

CHILDREN DEFENCE FUND

EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT

Youth Development/After School/
Violence

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

CDF

*file
MWE*

TO: Hillary

FROM: Marian

DATE: April 20, 1993

RE: Your quick visit to Unicef Board and an immediate decision to sign the Convention On the Rights Of The Child

The last thing I want to do is burden you. I know how much you need to focus on health reform. I do, however, think your presence for a very short time at the Unicef Board meeting would be a powerful signal of support for children to the international community. It could be done in a few hours in a morning or an afternoon -- whatever was best for you -- whether or not the President signs the Convention immediately and I hope he will.

I believe the politics in favor of a decision to sign now greatly outweigh the politics of delay. A broad range of groups support this step (see the enclosed memorandum). It is time for the United States to leave the company of the few pariah non-signatory nations like Iraq, Libya, Cambodia, and South Africa. Since we are able to make reservations on any piece of the treaty that we may have a question about, any issues of concern can be dealt with later.

I hope you and the President will look at the enclosed memorandum and decide to act now.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 19, 1993

TO: Hillary Clinton

FROM: Marian Wright Edelman

RE: U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child and the upcoming UNICEF Executive Board Meeting.

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As you know, the United States is one of a small handful of nations that have not yet acted on the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child. As of January, 154 countries had ratified (127) or signed (27) the Convention. This included every nation in NATO except the U.S. The holdouts around the world included: 16 very small nations, many of them island nations (such as Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu); nine nations devolved from parts of the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia -- nations which have not had the time or focus to consider the Convention; and seven other nations with populations of more than 3 million: Iraq, Libya, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Africa, and the United States. In this country and around the world, people are incredulous that the United States is keeping such company on the Convention.

The annual UNICEF Executive Board meeting in New York begins on April 26th. I hope you will attend and speak about the Convention. Supporters of the Convention in this country, as well as UNICEF leaders and member nations on the UNICEF Executive Board, will be looking for a clear signal of a change in position by the U.S. Such a change, symbolic of a deeper U.S. commitment to the needs of children at home and worldwide, would gain the Administration a great deal of good will at home and abroad and greatly energize the worldwide children's movement.

There are at least two possible ways to send this signal:

- o The White House could announce at the UNICEF Executive Board session, or before then, that the President has signed the Convention. This is the more dramatic step, although signing the Convention still is a step well short of sending it to the Senate for advice and consent to ratification. Signing is, rather, a statement that the Convention generally deserves support and the Administration will study the Convention closely to determine the conditions under which it will later send the Convention to the Senate for ratification, if appropriate.

- o If the President is not willing to sign the Convention on this timetable, the White House and State Department should give the U.S. delegation to the UNICEF Executive Board substantial latitude to state that the Administration is positively disposed to the Convention, is uncomfortable with the prior delays on this issue, is seeking rapid agency review, and will be moving quickly to sign the Convention and submit it for ratification unless unforeseen difficulties arise.

The State Department Legal Advisor's office has begun reviewing the Convention (again). But they are beginning a process -- referral to the other agencies, examination of conflicts with U.S. law, and recommendation of technical reservations upon possible submission of the Convention to the Senate -- that will take many months and is concerned with ratification of the Convention. While this process should go forward (and be expedited), it is essentially irrelevant to the upcoming UNICEF meeting or sending a positive signal soon. Rather, the United States should send in the next few days, either from the White House or at the UNICEF Executive Board next week, a strong signal of support for the Convention short of a commitment to proceed to ratification.

The Bush Administration took no action on the Convention because it faced: an internal split among its agencies as to whether it should act favorably; hostility to the Convention from the extreme Right Wing (although a number of key moderate Republicans, including Senators Dole and Lugar, support early Senate consideration of the Convention); and, at best, indifference inside the White House.

The Clinton Administration needs to decide soon how to act on the Convention. The isolation of the U.S. on this children's issue may become increasingly uncomfortable for an Administration so deeply dedicated to the children's cause. Supporters of the Convention have begun to discuss how to encourage the Administration to sign and ratify. New resolutions urging the President to act have been introduced in Congress. The American Bar Association (which has already endorsed the Convention) will shortly be issuing another favorable report.

Analysis

1. The Convention. The Convention sets out a broad range of civil, political, social, economic and human rights for children. The rights range from freedom of expression, religion and association to positive rights to health care, education and subsistence, to protection from various forms of exploitation and abuse. The Convention is an important statement of the human rights of children. The elaboration of rights is coupled with recognition of the central role of parents and the family in directing a child's development.

Many of the Convention's components (but not all) already appear in other international instruments, some of them already ratified by the U.S. In many respects, the Convention reflects the Declaration on the Rights of the Child, the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The U.S. took an active role in the international working group that negotiated and drafted the Convention over a 10 year period. The U.S. delegation successfully sought numerous changes to align the document's provisions with U.S. law. The U.S. then joined the unanimous vote for the Convention on the floor of the General Assembly on November 20, 1989. In 1990 at a World Summit for Children held at the United Nations, the U.S. joined several dozen other nations in signing a statement that included a commitment to "work to promote the earliest possible ratification and implementation" of the Convention. But the Bush Administration never acted on these implicit and explicit promises.

2. Bush Administration Concerns and Other Possible Objections. While the Bush Administration signed the 1990 Summit commitment to work towards ratification, it never formally approved (or repudiated) the Convention. It is my understanding that a number of agencies, including Education and HHS, supported submitting the Convention to the Senate for ratification. While they had specific concerns, many minor and a handful significant (see below), they knew those concerns could be dealt with in the ratification process, which allows the ratifying nation to take "reservations" from or express "understandings" about particular provisions. The Bush Administration Justice Department, on the other hand, opposed moving along the Convention.

Here are the key concerns that have been raised either in Bush Administration deliberations or by the Right Wing:

Abortion: The Right Wing has attacked the Convention as "pro-abortion." In fact, the drafters went to great lengths to make it wholly neutral on abortion so that both pro- and anti-abortion nations could ratify it. The wide range of ratifying nations (from the Vatican to Sweden) testifies to the drafters' success in this regard.

Family. Some Far Right critics have claimed the Convention is anti-family. This is specious. Throughout the Convention the primary role of the family is emphasized and reaffirmed. Family-supporting and parent-protecting language appears in nearly a dozen articles. The Convention on its face, and its support by many conservative legislators here and governments abroad, in fact present an opportunity to show that the Right Wing uses "anti-family" claims as an indiscriminate slogan rather than an analytic tool. Any fair reading of the Convention shows that it protects children and families against unwarranted

government actions and does not give children rights within their families that are more expansive than common U.S. conceptions of what is appropriate.

Juvenile capital punishment. The Convention outlaws capital punishment for crimes committed by children. The United States is one of the very few nations that still allows such punishment. President Clinton supports capital punishment for adults, but we do not know if this belief extends to wanting to continue to allow capital punishment for crimes committed by juveniles. If it does, and the U.S. wanted to retain the option of such capital punishment, it could take a reservation from this particular clause.

