

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. resume	Re: Gloria G. Rodriguez (partial, dates of birth) (1 page)	n.d.	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 15624

FOLDER TITLE:

Women's Conference Circle [binder] [3]

2013-0534-S

ry1732

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

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Divider Title: _____ **Mc**

WCC

September 11, 1995

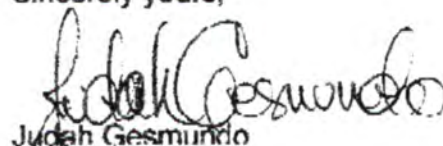
Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Melanne:

This letter is in response to the First Lady's letter to Dr. Gail McClure, asking her to join the Women's Conference Circle.

Dr. McClure is currently in China, but she has asked me to let you know that she would be honored to join the Circle and share in the work of promoting the goals of the UN Conference. She is very pleased to join the many members who will be working together to promote progress for women, girls, and their families.

Sincerely yours,


Judith Gesmundo
Office Manager
Communication
and Strategic Planning

**W.K. KELLOGG
FOUNDATION**

One Michigan
Avenue East
Battle Creek, MI
49017 4056
USA

016-960-1611

TDD on site

Telex 4953028

Facsimile: 016-960-0413

*To help people
help themselves
through the practical
application of knowledge
and resources to improve
their quality of life and
that of future generations*

Response to Melvin Crick of —

Jacqueline Miller
July.

6801 Crabapple Circle

#6

Kansas City, Mo. 64129

Mary Ellen McMillen
5487 Grouse Drive
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111

September 5, 1995

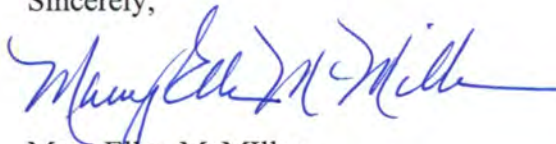
Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am responding to Hillary Rodham Clinton's August 15, 1995 letter inviting me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I was delighted to receive the invitation and I would be honored to serve.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen McMillen

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Divider Title: _____ N

Summit Bank

OAKLAND MAIN OFFICE
2969 BROADWAY
OAKLAND CA 94611

Telephone: 510 839-8800
FAX: 510 839-8853

FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: September 7, 1995

TO: Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff

FAX NO. (202)456-6244

FROM: Shirley W.Nelson

NO. OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET) 2

MESSAGE: RE: The Women's Conference Circle

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us at the above address via the U.S. Postal Service. Thank you.

Summit Bank

SHIRLEY W. NELSON
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

VIA FACSIMILE AND U. S. MAIL
Fax Number (202)456-6244

September 7, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OE08
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20050

Dear Ms. Verveer:

In response to the First Lady's kind invitation in her letter of August 15, 1995, to participate in The Women's Conference Circle, I am delighted to accept Mrs. Clinton's kind invitation.

I look forward to participating in this endeavor, and I am glad that Mrs. Clinton is insuring that there is a follow-up after the conference.

Sincerely,



Shirley W. Nelson

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein

Summit Bank

SHERLEY W. NELSON
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

VIA FACSIMILE AND U. S. MAIL
Fax Number (202)456-6244

WCE

September 7, 1995

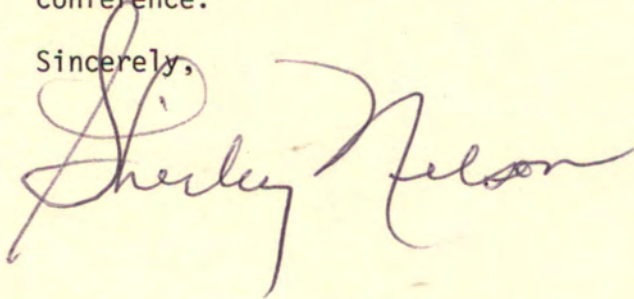
Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OE0B
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20050

Dear Ms. Verveer:

In response to the First Lady's kind invitation in her letter of August 15, 1995, to participate in The Women's Conference Circle, I am delighted to accept Mrs. Clinton's kind invitation.

I look forward to participating in this endeavor, and I am glad that Mrs. Clinton is insuring that there is a follow-up after the conference.

