to all issues raised in the March meeting.	Michael Uhlmann to prepare draft due 4/13 to ELH. Not Done.
Other Issues Discussed:		
Fair Labor Standards Act	Should it be amended to allow for flexitime? (Armstrong Bill)	Refer to CCHR/Bob Carleson 4/26/83
Job sharing	Job sharing opportunities to be highlighted in the Private Sector Initiatives area.	Jim Coyne to explore possibilities Memo from Velma Montoya
Presidential Speech	Preparation should begin now. This speech is the appropriate place to announce all the initiatives that are of specific concern to women. The speech should take place fairly soon.	Send material to Mari Maseng Done

ISSUE	DISCUSSION	ACTION OFFICER
(Continued)		
Legislation on pensions, child support and IRAs	Nancy Risque recommended that we move legislation on pensions, child support and IRAs and try to suppport the Conable Bill. Any other tax questions to be held until after July.	
Flex-Time	Requires legislation	CCHR/Bob Carleson 4/26/83

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

APR 20 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. BARR
DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR LEGAL POLICY
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Expanding Provision for Offset of Tax Refunds

Under section 6402(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, which was enacted in 1981, the Secretary of the Treasury is required to offset amounts of past-due support from the amount of any overpayment of tax to be refunded to a taxpayer who owes this support.

The term "past-due support" is defined as the amount of a delinquency, determined under an order of a court or administrative agency established under State law, for support and maintenance of a child or of a child and the parent with whom the child is living. Only amounts of support that are $150.00 or greater, that are at least three months delinquent, and that have been assigned to a State under section 402(a)(26) of the Social Security Act (as a condition for AFDC eligibility) can be collected through this new offset procedure.

The proposal we have been asked to consider would permit offsets of tax refunds as a means of collecting any past due support obligation, regardless of whether the support obligation is owed to an AFDC recipient. Treasury strongly opposes any such expansion of the current provision for the following reasons.

First, the Treasury Department must oppose in the strongest terms any attempts to use tax refunds and the Internal Revenue Service as a central collection mechanism for what are essentially private debts. Such a policy would cause the Service to become involved as a stakeholder in countless disputes between former spouses and would seriously interfere with the Service's primary function of administering the tax system. It also would decrease tax compliance by individuals who think that they might have their tax refunds diverted to pay support obligations.

Second, we seriously question whether any income tax refund offset proposal would have any long-term effectiveness. Taxpayers who are subject to the offset procedure will quickly adjust their withholding and estimated tax payments to avoid any tax overpayments. However, even if the proposal fails in its objective, it could cause a permanent increase in IRS operating costs and have an adverse impact on the public debt management. The IRS believes that any expansion of the current offset proposal would effect a significant general reduction in overwithholding. If individuals reduce their withholding, this will increase the "balance due" returns and delinquent accounts that require increased IRS collection efforts. A one percent increase in IRS collection activities would increase the Service's operating costs by $82 million annually. Moreover, the Treasury currently enjoys the interest-free use of over $50 billion per year in overwithholding. It has been conservatively estimated that $4 to $5 billion in interest cost to the Federal government is avoided due to overwithholding. If overwithholding were reduced, significant interest cost would be incurred. For example, a 10 percent reduction in overwithholding could cost the Treasury $333 million. This cost would be repeated annually since any change in withholding behavior would be permanent.

Finally, expansion of the current program would create numerous administrative problems. Under the current program operating with respect to delinquent child support payments, the Service will not make an offset until it has received information from HHS through the State as to the amount of the past-due support and the name and social security number of the parent owing support. However, even with these safeguards, much of the data received is inaccurate. The Internal Revenue Service has received numerous complaints which in fact derive from deficiencies in data prepared by the States and HHS. It is difficult to imagine how even the limited and unsatisfactory safeguards of the current program could be incorporated in the proposed expanded program.

Robert G. Woodward

Robert G. Woodward
Acting Tax Legislative Counsel

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 25, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MIKE UHLMANN

FROM: DEE JEPSEN DJ

SUBJECT: Reagan Record on Women

I have updated the attached "Reagan Administration Record On Women" and would appreciate it if you would review this and let me know if I left anything out.

Thank you.

THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION RECORD ON WOMEN

In the first two years of his Administration, Ronald Reagan appointed more women to high level policy-making positions than any President in history.

- -- As of January, 1983, he had selected 96 women for Presidential appointments, vs. 74 in the last administration.
- -- He has placed 700 women in top, policy-making positions.
- -- The President appointed Sandra Day O'Connor to the bench of the U.S. Supreme Court: a historical first.
- -- Three women now serve in the cabinet: Margaret Heckler, Elizabeth Dole, and Jeane Kirkpatrick...another historical first.
- -- President Reagan has named women to head four major agencies.

Working for equal rights for women:

- -- Created the Task Force on Legal Equity for Women to identify for correction federal laws and regulations which discriminate against women.
- -- As a result, legislation, (The Legal Equity Act) is now before Congress. It will correct about 100 federal statutes identified as containing gender bias language.

Promoting equity for women at the state level:

- -- President Reagan created the "50 States Project" in May, 1981 to encourage governors and legislators to correct discriminatory laws and regulations on the state level.