Federalism concerns and economic rights. Broader concerns relate to federalism (the convention covers many areas governed exclusively or primarily by the states) and the Convention's creation of economic and social rights as well as political and civil rights (e.g., rights to basic health care or a minimally adequate standard of living). Some believe such human rights should not be the subject of international treaties. These rights are, however, crucial to children. To the extent that the Clinton Administration or the Senate feels that the articulation of such rights is too extreme, the Convention can be modified through "reservations" and "understandings." Moreover, many of the Convention's provisions are not self-executing under U.S. law and are essentially procatory -- not requiring particular state action or spending; and unlike some human rights treaties, the Convention has no international dispute resolution process. That parts of the Convention are not readily enforceable, however, does not make the symbolic and public education functions or the enforceable parts, any less important.

In short, there are no reasons why the U.S. can not join the rest of the civilized world in signing and then ratifying the Convention.

3. Support for the Convention. A very large array of organizations and individuals with varied political perspectives supports the Convention:

- o There was substantial bipartisan representation among the 85 House and 60 Senate co-sponsors of the 1990 resolutions urging the President to forward the Convention to the Senate for consideration of ratification. Those resolutions passed both the House (H.Res. 312 on September 17, 1990) and the Senate (S. Res. 231 on September 11, 1990) by voice vote, without dissent. New resolutions (S. Res. 70 and H. Res. 15) were introduced in the last three months and have drawn broad bipartisan support. Republican Senate sponsors include Dole, Durenberger, Hatfield, Lugar, Specter and Chafee.

- o In early 1991, 13 Republican senators wrote President Bush asking him to send up the Convention. The 13 included Minority Leader Dole and Sen. Lugar, the ranking Republican on the Foreign Affairs Committee.
- o Senators Lugar and Bradley co-chair a group working toward U.S. ratification.
- o Organizations supporting ratification of the Convention include: the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Association of Retired Persons, the American Bar Association, American Red Cross International Services, Amnesty International, the Association of Junior Leagues, B'nai B'rith, CARE, Catholic Charities, Christian Children's Fund, Interaction, Oxfam, PLAN International, the Presbyterian Church (USA), Save the Children, the United Church of Christ, the United Methodist Church, the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, the YWCA, and dozens of other religious, education, women's, labor, anti-hunger, relief, and children's groups.
- o There is considerable interest in the Convention among school children and educators. The NEA is taking an active role in the grass roots ratification movement.

As noted before, the opposition has come from a sliver of the very far Right Wing. But it is notable that the Right Wing has lost its former ability to stop any and all human rights treaties, as the U.S. ratified in recent years the Genocide and Torture conventions and, in 1992, the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Note that if and when President Clinton signs the children's Convention and then sends it to the Senate for advice and consent, it will become one of several human rights treaties pending in the Senate. President Carter signed and sent up, inter alia, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Administration will have to decide which treaties to move first, when, and how. Key Senators and groups in the human rights movement will have varying views on which treaties to move first. But the decision to sign the children's Convention need not wait for these strategic decisions in the Senate.

April 20, 1993

SIX REASONS FOR THE PRESIDENT TO IMMEDIATELY SIGN
THE U.N. CONVENTION
ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The President should sign the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child now, rather than waiting for executive branch agencies to develop a full package for ratification.

- ♦ The United States is among a small handful of "pariah" nations that have neither ratified nor signed the Convention. At least 154 countries, including all of the other NATO countries, have ratified (127 nations) or signed (27). The main holdout nations are Iraq, Libya, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United States. Signing the Convention signals a change in U.S. policy and symbolizes a deeper U.S. commitment to the needs of children at home and abroad.
- ♦ The politics in favor of signing greatly outweigh the politics for delaying. Support for the Convention is very broad, coming from dozens of mainstream religious, education, labor, women's, anti-hunger, law, and children's groups. Supporters range from the Red Cross, Catholic Charities, CARE, Save the Children and the Presbyterian Church (USA) to AARP and the American Bar Association. Dozens of members of Congress, including a number of Republican Senators (most notably Senators Dole and Lugar) have endorsed sending the Convention to the Senate for consideration of ratification.
- ♦ Concerns expressed by Convention opponents are either specious (e.g., claims that the Convention is anti-family), or where more serious (e.g., juvenile capital punishment; federalism concerns) can be handled through the "reservations" and "understandings" that typically accompany a treaty's ratification. Evidence that such concerns are readily manageable is the Convention's signature or ratification by every other Western democracy, including numerous federal systems (e.g., Canada, Germany).
- ♦ Signing the Convention is a step well short of sending it to the Senate for advice and consent to ratification and is by no means acceptance of all the provisions. Signing is, rather, a statement that the Convention generally deserves support, that the nation is committed to the

rights and welfare of children, and that the Administration will study the Convention closely to determine the conditions under which it will later send the Convention to the Senate for ratification, if appropriate. It is common for countries to sign Conventions as a general signal of likely support before doing the more time-consuming ratification work.

- ♦ The annual UNICEF Executive Board meeting in New York begins on April 26th. Supporters of the Convention in this country and member nations on the UNICEF Executive Board will be looking to the new Administration for a clear signal of a change in position and a symbol of a deeper U.S. commitment to the needs of children at home and worldwide.
- ♦ The Administration should not wait for a complete review of the Convention by numerous executive branch agencies incident to preparation of a ratification package -- a process that should continue (and be speeded up), but which will take many months. Such a delay will leave the U.S. continuingly and increasingly isolated on this issue and will miss opportunities to garner great good will home and abroad right now.

If the President is not willing to sign the Convention on this timetable, the U.S. delegation to the UNICEF Executive Board should be given the latitude to state that the Administration is positively disposed to the Convention, is seeking rapid agency review, and hopes to move quickly to sign the Convention and submit it for ratification unless unforeseen difficulties arise.

A more detailed memo is attached. I have shared that memo with Bernie Nussbaum and a slightly altered version with Tim Wirth.

THE BLACK COMMUNITY CRUSADE FOR CHILDREN

LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND



MEMORANDUM

HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Dorothy Height
John Hope Franklin

BCCC WORKING COMMITTEE

John Hurst Adams*
Kent Amos*
Bylye Y. Avery
Clementine Barfield
Barbara Wright Bell
Angela Glover Blackwell*
Unita Blackwell
Geoffrey Canada*
Geraldine Carter
James Comer
Marian Wright Edelman*
James A. Forbes, Jr.
Harvey Gantt
Henry Louis Gates
Edmund W. Gordon
Henry E. Hampton
A. Leon Higginbotham
William Lynch, Jr.
Steven A. Minter*
Robert Peterkin*
Deborah Prothrow-Stith
Carolyn Reid-Green
Barbara J. Sabol*
Elsie L. Scott
YaSin Shabazz
Donald M. Stewart
Lisa Sullivan*
Carl Taylor
Reed V. Tuckson*
John Turner*
Cornel West
Roger Wilkins*
Terry Williams

*Steering Committee

TO: BCCC Steering and Working Committees and Advisory Board
FROM: Marian Wright Edelman
DATE: June 11, 1993
RE: Status Report of the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC)

As you know, the Black Community Crusade for Children (BCCC) is engaging in five related activities to:

- o Communicate the crisis facing Black children and the steps that must be taken to produce positive outcomes for Black children and families.
- o Build effective, informed African American leadership focused on the needs of Black children.
- o Inspire, encourage, and support high quality, effective personal and organizational actions, programs, and initiatives aimed at improving the life circumstances and chances for Black children.
- o Promote sound, effective initiatives and policies at the local, state, and national levels that ensure every Black child a healthy start, a head start, and a fair start and that support efforts aimed at revitalizing communities and ensuring safety.
- o Reconnect the Black middle class and Black poor and rebuild the extended Black community family that historically has provided a web of support and a lifeline of hope for Black children.