Sincerely,



cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein



World Citizen Diplomats

WCC

An International Citizen Diplomacy Association

Sept. 5, 1995

INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

(Africa)

World Citizen Diplomats
Attn: Chief Akanbi Sanni
Nigerian Peace Committee
P.O. Box 5326
Lagos, NIGERIA
Phone: +234(1)263-3998
Fax: +234(1)264-6739

(Central Asia)

World Citizen Diplomats
Attn: Umyt Sakharieva
Meyir Ltd.
105 Ave Abilay Khan
480091 Almaty, KAZAKHISTAN
Phone: +7(327)262-2755
Fax: +7(327)250-6256

(South Asia)

World Citizen Diplomats
Attn: John Ebenezer
World Children's Center
200, Chirag Ali Lane
Hyderabad, 500001 AP, INDIA
Phone: +91(40)202035

(South East Asia)

World Citizen Diplomats
Attn: Muhamad Najib
Muhammadiyah Youth Movement
Jalan Menteng Raya No. 62
Karta - 10340, INDONESIA
Phone: +62(21)314-9016
Fax: +62(21)314-1582

(Europe)

World Citizen Diplomats
Attn: Grazina Miniotaite
Lithuanian Ctr for Nonviolent Action
P.O. Box 2642
2015 Vilnius, LITHUANIA
Phone&Fax: +370(2)629083

(North America)

World Citizen Diplomats
Attn: Lois Nicolai
P.O. Box 1484
Princeton, NJ 08542, USA
Phone: +1(609)924-2353
Fax: +1(609)895-0880
Attn: Dietrich Fischer
Phone&Fax: +1(609)799-8319

Dietrich Fischer - President
Chair: Board of Trustees
Michael Leffler - Vice-President
Marge Hornak - Secretary
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Florencio Daguo - Trustee
Aiygerim Isina - Trustee

*"It isn't enough to talk about peace
one must believe in it.
And it isn't enough to believe in it,
one must work at it"*

Eleanor Roosevelt

Lois Nicolai - Executive Director
Chair: Board of Int'l Advisors
Reynolds Mensah - Chapter Coordinator
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RoseMarie Nemeth - Telephone Coordinator
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(WCD is a 501(c)(3) federal income tax exempt organization)



STATE OF ARIZONA

Wce

FIFE SYMINGTON
Governor

**ARIZONA OFFICE FOR AMERICANS
WITH DISABILITIES**

DONNA NOLAND
Executive Director

1700 WEST WASHINGTON, 1ST FLOOR, SUITE 164
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

August 31, 1995

Via Fax to (202)456-6244

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 Old Executive Office Building
The White House
Washington DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I will be pleased and honored to serve as a member of the Platform for Action Conference Circle, and look forward to hearing further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Noland".

Donna Noland
Executive Director

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Divider Title: _____ **O**

SENT BY:

"S"

;10-27-95 ;10:40AM ; SPANGLER ASSOCIATES→

:# 1

WCE

O'Connor Communications, Inc.
1110 Third Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, Washington 98101
Phone (206) 467-9075
FAX (206) 467-8889
E-mail: oconnor@med.com



O'Connor
COMMUNICATIONS

Health Care
Communication
Specialists

FAX

FAX

FAX

DATE: *10/26*

TO: *Melanne Verveer*

PAGES, INCLUDING THIS ONE: *3*

FAX: *202-456-6244*

FROM: *Kathleen O'Connor*

FAX: 206-467-8889

PHONE: 206-467-9075

Message:

O'Connor Communications, Inc.
1110 Third Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, Washington 98101
Phone (206) 467-9075
FAX (206) 467-8889
E mail: oconnor@med.com



O'Connor
COMMUNICATIONS

Health Care
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October 27, 1995

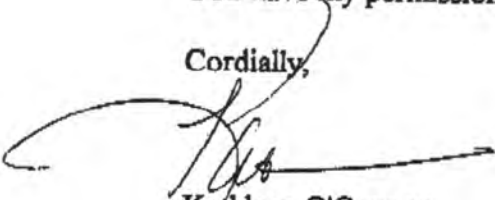
Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEBO
The White House
Washington DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

At the First Lady's invitation, I am a member of the Women's Conference Circle. The organization I am with, WHERE (Women for Healthcare Education, Reform and Equity), recently had a meeting to galvanize people to action in our community re: all the Medicaid, Medicare, Food stamps and welfare cuts. I wanted to share with you something I wrote that has received a tremendous response and points out the stupidity of the current budget discussion and how the Congressional Leadership is trying to erode whatever safety nets we have.