A Coordinating Council on Women established:

- -- In August of 1982, the White House Coordinating Council on Women was established to assure that women's rights and opportunities continue to receive special attention at policy-making levels.

The Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, supported by President Reagan:

- -- reduced the "marriage penalty" in taxes, which means a couple earning $15,000 apiece saves about $300 on their tax bill.
- -- increased allowances for IRA contributions, even for married women who work in the home.
- -- virtually eliminated estate taxes [prevents the necessity of selling off family assets to pay estate taxes upon the death of a spouse].
- -- raised the tax <u>credit</u> for child-care expenses from $400 to $720. [the 1983 IRS form 1040-A "short form" will have an additional line for this deduction for those who do not file an itemized form].
- -- offers tax incentives for employers to include pre-paid day care in their employee benefits package.

Benefits to federally employed mothers:

- -- Federal agencies will now allow on a permanent basis "Flex Time" schedules to accommodate working mothers.

President Reagan has made child support laws <u>tougher</u>:

- -- in some cases authorizing past due support payments to be collected from income tax refunds: action which produced $170 million in fiscal 1982 alone.
- -- by seeking to promote better enforcement of state child support laws, and by upgrading the federal Parent Locater Service.

The President has created a sex-neutral definition of poverty:

-- correcting a past inequity which understated the number of women facing financial hardship.

The Uniformed Services Spouses' Protection Act, signed into law by President Reagan:

-- allows state courts to divide militray retirement benefits in divorce cases.

-- provides medical benefits and P.X. privileges to spouses married to a person in military service for twenty years or more.

Under this Administration, the Department of Labor's Women's Bureaus has:

-- instituted at least nine new initiatives, in addition to its twenty on-going programs.

Women small business owners benefit:

-- as the Reagan Administration created new procurement policies; last year procurement from such firms was nearly $700 million, more than double the figure during the last year of the previous administration.

The Jobs Partnership Training Act, backed by President Reagan:

-- is projected to provide about 40% of its benefits to women, since it is targeted to AFDC recipients and disadvantaged youth. In addition, this bill contains a provision for displaced homemakers.

<u>A major achievement by this President</u>:

-- bringing the raging inflation rate under control. Inflation has been cut dramatically, from 12.4% when the President took office to 3.5% now, which means a woman working full-time at the median wage ($11,000 per annum) has seen an increase of $1000 in purchasing power a year. This drop in the inflation rate benefits all Americans, and is especially helpful to low-income women raising children alone, and the elderly on fixed incomes.

PRESIDENT REAGAN IS PROVIDING SOLUTIONS, NOT JUST SLOGANS!

Third Quarterly Report of the Attorney General on Legal Equity for Women

On July 14, the Justice Department transmitted to the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy the Attorney General's third quarterly report under Executive Order 12336.

Background

- o On December 21, 1981, the President issued Executive Order 12336 which:
  - -- directed the Attorney General to complete the review of federal laws and regulations containing language that unjustifiably differentiates on the basis of sex; and
  - -- created a Task Force on Legal Equity for Women which is responsible for implementing changes ordered by the President following review of the Attorney General's report.
- o The first DOJ progress report was transmitted to the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy in June 1982. It listed over 100 federal statutes containing gender-biased language.
- o On September 27, 1982, President Reagan sent a letter to Senator Dole in support of legislation to correct statutes identified in the first report. On October 1, 1982, Senator Dole introduced legislation which would cleanse the federal code of approximately 100 gender-discriminatory provisions identified in the report. No action has been taken on this legislation to date.
- o In the fall of 1982, the Justice Department authorized an updated computer-assisted search of federal statutes and regulations to identify remaining gender discrimination. In addition, Justice Department requested the heads of 42 departments and agencies to review their regulations, policies, and practices.
- o On December 3, 1982, the Justice Department transmitted a second status report to the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy. The second report described an updated computer-assisted search of the U.S. Code and of federal regulations.

The Third Quarterly Report

- o The third quarterly report has two main parts:
  - -- The results of the new comprehensive computer-assisted search of the U.S. Code and the Code of Federal Regulations.

- -- The initial reports of the first 17 agencies reporting progress in their review of regulations, policy, and practices.

- o The computer search is the most comprehensive and thorough Federal effort to identify substantive distinctions based on sex in the U.S. Code. The search was conducted by the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department. The search has resulted in a list of approximately 130 statutory provisions which contain gender distinctions. (This is more inclusive than the list in the first quarterly report which identified approximately 100 such provisions.)

  - -- It should be noted that not all the identified provisions discriminate against women. Indeed, quite a few of them were designed to benefit particular classes of women. For example, there are several provisions which give certain benefits to widows.

  - -- Some other examples: A provision prohibiting transportation in foreign commerce of women for purposes of prostitution; provisions prohibiting the assignment of women to combat duty in the military; provisions making distinctions between the number of water closets required for male and female passengers on steamships; a provision that provides protection for the rights of the widows of discoverers of guano islands.

- o Of the 17 agencies that reported on the progress of their reviews, some are close to completing the process while others have more to do. Twenty-five agencies have not yet submitted reports. Their reports will be included in the fourth quarterly report.

Future Steps

In the weeks ahead, the Cabinet Council on Legal Policy will be reviewing the quarterly report and will make recommendations to the President on changes that should be made to eliminate unjustified sex-based distinctions that have been identified.