A 13 person Steering Committee, a 37 person Working Committee, and a 300 person Advisory Board representing every key Black network undergird and help guide the crusade coordinated by CDF.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Children's Defense Fund
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202 628 8787
202 662 3580 FAX

EASTERN REGION

Rheedlen Centers for
Children & Families
2770 Broadway
New York, NY 10025
212 866 0700

MIDWEST REGION

Greater Cleveland Project
1501 Euclid Avenue
Suite 535
Cleveland, OH 44115
216 241 5000

WESTERN REGION

Urban Strategies Council 672 13th Street Suite 200 Oakland, CA 94612 510 893 2404	Drew Child Development Corp. 320 East 111th Street Suite 203 Los Angeles, CA 90061 213 241 6800
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Strong regional leaders and offices will play key roles. Targeted media, religious, violence prevention, education, and freedom school advisory committees have been formed. In addition, Dr. Edmund Gordon, professor emeritus of Yale, chairs a special seminar of leading African American academics on extant research concerning African American males. A major report on Black males will be published in 1994.

Steering and Working Committee members communicate regularly. At least a dozen meetings and informal consultations by conference call have occurred over the last year. A 5 day meeting of the Working Committee in 1992, a 2 1/2 day meeting of 100 anti-violence grassroots activists, and a full day meeting of the 300 person advisory group at Howard University in March 1993 have helped lay a solid foundation for long-term action.

Black Human Service Administrators, BCCC regional office heads, the education advisory group, and other key leaders will meet in July to refine further action priorities and strategies for the crusade. We will report back to you with their recommendations.

Publications and Media

Three publications, Progress and Peril, Prophetic Voices, and Prayers for Black Children have been published. Please help us get the word out about these to your networks. At least four additional BCCC publications are in progress. A first phase media campaign includes a logo-poster by artist Varnette Honeywood and television public service announcements (PSAs). I hope you will

ask your local television stations to run them. A quarterly newsletter, Necessary, has been launched and will be distributed free of charge during 1993 to reach as many Black networks as possible. Please give us the names of people you think should be added to our mailing list. A toll-free telephone operation has been established to respond to community and media inquiries. A clearinghouse to collect and share best practices will be established in the near future. Please let us know if you would be willing to disseminate BCCC materials, including Necessary, to your networks. Also let us know how many copies you would need so we can plan ahead. I'd particularly appreciate your including the BCCC materials in conference registration packets of your organization's meetings.

BCCC television PSAs are running on NBC, CBS, CNN, FOX, BET, MTV, VH1, Nick at Nite, Time Warner Cable and Comedy Central Cable. Working and Advisory Committees are assisting us in getting the spots aired on their local network affiliates and independent stations as well. The BCCC has been adopted by the Young Black Programmers Coalition (YBPC), an organization of some 300 Black disc jockeys, program and public affairs directors at Black/urban-oriented stations throughout the country. Their rallying cry is "Do it for the Children, Now! Here's How: Call 1-800-ASK-BCCC." They have offered their expertise in producing a series of radio PSAs, getting celebrities to lend their names and voices to the spots, and making copies of the PSAs available to their member stations. This very exciting partnership enables us to make great

strides in reaching various facets of the Black community with our message, and inviting them to become involved in the BCCC.

We are meeting with consultants about a possible BCCC poll designed to invite a cross section of the Black community to let us know their priorities and strategies for meeting the needs of Black children and families in America today.

Leadership Development/Black College Student Summer Project

Identifying and developing at least 1,000 new Black leaders under 30 with the skills needed to engage in effective social change in the 90s and strengthening existing leadership is an overarching priority. The Black Student Leadership Network (BSLN) is the first fruit of this effort, and an impressive national Black college student network is emerging. BSLN training is currently underway at the Ella Baker Child Policy Training Institute at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina to prepare 22 field staff and 145 interns to run 17 Summer Freedom Schools for eight weeks for disadvantaged Black children.

SUMMER FREEDOM SCHOOLS

LOCATION	# OF SCHOOLS	STAFF	INTERNS	CHILDREN
Oakland	3	4	24	480
Los Angeles	1	3	5	160
Charlotte	2	2	16	320
Raleigh	1	1	9	180
Durham	1	1	8	160
New York	5	4	51	1,000
Hartford	2	2	16	320
Washington, DC	--2	---4	---17	---340
Totals	17	21	146	2,960

Another 630 children are participating in an intensive summer "Adventures in Excellence" program and Fun, Learning, and Food program in Marlboro County, S.C. This is a long term demonstration project to improve the outcomes for children by mobilizing an entire community to have high expectations for all its children. School readiness, school achievement, parent support, and youth empowerment are key ingredients. The food, learning, and fun component, which was a part of "Adventures in Excellence" in 1992, helped inspire the BSLN Freedom Schools model in 1993.

We hope some of these Summer Freedom Schools will blossom into year-round after school academic and cultural efforts in schools, churches, and community centers. Our goals are to provide positive alternatives for children and youths during the long, idle summer months; to reach more of the 12.6 million children who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals in the summer (1.9 million are currently served); to keep students from losing academic ground during the summer; and to provide children more interaction with positive adult role models. BSLN staff has helped develop the training curriculum of the President's National Service program. We will be seeking to encourage the National Service Commission, as well as the United States Department of Agriculture, to combine child feeding with service efforts in 1994 and beyond.

Our first major religious publication, Prophetic Voices: Black Preachers Speak on Behalf of Children, has received a positive response, and we are actively promoting it to seminaries and institutions of higher education, to the media, and to a range of

Black Community Crusade for Children and Children's Defense Fund networks. Our second major religious publication, a compilation of church-based model programs that are making a positive difference in the lives of Black children, will be published this summer. The third publication, Building Critical Life Skills: A Primer for Individuals, Families and Other Groups, focusing on decision-making, problem-solving, conflict resolution and advocacy skills, will be published this fall.

Our Religious Coordinators will participate in all the major annual national religious conventions this summer. BCCC materials will be widely distributed at these events, and we will be encouraging thousands of Black churches to participate in our annual children's sabbath and examine ways they can strengthen youth ministries. The BCCC also will have a presence at more than a dozen of the national summer conferences held by major Black professional and social organizations. We will be actively involved in the entire 7-city, summer-long Black Family Reunion Celebration organized by the National Council of Negro Women with an information booth, a children's artwork project and the involvement of Sunday School classes in each site. BCCC will be represented at such conferences as One Hundred Black Men of America, Inc., A. Philip Randolph Institute, National Newspaper Publishers Association, National Black Women's Health Project, National Association of Black Journalists, National Bar Association, Inc., Knights of Peter Claver, Black United Front, National Urban League, and all of the major Black fraternities and

sororities. Grassroots networks like the Head Start Association, Title I, parents, and housing project activists also are key targets.