You have my permission to quote from it, and use it as you see fit.

Cordially,



Kathleen O'Connor
President and
Founder/Executive Director, WHERE

O'Connor Communications, Inc.
1110 Third Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, Washington 98101
Phone (206) 467-9075
FAX (206) 467-8889
E mail: oconnor@med.com



O'Connor
COMMUNICATIONS

Health Care
Communication
Specialists

In America, when they denied AIDS from coverage, I did not have AIDS, so I said nothing. When they denied pregnant women from coverage, I was not pregnant, so I said nothing. When they denied diabetes, arthritis, and asthma from coverage, I was not diabetic, did not suffer from arthritis or asthma, so I said nothing. When they denied individuals with health problems from coverage, I was working in a large company and was healthy, so I said nothing. When they denied poor women and children, and elderly from coverage, I was not poor and did not have children, and was not yet old, so I said nothing. When the day came and I was sick, there was no one left to protest.

Kathleen O'Connor
Executive Director, WHERE
(Women for Healthcare Education, Reform and Equity)
October 1995

Adapted from a quote by Dr. Martin Niemoller, 1892-1984
Protestant Minister in Nazi Germany

WCC

O'Connor Communications, Inc.
1110 Third Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, Washington 98101
Phone (206) 467-9075
FAX (206) 467-8889
E-mail: oconnor@med.com



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COMMUNICATIONS

Health Care
Communications
Specialists

FAX

FAX

FAX

DATE:

8/28/95

TO:

Melanne Verveer

PAGES, INCLUDING THIS ONE:

2

FAX:

202-456-6244

FROM:

Kathleen O'Connor

FAX: 206-467-8889

PHONE: 206-467-9075

Message:

O'Connor Communications, Inc.
1110 Third Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, Washington 98101
Phone (206) 467-9075
FAX (206) 467-9889
E mail: oconnor@med.com



O'Connor
COMMUNICATIONS

Health Care
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Specialists

August 28, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEBO
The White House
Washington DC 20500

sent via fax: 202-456-6244

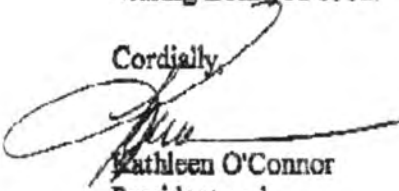
Dear Ms. Verveer:

I received in today's mail an invitation from the First Lady to be a member of the Women's Conference Circle and its Platform for Action. I would be delighted to accept the invitation and be actively involved in promoting the health and well-being of women and children.

As Executive Director and Founder of WHERE (Women for Healthcare Education, Reform and Equity) and as a public relations consultant for health care and health care reform, I would be more than pleased to be an active participant and to dedicate my talents and energy to promote this most important agenda.

I thank you for the invitation. I feel honored to be included and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Cordially,



Kathleen O'Connor
President and

Founder/Executive Director, WHERE (Women for Healthcare Education, Reform and Equity)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
FROM: Cec Ortiz, Director of Women's Business Office
DATE: September 7, 1995
RE: Women's Conference Circle

Thank you for the invitation to the Women's Conference Circle. I am greatly interested in participating in the extraordinary event.

If you need additional information, please call my assistant, Ofelia at (303) 892-3825. Please send me any additional information I may need.

T R A N S M I T T A L

To:

Attention:

Fax:

From:

Date:

Pages:

Re:

Melanne Virville
202-454-6244
C.C. Ortiz
9-7-95
2
Women's Conference
Circle

If there are any problems with this transmission, please call (303) 892-3840.

Economic Devel. Commission
Women's Business Office
Minority Business Office
1625 Broadway, #1710
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: (303) 892-3840
Fax: (303) 892-3725

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Wce



400 North Third Street
Box 1724
Harrisburg, PA 17105-1724

(717) 255-7000 • (800) 944-PSEA (7732)
FAX: (717) 255-7124 • (717) 255-7132

Annette Palutis, PRESIDENT
David J. Gondak, VICE PRESIDENT
Patsy J. Tallarico, TREASURER
Carmen J. Matino, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Affiliated with the National Education Association

August 29, 1995

Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I want to thank you for the invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I would be honored to serve on this group. Please contact me at the following address and telephone number with specifics on meeting times and agenda.

Annette Palutis
703 North Rebecca Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504
717-347-2526

Again, I appreciate the invitation to participate, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Annette Palutis
President

AP:L

cc: Executive Officers





HADASSAH
THE WOMEN'S
ZIONIST
ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA, INC.

50 WEST 58 STREET
NEW YORK CITY
NEW YORK
10019

TELEPHONE
212.355.7900
FAX
212.303.8282

FOUNDED BY
HENRIETTA SZOLD
IN 1912

January 4, 1996

Deputy Chief of Staff, Melanne Vermeer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOP
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

*Did invite
go out?
ck w/ Katie
Katie faxing*

Dear Ms. Vermeer:

On August 15 I received a letter from the First Lady inviting me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle whose activities would be related to the Women's Conference in Beijing and the Platform for Action that was adopted there.

The problems discussed in Beijing are a matter of deep concern. The remedial actions that were recommended must be implemented. Although I accepted the offer to participate in this Circle, I have heard nothing further. Please keep me informed as to future plans for action. I look forward to hearing from you.

Please convey my best wishes for the New Year to Mrs. Clinton.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth W. Popkin
Honorary Vice President

RWP:hw



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

We make Indiana a cleaner, healthier place to live

Evan Bayh
Governor

Kathy Prosser
Commissioner

100 North Senate Avenue
P.O. Box 6015
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6015
Telephone 317-232-8603
Environmental Helpline 1-800-451-6027

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

September 29, 1995

Dear Ms. Verveer:

On behalf of Commissioner Kathy Prosser of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, please accept this letter as an indication of her interest in participating in the **Women's Conference Circle**. She would like to thank the First Lady for inviting her to share her ideas with other members of the Circle.

Although Commissioner Prosser was unable to attend the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in person, her commitment to its goal of promoting progress for women and girls is very strong. She is hopeful that her experience as a state environmental director will provide a valuable contribution to the continued discussion of important women's issues raised at the Conference in China.

Further correspondence regarding the Women's Conference Circle should be directed to Commissioner Prosser at:

Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Indiana Government Center North, Room 1301
100 North Senate Avenue
P.O. Box 6015
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6015

Thank you again for the opportunity to take part in the challenge of promoting the goals raised at the Conference. Commissioner Prosser looks forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Maggie McShane
Administrative Assistant



CHILDREN'S CREATIVE RESPONSE TO CONFLICT PROGRAM (CCRC)

Fellowship of Reconciliation
Box 271, Nyack, New York 10960 USA
(914) 358-4601
Fax: (914) 358-4924

September 11, 1995

Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 / OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer,

In response to a letter our organization, Children's Creative Response to Conflict, received from Hillary Rodham Clinton dated August 15, 1995, I would be delighted and honored to participate in the Women's Conference Circle.

As Executive Director of CCRC, we are dedicated to improving the lives of children and adults by teaching creative skills of non-violent conflict resolution through cooperation, communication, affirmation, problem solving, mediation and bias awareness.

I look forward to hearing the details of the conference, and how I can attend. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Prutzman
Executive Director, CCRC



recycled paper

Wcc



House of Representatives State of Tennessee

BILL PURCELL
MAJORITY LEADER

LEGISLATIVE PLAZA
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0152
(615) 741-1778

August 28, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOP
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: Women's Conference Circle - Invitation to Mary Purcell

Dear Ms. Verveer:

This is in response to the First Lady's invitation to my mother, Mary H. Purcell, to participate in the Women's Conference Circle.

As you may know, my mother is now participating in the U. N. Women's Conference in China. She is again representing the International Federation of University Women, as she does at the United Nations. I know that she is looking forward to the participation of the First Lady in the Women's Conference.

I would expect that my mother will be in contact with your office upon her return from China. But I would expect she will be very interested in your efforts to continue the discussion following the meeting through the Women's Conference Circle. During the conference she can be reached at the Grace Hotel, Beijing. Her home address is as follows: Mary H. Purcell, 9 Oak Knoll Drive, Wallingford, Pennsylvania 19086. Phone: 610-565-0113, Fax: 610-892-0750.