Please let me know if you would be able to or willing to distribute BCCC publications in bulk to any of your constituency. Black church fans and magnets with a pledge to children will be available shortly. Tanya Murphy, in my office, will be happy to relay your requests to appropriate BCCC and CDF staff. You may reach Tanya at extension 3578. I regret the delay in getting the television PSAs and posters to you. This will not happen again. I hope you will help get them on the air by sharing them with your local stations.

Anti-Violence Network

The Anti-Violence Network (AVN) came together as the result of a very successful initial meeting in March, at which some 100 mostly grassroots violence prevention experts from around the country came together to look at ways they can work together. The goals of the AVN are to: mount a public education campaign about the degree of violence against children; to put a child's face on violence and force us to confront the shameful murder of a child every 3 hours fueled by the proliferation of handguns; provide members with information and technical assistance about federal violence prevention legislation and funding and engage in state and federal advocacy together; gain strength from each other and maximize scarce resources allocated to violence prevention by ensuring that the best community-based efforts are not being

shared. The Children's Defense Fund is hiring a full time anti-violence staff which we hope will be on board in the next 60 days.

1993 Policy Goals: Head Start and Immunizations

The two key policy goals for 1993 are to insure full funding for a quality Head Start program for every eligible child, and universal access to childhood immunizations. These provisions are included in the President's budget and in the House Budget Reconciliation Bill. We are struggling to keep them in the Senate Budget Reconciliation Bill and in any final agreement between the White House and Congress.

Three additional investments -- a \$28 billion expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit for low income working families, new family preservation policies, and significant expansion of child and family nutrition programs -- are also strong priorities. They are still alive, but it is clear that we may have a long term struggle on our hands.

We urge you to call your Congressmen and Senators urging their support of these crucial child investments.

RECEIVED MAY 27 1993

Children's Defense Fund - Ohio

52 East Lynn Street, Suite 400
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3508

Telephone (614) 221-2244
Fax (614) 221-2247

DEAR LORD
BE GOOD TO ME
THE SEAS IS SO
WIDE AND
MY BOAT IS
SO SMALL



Send to
members
w/eq
committee

Mark Real
Director
Mary Lazarus
Community Volunteer
Robin Harris
Writer/Researcher
Chris Stoneburner
Early Childhood Advocate

except for necessary
revisions

To: Marian, Sharon, Cliff, Renee, Lynn, Paul, Luann, Leslie, Olive, Phyllis, Sandra

From: Mark Real

Subject: Release of Facing the Facts: A Progress Report on Ohio's Black Children

*Front page - Cleveland Plain Dealer - quotes Lolly
Cincinnati Enquirer - quotes Eileen
Akron Beacon Journal - quotes Robin
Toledo Blade - quotes Mark

*Metro section - Columbus Dispatch - quotes Mark

*Radio coverage was extensive.

We're very pleased the release of the report is giving visibility to our Cleveland and Cincinnati offices. In addition, we will be mailing copies of the report and news articles to everyone who attended the May 19 dinner. It's been a great way to publicly open our Cincinnati project.

Marian Wright Edelman, President
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MAY 24 1993

Black kids feel sting of poverty

Ohio's future at stake, study says

BY DICK KIMMINS
Enquirer Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Nearly half of Ohio's 370,000 black children live in extreme poverty, meaning their families' incomes are less than \$8,000 a year.

But nearly 40% of Ohio's black families are middle class with incomes of \$25,000 or more, the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio reports in a study to be released today.

Those contrasts are typical of the study, titled *Facing the Facts: A Progress Report on Ohio's Black Children*.

Other comparisons include:

- ▶ More black children live past the age of 1 than a decade ago because of improved intensive care in hospitals, but compared with 1980, black children in Ohio are more likely to be born underweight or have a mother who received late prenatal care.

- ▶ More black children are attending preschool — but fewer are attending or graduating from college than were 10 years ago.

- ▶ More black children live in middle-class families, but more are born out of wedlock or become teen parents.

Unless the downward trends are reversed, "many poor black children will not have the opportunity to contribute to their own, nor the state's, economic future," the report says. "The greatest cost is lost potential and productivity."

The Children's Defense Fund-Ohio is part of an independent national organization supported by contributions from foundations, corporations and individuals.

Eileen Cooper Reed, Southwest Ohio advocate for the organization, said the report is intended to educate and mobilize policy-makers and the public.

Recommendations

The Children's Defense Fund-Ohio report urges the state to:

- ▶ Expand prenatal care.
- ▶ Boost early childhood education.
- ▶ Create job opportunities.
- ▶ Increase public school intervention programs.

"Meeting these goals is important, not only for black children, but for all children," the report states. "When children grow to reach their full potential as productive members of society — society prospers. We cannot afford to waste the talents of even one child."

"When you help black children, you help all children," Reed said.

The Children's Defense Fund says the rate of poverty among black children — the "poorest of the poor" in Ohio — leads to low self-esteem, poor school performance and spiraling costs of state and federal social assistance programs.

The report notes that public school performance of black children has been monitored by the Children's Defense Fund and the Ohio Department of Education.

"Within the (state's ninth-grade proficiency) test, scores indicated that black students are only a third as likely as white students to pass the mathematics segment of the exam," the report found.

Last year, 45% of white ninth-graders taking the test for the first time passed all four parts, and 15% of black ninth-graders passed all four.

5-24-93

Black family earnings up, but children still suffering

By PAUL SHEPARD

PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

While increasing numbers of black Ohio families are climbing the economic ladder, black children are more likely to be born into poverty and in poor health, according to a statewide study released today by the Ohio Children's Defense Fund.

"There are two separate worlds for black children in Ohio," said Lolita M. McDavid, the defense fund's Greater Cleveland advocate. "On one hand, things are getting better for some children, but the community must realize that many others are being left behind."

According to the study, titled "Facing the Facts: A Progress Report on Ohio's Black Children," nearly 40% of black families in the state are middle-class, earning at least \$25,000 annually. That's the good news, says McDavid, who noted that fewer than 25% of Ohio black households qualified as middle class in 1970.

However, the rosier economic picture hasn't translated directly to the well-being of black children in the state, according to the report.

Nearly half of all black children in Ohio live in extreme poverty, with annual family incomes of less than \$8,000.

In Cleveland, 56% of black children live in households receiving public assistance. About 28% of white children are on assistance, McDavid said.

"The greatest cost is lost potential and productivity," the report states. "Unless these trends are reversed, many poor black children will not have the opportunity to contribute to their own, nor the state's, economic future."

The 32-page report repeats many of the harsh statistics that have been in government reports for years regarding the lives of black children. But it also includes a 21-step plan for the public and private sectors that offers long- and short-term solutions.

Chief among them:

- Expand preschool participation in the Head Start program from 47% to the 63% eligible in the state.

- Expand Medicaid coverage to include more pregnant women in poor working families.

- Provide ongoing services through churches.

- Increase black enrollment in Ohio's colleges and universities from the current 8.2% to 8.6% of the total. The increase would represent an additional 1,900 black students in Ohio schools.

McDavid said the job of improving the lot of black children falls on the shoulders of the black community.

"This is an issue where we have to look at our resources," McDavid said. "When I speak to black groups and present the number, they are usually shocked. The first thing we have to do is get together and acknowledge the problem."

The report points to the Metro-Health Perinatal Outreach Project, a maternal and infant health care program, as an example of a Cleveland program that works. Using community workers who go door to door, the program identifies pregnant women in need of prenatal care.

Poor start stays with black kids

Advocacy report focuses on cures

By Jonathan Riskind
Dispatch Statehouse Reporter

Nearly half of the black children in Ohio live in extreme poverty, says a report to be released today by the Children's Defense Fund — Ohio.

More than 40 percent of all black families in Ohio are middle class and most of those families are two-parent households making more than \$25,000 a year, the report found.

But its title, *Facing the Facts: A Progress Report on Ohio Black Children*, reflects the report's focus: Too many black children live troubled lives plagued by poverty, ill health, and lack of proper education.

The defense fund, a private non-profit advocacy and research organization, says agencies and others trying to help black families and children can make dents in the crisis by increasing access to prenatal care and basic education skills.

Also, officials and communities must stress the need to lower teen-age pregnancies and increase the number of unmarried fathers who take responsibility for their children, it says.

"Black families face barriers in obtaining proper health and prenatal

s Dispatch

The Columbus Dispatch

■ ■ Monday, May 24, 1993

CHILDREN from 1B

care, securing a quality public school education, finding a well-paying job and raising a family in economically depressed communities," the report states.

About 370,000 black children live in Ohio; there are about 2.4 million white children.

A recently released report by the National Commission on Children found that numerically more than half of the nation's poor children are white. But proportionately, black children are almost three times as likely to be poor as white children.

While there has been progress in some areas — for instance, more black children are living past age 1 — black children in Ohio are more likely today than a decade ago to be poor, born underweight and out-of-wedlock and themselves become teen-age parents, the defense fund's Ohio report found.

"It is a slightly optimistic report, but it is a very sober report," said Mark Real, executive director of Children's Defense Fund — Ohio.

The president of the Columbus Urban League, Samuel Gresham, said the report is on target and reflects many of his organization's local findings in its *State of Black Columbus* report issued in April.

"The issues they're raising are essential issues to the well-being of African-American families in the short term and long term," Gresham

said. Problems mentioned by the defense fund such as too many low birth weight black babies are tied in with other problems, he said.

"Low birth weight is an indicator of poor prenatal care, and that is symptomatic of other problems that exist in households," Gresham said. "If we don't get a handle on them, it will continue to increase America's cost and the misery on those families."

The defense fund recommends

incremental improvements, such as decreasing black low birth weight rates to 12.8 percent from 13.9 percent. That would mean 325 infants would be born weighing at least 5.5 pounds and be less likely to have health problems.

"I think if we go to nuts-and-bolts goals ... the political apparatus begins to say, 'This is possible,' and community people begin to say 'The recommendations are more germane to our lives,'" Gresham said.

Making Improvements

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio says a number of goals could be reached by the end of 1994 that would improve the condition of black children in Ohio. Its "benchmarks for positive changes" include:

- Trying to decrease low birth weight rates statewide from 13.9 percent to 12.8 percent so fewer black babies would be born with health problems.
- Expanding Head Start, a preschool program for poor children, to be able to serve 63 percent of eligible children, up from 47 percent. That would increase participation in the state and federally funded program to 50,000 from 30,000. Gov. George V. Voinovich also wants to expand Head Start.
- Reducing Ohio's black infant mortality rate from 16.4 deaths per 1,000 live births to 15 per 1,000.
- Lowering the black teen-age birthrate from 26 percent to 21 percent of all births to black women.
- Increasing the percentage of black women receiving early prenatal care from 66 percent to 69 percent.

Source: Children's Defense Fund-Ohio

Dispatch graphic

Akron Beacon Journal
May 24, 1993

A better life for black children?

• Defense Fund says private and public initiatives, state cooperation necessary

BY ERICKA PIZZILLO
Special to the Beacon Journal

COLUMBUS: Lee Norman is what you might call an extraordinary student. When only 8.2 percent of Ohio universities' enrollment is black, the mathematics major graduating this summer from Kent State University with hopes of law school stands out among

the thousands of graduates.

But Norman, 23, has three factors working in his favor most other black students don't: His parents are married and still together, he is from a middle-class background, and he is an only child.

Those are three things a report released today by the Children's

Defense Fund points out as making a difference in the lives of young black children.

A majority of black children in Ohio aren't as lucky.

Nearly half of Ohio's black children live in extreme poverty, while more than 40 percent of

See GRIM, Page A8

Page A8, Monday, May 24, 1993

GRIM

• Nearly half of Ohio's black kids live in poverty

Continued from Page A1

Ohio's black families are middle class, the report states.

The report documents the declines for Ohio's black children in school achievement, prenatal care and economic survival:

- In 1992, only 15 percent of black students passed all four parts of Ohio's Ninth Grade Proficiency Test on their first try, compared to 45 percent for white students.

- Black infants in Ohio are twice as likely as white babies to be born with low birth weights and die by their first birthday.

- Three of every five Ohio black children live in single-parent households, usually headed by a woman. Seventy-three percent of black female-headed households are poor.

Despite the grim prognosis, there is hope for Ohio's black youth.

"Such gains have been made for the black community," said Robin Harris, a writer/researcher of the report. "The future looks good if we all do things to help."

The Children's Defense Fund is recommending both private and public initiatives to help combat the problems faced by Ohio's black youth.

Through the private sector, the report suggests building on community ties by organizing efforts through schools and churches.

In the public sector, government agencies must look at these problems differently and cut through its own red tape, the report said.

Making Medicaid more accessible to pregnant women for prenatal care, and modifying clinics' operating hours to serve working poor parents are two of the suggestions made to improve the health conditions of black children.

QUOTE

"If we don't do more as Ohioans for black children, we're just writing lives off."

ROBIN HARRIS

The report also recommends expanding successful job placement programs like Cleveland Works, a federally and locally funded program that provides education, job training and work-related experiences for welfare recipients. More than 500 adults and children have been taken off public assistance because of jobs received through the program.

Gains made by the University of Akron's Upward Bound Program are applauded in the report. The program provides middle and secondary school students with after-school and weekend classes designed to build an academic foundation for both high school and college.

Expanding Head Start programs across the state is heavily emphasized, with a goal of moving it from 47 percent of eligible children to 63 percent. Head Start provides preschool, nutrition and immunization services to 3- and 4-year-olds who are below the poverty line.

Almost 38,000 children in Ohio are served by the program; 1,738 of those are in the Akron area.

Harris said the programs recommended will affect the lives of all needy Ohio children, because most of the programs they suggest should be expanded are directed toward families below the poverty line, not just minorities.

But Ohio's black children are disproportionately affected by poverty, Harris said.

According to the report, more than 38 percent of all children receiving Aid to Dependent Children are black, while only 13 percent of Ohio's children are black.

"If we don't do more as Ohioans for black children," Harris said, "we're just writing lives off."

Head Start brought 2 together

By Jonathan Riskind
Dispatch Statehouse Reporter

Paths that crossed in 1965 led Freddie Johnson and Marian Wright Edelman to the Capital Park Head Start center on the Northeast Side, where they met for the first time.

Together with Gov. George V. Voinovich, they toured the center and held a news conference to make a case for expanding Head Start, a state and federally funded preschool program for poor children.

Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, was a young lawyer in 1965 who helped force Mississippi to accept federal money for Head Start so it could expand to all parts of the state.

Edelman, who has close ties to President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton, also toured the Worley Terrace Head Start center on the West Side.

The Children's Defense Fund is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan research advocacy organization. The



Mike Munden/Dispatch

Marian Wright Edelman shares fingerprints with Amber, left, William and Tiana at the Worley Terrace Head Start Center, 79 S. Central Ave.

group's national board meeting is being held this week at Children's Hospital, partly for a daylong agenda discussing Ohio's success with early intervention programs for low-income children, a spokesman said.

Johnson, a researcher for the state Department of Health and a recent law school graduate, credits much of his success to his enrollment in Head Start as a 3-year-old in Mississippi in 1965.

Johnson, 30, graduated Sunday from Capital University Law School.

"I believe my most significant

educational experience was my preschool education I received from the Mid-Delta Education Association Head Start program," he said.

"That educational process is in large part why I stand before you today as well as why I walked across the graduate stage this past Sunday."

Johnson said he comes from a family of 13 children. Only the children who took part in Head Start went on to higher education, he said.

Please see **HEAD START** Page 2B

HEAD START from 1B

Head Start has been praised as an effective way to prepare poor children for school and has been criticized as a stopgap measure with few long-lasting effects.

Voinovich wants to increase state spending on it to almost \$74 million by 1995 from \$27 million this year. Ohio got \$108 million this year in federal funding for Head Start, and Clinton has proposed doubling total federal Head Start spending, to about \$6 billion, by 1998. The funding increase would make the program available to all Ohio children whose parents want to take part, Voinovich says.

The children who could be served by the program would go to about 80,000 a year from about 30,000.

Head Start is under some fire partly because recent studies and reports say it has expanded too fast, to the detriment of quality at some centers.

A Voinovich-appointed task force will be reporting in June or July about the state of Head Start in Ohio and

recommending improvements.

"That task force will work to ensure that, as our Head Start program expands in Ohio, we are, first, monitoring program quality and, No. 2, assisting programs that need improvement," Voinovich said.

"There are those out there who are taking shots at it," he said, "and what we need to do is get more Freddie Johnsons out testifying to the success of the program."

Edelman, too, said Johnson is evidence of Head Start's worth.

"None of us think Head Start is the perfect program, but we still think it is a very effective program," she said.

"None of us as parents would think that, if we did something for our own children in their early years, we should stop doing something in first grade or second grade or third grade.

"You have to keep at it."

The going is rough for minority youths, Ohio statistics show

BY ANN FISHER
BLADE COLUMBUS BUREAU

COLUMBUS — There are more African-American children in Ohio who are poor than not and it shows, in school test scores, birth weights, mortality rates, and future potential, according to a progress report released today by the Children's Defense Fund-Ohio.

"This report has two messages," said CDF-Ohio director Mark Real. "One is that 40 per cent of black youngsters [in Ohio] are now middle class, and that's a tremendous achievement. The bad news is that half of the black children in Ohio live in poverty and half are so poor that they have to depend on public assistance programs. That is a terrible situation."

"Facing the Facts . . . A Progress Report on Ohio's Black Children," is a study in contrasts, examining the gains made by Ohio's African-American families as it details the declines in child well-being. The report also outlines both a public and a private agenda to improve the odds for African-American children in Ohio.

Almost seven more African-American infants per 1,000 survive today than in 1980, but they are more than twice as likely as white infants to die before they are one month old.

Last year, 15 per cent of African-American students on their first try passed all four parts of Ohio's Ninth Grade Proficiency Test, compared with 45 per cent for their white

The study also found that fewer African-American children attend college, and even fewer get a degree, than in 1980.

counterparts. In Toledo, nine per cent of African-American students passed all four parts, compared with 27 per cent of white students.

Furthermore, the report said, fewer African-American children attend college today — and even fewer get a college degree — than in 1980.

By contrast, the cover page of the report depicts a graduate of the first Head Start program, established in 1965, who has since graduated from Capital University Law School, tutoring two Columbus area Head Start enrollees.

Local involvement and solutions are at the crux of the remedies recommended by the CDF, Mr. Real said.

"I think what's unique about this report is that we identify problems in a new way, but we also point out remedies that could be adopted immediately by every community. This is not a report that says gov-

Turn to Page 4, Col. 1 ▶

THE BLADE: TOLEDO, OHIO ■ MONDAY, MAY 24, 1993

Black youths

▶ Continued from Page 1

ernment has to do it all," he said.

The report recommends, for example, that church and community buildings be opened immediately for teen pregnancy protection and after-school programs.

"In the case of after-school programs there is public money available, but what they lack are sites," Mr. Real said.

The report also outlined "A New Public Agenda" that should, among other things:

▶ Expand Medicaid coverage to more pregnant women in poor

working families. Ohio fails to tap federal funds that will pay 60 per cent of the cost for this expansion.

▶ Target resources and outreach efforts to communities with high rates of late prenatal care. Funding and coordination would come from the Ohio Department of Health.

▶ Establish more community-based alcohol and drug treatment programs for pregnant women and new parents.

According to the report, "A New Private Agenda" should, among other things:

▶ Educate elected officials about health issues and stimulate volunteerism at local health clinics.

▶ Organize vaccination clinics.

▶ Organize health fairs.

▶ Establish scholarships for students who want to pursue a medical career in the community.

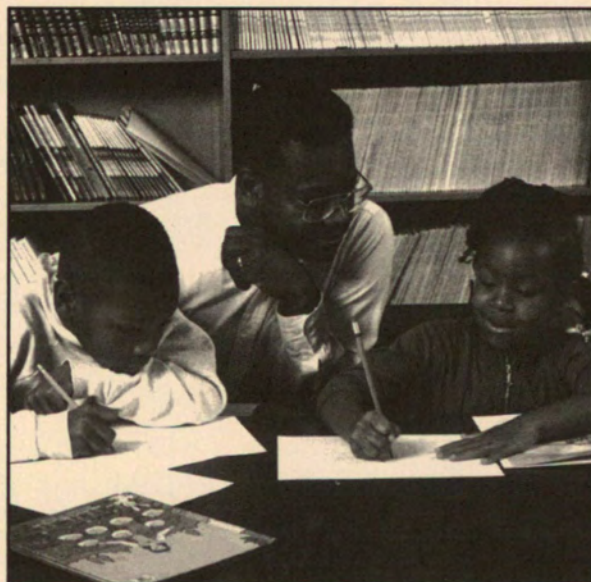
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Facing THE Facts



A PROGRESS REPORT ON OHIO'S BLACK CHILDREN

Children's Defense Fund-Ohio

File
CDF

**Children's Defense Fund/Newsweek
National Poll of Children and Parents**

Princeton Survey Research Associates

**Partial Top-line Questionnaire
(October 29, 1993)**

N= 426 children aged 10-17 and their parents

Field Period: October 18-27, 1993

Margin of Sampling Error: Plus or minus 6 percentage points.

Partial Top-line Results

1

MAIN INTERVIEW FOR PARENTS:

1. To begin, I will read you a list of some things that families today might worry about. Please tell me how much YOU AND YOUR FAMILY worry about each one. First, do you worry a lot, a little or not at all that...? (READ AND ROTATE ITEMS) And how much do you worry that...