Thank you for your important work on behalf of women.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Bill Purcell in black ink, written in a cursive style.

Bill Purcell

BP:mb

House of Representatives
State of Tennessee

BILL PURCELL
MAJORITY LEADER

LEGISLATIVE PLAZA
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-0152



Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500



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August 30, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOP
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I have received Mrs. Clinton's invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I appreciate this invitation. I am strongly interested in "promoting progress for women, girls, and their families," and would be pleased to participate in the Conference Circle.

The Sisters of Divine Providence have a long history of involvement in and with the lives of girls and women, in their education, in their development as leaders, and in their full participation in both civic and church communities. I would hope that my participation in the Circle would be a means of strengthening our commitment, enabling collaboration with others, and sharpening our focus.

I look forward to hearing more about this important followup activity.

Sincerely yours,

Lora Ann Quiñonez, CDP
Lora Ann Quiñonez, CDP
Superior General

*Melanne, I don't know whether
you remember me from your "old"
USCC and my "old" LCPK days.
I'm truly pleased that you are
in this position!*

cdp



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Divider Title: _____ **R**



Mukunda Rao

WCC

36 Boggess Street
Buckhannon, WV 26201

September 4, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

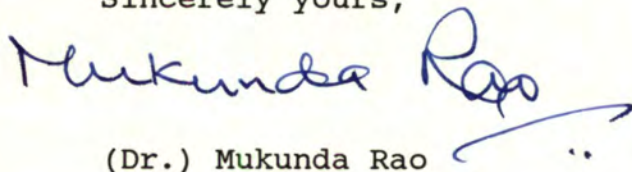
Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am writing in response to the letter from the First Lady dated August 15th, inviting me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I feel deeply honored by her invitation and am happy to convey my willingness to participate in this important undertaking.

Having worked as a senior official in the United Nations Global Secretariats (Vienna, New York) for sixteen years focussing on social questions and having been associated with the convening of several global conferences, I am deeply aware that National and local level implementation of the resulting policy outcomes is the weakest element of these processes. For this reason, I think that the first Lady's initiative in this regard is most timely and appropriate.

Please note that I can be contacted by telephone (304) 472-8332 and by FAX (304) 472-2571.

Sincerely yours,



(Dr.) Mukunda Rao

MR:mb

WCC

To Melanie

Date _____ Time _____

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Tony Montoya

of Director / Dept of Ecology

Phone Wash - 360 407-7601

Area Code		Number	Extension
TELEPHONED		PLEASE CALL	
CALLED TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		URGENT	

RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐

Message YES

Mary Riveland wrote
to participate invited
by Fred Ledy Aug 15
rec'd on Aug 28 -

Operator _____



AMPAD
EFFICIENCY®

23-023 CARBONLESS

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Marian Rivman WCC

201 West 21st Street #15H
New York, NY 10011
☎: 212 691-1112
Fax: 212 627-0653

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

October 2, 1995

TO: Melanne Verveer

FAX NO.: 202/456-6244

FROM: Marian Rivman *MR*

RE: Women's Conference Circle

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 1

COMMENTS: I finally had an opportunity to go through all the mail in the office that arrived while I was in Beijing at the UN Conference on Women. I was pleased to find Mrs. Clinton's letter concerning the Women's Conference Circle. I am extremely interested in joining that group. Please keep my name on your mailing list and notify me of any scheduled meetings. I look forward to hearing from you.

For your records, I was in Beijing as a media consultant to the UN conference secretariat.



WCC

Saint Augustine's College

Raleigh, North Carolina 27610-2298

President Emeritus

August 30, 1995

Mrs. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Verveer,

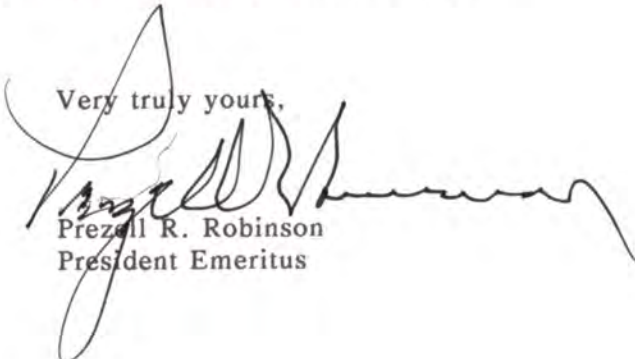
I have received Mrs. Clinton's letter of August 15 inviting me to participate in the Women's Circle.