	<u>A lot</u> %	<u>A little</u> %	<u>Not at all</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. Your family won't have enough money to buy food and clothing	15	29	56	0 =100
b. Your family won't have enough money to keep paying for the place you live	14	32	54	* =100
c. Your family won't be able to pay for medical care if someone gets sick	28	34	38	0 =100
d. Your family won't stay together	8	24	68	0 =100
e. Someone in your family will be a victim of violent crime	23	51	26	* =100
f. Someone in your family will get into trouble with drugs	14	42	44	* =100
g. One of the adults who earns money for your family will lose his or her job	19	39	42	* =100

2. Are ALL the children in your household between the ages of 10 to 17 now covered by any health insurance that helps pay for medical care?

86 Yes, all covered
 14 No, some not covered
 *
 100 Don't Know

3. Now I'd like you to think back to when you, yourself, were a child between the ages of 10 to 17... Please tell me how important an influence each of the following was in your life at that time. (First,) would you say (INSERT ITEMS, IN ORDER) was/were a VERY important influence, a SOMEWHAT important influence, or NOT an important influence?

	<u>Very Important</u> %	<u>Somewhat Important</u> %	<u>Not Important</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. Parents	81	15	4	* =100
b. Grandparents	46	29	22	3 =100
c. Other relatives	26	50	23	1 =100
d. Children your own age	35	44	14	7 =100
e. Neighbors	12	44	37	7 =100
f. Church or the place you go to pray	56	31	13	* =100
g. Teachers	48	43	9	* =100
h. Community organizations, like boys' and girls' clubs and the "Y"	15	31	52	2 =100
i. Television, movies and popular music	22	47	30	1 =100

4. Back on the subject of your family life today... Do you think parents and children in your family now spend about the RIGHT AMOUNT of time together, TOO MUCH time, or TOO LITTLE time?

46	Right amount
3	Too much
51	Too little
<u>2</u>	Don't Know
100	

5. When your children grow up, do you think they will be better off financially than you are now, worse off or about the same?

41	Better off
15	Worse off
40	About the same
<u>4</u>	Don't Know
100	

6. Overall, how would you rate the quality of education in the schools your children now attend? Would you say...

25	Excellent
49	Good
20	Only fair
5	Or poor?
1	Not attending school/ Doesn't apply
<u>2</u>	Don't Know
100	

7. After I read you six choices, tell me which ONE you think is the best way to improve the quality of education in your children's schools.

33	Smaller classes
24	More discipline in the classroom
19	Better teachers
10	More textbooks and equipment
6	A longer school year
4	Better school security
2	Other (VOLUNTEERED)
1	Not attending school/Doesn't apply (VOLUNTEERED)
<u>1</u>	Don't Know
100	

8. On another topic...Do think there is too much violence (INSERT ITEMS. ROTATE START) today, or not?

	<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. On television	89	9	2
b. In movies	90	9	1

9. Over the last two years, would you say the amount of violent crime in your community has...

52	Increased
2	Decreased
45	Or stayed about the same?
<u>1</u>	Don't Know
100	

Partial Top-line results

5

10. We'd like to know how safe you feel your children are from violent crime in each of the following places. (First), in general, do you feel your children are VERY safe, SOMEWHAT safe or NOT safe from violent crime...

	<u>Very Safe</u> %	<u>Somewhat Safe</u> %	<u>Not Safe</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. At home at night	83	17	*	*
b. When walking in your neighborhood after dark	34	54	10	2
c. When traveling to school	57	39	3	1
d. At school	46	50	3	1

11. After I read you four choices, tell me which ONE you think is BEST way to keep children in your community safe from violent crime.

34	More afterschool programs
32	More police and law enforcement
17	More restrictive gun laws
9	More drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs
4	Other
<u>4</u>	Don't Know
100	

12. How would you rate the quality of afterschool or summer programs for children in your community? Would you say...

10	Excellent
35	Good
28	Only fair
12	Poor
10	Or are there no such programs?
<u>5</u>	Don't Know
100	

D1. Finally, I have just a few background questions for statistical purposes only. Which of the following best describes the place where you live now. Is it...(READ)

11	A large city
28	A suburb near a large city
34	A small city or town, or
<u>27</u>	A rural area?
100	

D2. How many children in your household are between the ages of 10 to 17?

[ASKED FOR DEMOGRAPHIC WEIGHTING ONLY]

D3. Are you now employed full-time, part-time, or are you not employed for pay?

67	Full-time
13	Part-time
18	Not employed
1	Retired
<u>1</u>	Disabled
100	

D4. Are you now married, LIVING AS married, or not married?

85	Married
2	Living as married
<u>13</u>	Not married
100	

D5. Is your husband/wife/partner now employed full-time, part-time, or not employed for pay? [BASED ON THOSE MARRIED OR LIVING AS MARRIED]

64	Full-time
10	Part-time
13	Not employed
1	Retired
<u>12</u>	Disabled
100	

D6. Last year, that is in 1992, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

6	Less than \$10,000
10	\$10,000 to under \$20,000
18	\$20,000 to under \$30,000
33	\$30,000 to under \$50,000
17	\$50,000 to under \$75,000
10	\$75,000 or more
2	Don't know (DO NOT READ)
<u>4</u>	Refused (DO NOT READ)
100	

D7. What is your age?

5	30 and under
44	31-40
40	41-50
10	Over 50
<u>1</u>	Undesignated
100	

D8. What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?

3	None, or grade 1 to 8
12	High school incomplete (Grades 9 - 11)
39	High school graduate (Grade 12)
3	Business, technical or vocational school after high school
22	Some college, no four-year degree
12	College graduate, four-year degree
<u>9</u>	Post-graduate or professional schooling, after college
100	

D9. IF MARRIED OR LIVING AS MARRIED (CODES 1-2 IN D4): What is the last grade or class that your husband/wife/partner completed in school? (DO NOT READ)

3	None, or grade 1 to 8
8	High school incomplete (Grades 9 - 11)
35	High school graduate (Grade 12)
2	Business, technical or vocational school after high school
19	Some college, no four-year degree
13	College graduate, four-year degree
7	Post-graduate or professional schooling, after college
<u>13</u>	Refused
100	

D10. Are you of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or other Spanish background?

3 Yes
97 No
100

D11. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race?

84 White
12 Black or African-American
1 Asian
3 Other or mixed race
100

D13. Could you please tell me this child's first name? (ENTER NAME) Is (INSERT CHILD'S NAME) a boy or girl?

51 Boy
49 Girl
100

D14. What is (INSERT CHILD'S NAME)'s exact age in years?

13	10 years old
14	11 years old
14	12 years old
12	13 years old
12	14 years old
12	15 years old
11	16 years old
11	17 years old
<u>1</u>	9 Refused
100	

D15. Including yourself, how many of (INSERT CHILD'S NAME)'s natural or biological parents now live in your household...

44	Both
56	One, or
0	Neither?
<u>0</u>	Don't Know
100	

CHILDREN'S INTERVIEW:

1. To begin, I will read you a list of some things that families today might worry about. Please tell me how much YOU AND YOUR FAMILY worry about each one. First, do you worry a lot, a little or not at all that...? (READ AND ROTATE ITEMS) And how much do you worry that...