I am delighted to accept the First Lady's invitation and consider it a real honor to have been asked. Therefore, kindly consider this letter as my formal acceptance of the invitation to join the Women's Conference Circle.

Please share with the First Lady my happiness in being asked to serve.

Best wishes.

Very truly yours,


Prezall R. Robinson
President Emeritus

PRR/gde



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Hasbro Children's Foundation

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University of Texas
at San Antonio

Heather Weiss, Ph.D.

Harvard Family Research Project

NATIONAL PRESIDENT/CEO

Gloria G. Rodriguez, Ph.D.

August 28, 1995

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

This is to acknowledge your letter of August 15th. inviting me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I accept your invitation and look forward to the special briefings by the U.S. Conference participants and to becoming informed about the Conference's Platform for Action. In addition, I would be delighted to share with the Conference Circle participants my 22 years experience in supporting very low-income Hispanic families through the Avance Family Support and Education Program. I am enclosing some information on the Avance Program and my Vitae.

I know that the United States will be well represented at the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. My colleague from San Antonio, former Councilwoman Maria Antonietta Berriozabal, will be attending representing the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) for the United States. With your leadership, Hillary, I know that the issues and concerns that will be discussed at the conference, will be follow-up and addressed. The Women's Conference Circle will be a wonderful vehicle to make bring these issues to light in our own country.

I look forward to seeing you again. I have not had the opportunity to personally communicate with you since our trip to France with the French American Foundation. I look forward to personally greeting you at the upcoming forum.

Sincerely,

Gloria G. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
President and C.E.O.,
Avance Family Support and Education Program

AVANCE-NATIONAL OFFICE

301 S. Frio, Suite 310
San Antonio, Texas 78207
(210) 270-4630
FAX # (210) 270-4612

AVANCE-SAN ANTONIO

435 S. San Dario
San Antonio, Texas 78237
(210) 431-6600
FAX # (210) 431-6607

AVANCE-HOUSTON

2001 Rainbow
Houston, Texas 77023
(713) 923-8008
FAX # (713) 923-1819

AVANCE-RIO GRANDE VALLEY

1205 Galveston
McAllen, Texas 78501
(210) 618-1642
FAX # (210) 618-1698

AVANCE

Family Support and Education Program

301 South Frio, Suite 310

San Antonio, Texas 78207

(210) 270-4630

FAX: (210) 270-4612



OVERVIEW

AVANCE (A-van-cey) Family Support and Education Program is a private, non-profit organization whose main purpose is to strengthen and support families. "AVANCE" is a Spanish word meaning "to advance" or "to progress." Established in 1973, it is one of the first family support and education programs in the United States and one of the first comprehensive, community-based, family support programs to target at-risk and Latino populations. Originally conceptualized at Cornell University by graduate students of Dr. Urie Bronfenbrenner, the first AVANCE Mother-Infant Program was begun in Dallas in 1972. In 1973, Gloria G. Rodriguez began the AVANCE services in San Antonio with funding from the Zale Foundation. The replication in Houston occurred with money from Kraft/General Foods in 1988. The W.K. Kellogg Foundation funded the services in 1993 for the South Texas Rio Grande Valley. Currently, the AVANCE National office is supported by a Funding Consortium consisting of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Ford Foundation, and The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation.

DIRECT SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL

The AVANCE Model begins with parents and their infants and young children. It reaches out to create strong families by offering parent education, social support, adult basic and higher education, early childhood education, youth programs, personal development, and community empowerment. Services are inter-related, family-centered and preventive in nature. The AVANCE model is integrated into all aspects of home, school, and community life. AVANCE services are offered in family resource centers and host sites. In 1993-94, over 6,000 adults and children received AVANCE services.