	<u>A lot</u> %	<u>A little</u> %	<u>Not at all</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. Your family won't have enough money to buy food and clothing				
Parents:	15	29	56	0 =100
Children:	19	25	56	0 =100
b. Your family won't have enough money to keep paying for the place you live				
Parents:	14	32	54	* =100
Children:	19	25	56	0 =100
c. Your family won't be able to pay for medical care if someone gets sick				
Parents:	28	34	38	0 =100
Children:	20	31	49	* =100
d. Your family won't stay together				
Parents:	8	24	68	0 =100
Children:	20	19	61	0 =100
e. Someone in your family will be a victim of violent crime				
Parents:	23	51	26	* =100
Children:	25	31	44	0 =100

	<u>A lot</u> %	<u>A little</u> %	<u>Not at all</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
f. Someone in your family will get into trouble with drugs				
Parents:	14	42	44	* =100
Children:	20	17	63	0 =100
g. One of the grown-ups who earns money for your family will lose his or her job				
Parents:	19	39	42	* =100
Children:	23	32	45	* =100

2. Please tell me how important an influence each of the following is in your life today. (First,) would you say (INSERT ITEMS, IN ORDER) is/are a VERY important influence, a SOMEWHAT important influence, or NOT an important influence?

		<u>Very</u> <u>Important</u> %	<u>Somewhat</u> <u>Important</u> %	<u>Not</u> <u>Important</u> %	<u>Don't</u> <u>Know</u> %
a.	Parents				
	Parents*:	81	15	4	* =100
	Children:	85	14	1	* =100
b.	Grandparents				
	Parents*:	46	29	22	3 =100
	Children:	54	33	12	1 =100
c.	Other relatives				
	Parents*:	26	50	23	1 =100
	Children:	38	47	14	1 =100
d.	Children your own age				
	Parents*:	35	44	14	7 =100
	Children:	42	43	11	4 =100
e.	Neighbors				
	Parents*:	12	44	37	7 =100
	Children:	13	41	42	4 =100
f.	Church or the place you go to pray				
	Parents*:	56	31	13	* =100
	Children:	56	27	16	1 =100
g.	Teachers				
	Parents*:	48	43	9	* =100
	Children:	51	40	9	* =100
h.	Community organizations, like boys' and girls' clubs and the "Y"				
	Parents*:	15	31	52	2 =100
	Children:	22	40	36	2 =100
i.	Television, movies and popular music				
	Parents*:	22	47	30	1 =100
	Children:	23	44	33	0 =100

*Parents were asked to rate how much they were influenced by each group when they were the same age their children are today.

Partial Top-line Results

15

3. Do you think parents and children in your family now spend about the RIGHT AMOUNT of time together, TOO MUCH time, or TOO LITTLE time?

<u>Children</u>		<u>Parents</u>
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>
65	Right amount	46
4	Too much	3
31	Too little	51
<u>*</u>	Don't Know	<u>*</u>
100		100

4. When you grow up, do you think you will be better off financially than your parents are now, worse off or about the same?

<u>Children</u>		<u>Parents</u>
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>
31	Better off	41
3	Worse off	15
63	About the same	40
<u>3</u>	Don't Know	<u>4</u>
100		100

5. Overall, how would you rate the quality of education in your school? Would you say...

<u>Children</u>		<u>Parents</u>
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>
28	Excellent	25
47	Good	49
20	Only fair	20
4	Or poor?	5
<u>*</u>	Not attending school/ Doesn't apply	1
<u>1</u>	Don't Know	<u>*</u>
100		100

Partial Top-line Results 16

9. We'd like to know about your experiences with some different types of crime. As I read each one, tell me if it ever happened to YOU personally, if you ever saw it happen to SOMEONE ELSE, or if you KNOW SOMEONE who was a victim of this type of crime. (First,) how about.. (INSERT ITEMS. START WITH "a") Has this ever happened to you, did you see it happen or do you know someone who was a victim? Next, how about...

		<u>Self</u> <u>a Victim</u> %	<u>Saw</u> <u>Someone</u> <u>Else</u> <u>Victimized</u> %	<u>Know a</u> <u>Victim</u> %	<u>No</u> <u>Personal</u> <u>Experience</u> <u>Knowledge</u> %	<u>Don't</u> <u>Know</u> %
a.	Having money or property stolen	27	9	33	31	0
b.	Being threatened by someone with a gun	4	3	18	75	0
c.	Being threatened by someone with a knife or weapon other than a gun	6	6	16	72	0
d.	Being shot with a gun	*	3	15	82	0
e.	Being attacked or beaten up	9	15	23	53	0

10. Have you, yourself, ever handled a real pistol or a handgun without a grown-up around to supervise?

11	Yes,
89	No
0	Don't Know
100	

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6. After I read you six choices, tell me which ONE you think is the best way to improve the quality of education in your school.

<u>Children</u> %		<u>Parents</u> %
24	Smaller classes	33
21	More discipline in the classroom	24
21	More textbooks and equipment	10
19	Better teachers	19
8	Better school security	4
5	A longer school year	6
*	Other	2
*	Not attending school/ Doesn't apply	1
<u>2</u> 100	Don't Know	<u>1</u> 100

7. On another topic... Do think there is too much violence (INSERT ITEMS. ROTATE START) today, or not?

	<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. On television			
Parents:	89	9	2 =100
Children:	60	39	1 =100
b. In movies			
Parents:	90	9	1 =100
Children:	63	36	1 =100

8. We'd like to know how safe you feel from violent crime in each of the following places. (First), in general, do you feel VERY safe, SOMEWHAT safe or NOT safe from violent crime...

	<u>Very Safe</u> %	<u>Somewhat Safe</u> %	<u>Not Safe</u> %	<u>Don't Know</u> %
a. At home at night				
Parents:	83	17	*	* =100
Children:	75	23	2	0 =100
b. When walking in your neighborhood after dark				
Parents:	34	54	10	2 =100
Children:	37	43	18	2 =100
c. When traveling to school				
Parents:	57	39	3	1 =100
Children:	74	23	2	1 =100
d. At school				
Parents:	46	50	3	1 =100
Children:	69	27	4	0 =100

14. Thinking back to yesterday (IF INTERVIEW CONDUCTED ON SUNDAY OR MONDAY, CHANGE "YESTERDAY" TO "FRIDAY"), from the time you got home from school to the time you went to sleep, about how many hours did you spend watching television?

14	None
13	Less than 1 hour
42	1-2 hours
22	3-4 hours
6	5-6 hours
1	7-8 hours
1	More than 8 hours
<u>1</u>	Don't Know
100	

11. If you, yourself, wanted to buy or borrow a pistol or handgun, would you know where to go for it?

33	Yes
66	No
<u>1</u>	Don't Know
100	

12. Have you, or has someone you know, ever brought a pistol or a handgun to school?

1	Yes, self
18	Yes, someone else -- not self
81	No
<u>*</u>	Don't Know
100	

13. I have just two more questions... Are you NOW in any regular afterschool program, or not?

44	Yes
56	No
<u>0</u>	Don't Know
100	

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