NATIONAL OFFICE

In 1988, the agency was thrust into national prominence with the lead editorial of the New York Times and other major pieces in the Times that year. As a result, there was an unplanned explosion of growth in services and an unprecedented demand for dissemination and replication. To respond, in 1990 the agency established a national resource center with support from the Hasbro Children's Fund and created a structure of area chapters. The following year, a National Office was installed with a National Board of Directors and a National President and CEO. In 1993, a five year strategic growth plan was developed and is supported by a Funding Consortium. To date, AVANCE information has been disseminated in over 40 states and different parts of the world, curriculum has been sold in 15 states, and training has reached individuals from 24 states. Currently, national replication plans are unfolding. The National Office operation consists of:

- Research and Evaluation
- Dissemination of Program Information
- Production of Agency Materials
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Curriculum and Program Development
- Program Replication and Expansion
- Public Policy Development
- Public Relations
- Fund Development and Financial Management
- Area Chapters

PROGRAMS

- **Parent Child Education Program**
Includes nine-month intensive parent education classes, toy-making, community resource awareness, home visits and home teaching, early childhood education, and transportation.
- **Comprehensive Child Development Program**
Five-year national demonstration project aimed at providing child development skills to low-income families starting when the mother is pregnant or has children under one year of age; provides parenting courses, health and nutrition information, medical services, counseling, crisis intervention, adult literacy training, youth development and job skills training, job placement, housing assistance, and substance abuse treatment.
- **Fatherhood and Couples Classes**
Supporting component designed to enhance the parental role of the father and marriage strengthening by providing parenting information, social support, and positive social outlets.
- **Even Start and Project First**
National demonstration models of a family-centered program focussed on family literacy and parenting education and based in neighborhood elementary schools.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

An evaluation was conducted jointly by researchers at the University of Houston and AVANCE with a grant from the Carnegie Corporation from 1987 to 1991. The basic evaluation design was a comparison of program and non-program groups with pre-and post-testing at two sites and two annual cohorts of subjects.

The participants were Mexican American women with an average age of 24, 2.5 children, a ninth grade education; about 60 percent were married or in a live-in relationship. The evaluation found that the program had a substantial effect on the ability of mothers to provide an educationally sound and emotionally nurturing environment for their children. It also had strong effects on child rearing attitudes and knowledge of parenting behavior and an awareness of community resources. The mothers understood, accepted, and actively pursued their role as the first teacher of their children. Many more program than control mothers enrolled in classes to obtain a high school equivalency certificate or to acquire college credits.

The evaluation concludes that AVANCE parents have the necessary skills to provide an educationally stimulating environment and provide emotional support, they value education for themselves and their children, and they have a knowledge base for effective rearing of children.

In a survey of the first class of mothers in 1973, 91% of the mothers had dropped out of school. In 1991, their status was:

- 94% of Children had either completed High School, received their GED or were still attending High School
- 43% of Children who graduated were attending college
- 57% of Mothers who had dropped out, returned to complete their GED
- 64% of Mothers who completed High School or GED had attended College or a Technical Program

COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPANTS

AVANCE works in both urban and rural communities predominantly composed of low-income Mexican American families and targets families with children under age four in its core program. AVANCE serves a population characterized by:

- Several generations of living in poverty
- An 80 percent high school drop-out rate among parents
- A high degree of stress and isolation
- Lack of knowledge of child growth and development
- Significantly high potential for child abuse and neglect
- Lack of saleable job skills

Participants in San Antonio and Houston live in or adjacent to federally-funded housing projects.

AVANCE serves single and two-parent families and voluntary and court-mandated participants. Potential participants are introduced to the program by word-of-mouth and a semiannual door-to-door neighborhood outreach campaign. AVANCE is community-based and open to all families residing within the designated boundary lines.

STAFF

Among the three AVANCE area chapters (San Antonio, Houston, Rio Grande Valley) and the national office there are 200 staff. Approximately 75 percent of AVANCE's staff are graduates of the program. All staff are bilingual. The AVANCE graduates act as role models for new parents. They are encouraged to continue to develop their job skills and to "advance" further in their careers.

- **Adult Literacy and Higher Education**
Basic literacy, GED, and English as a Second Language (ESL) courses, college-level courses, childcare, transportation, advocacy, referral services, college scholarships, placement, and registration assistance.
- **Child Abuse and Neglect Intervention**
Comprehensive in-home support and case management services for court-referred families in need of intensive assistance.
- **Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention Program**
Youth activities, personal and social development classes, tutoring, scout programs, recreational and enrichment activities.

GOALS

- To help parents and children realize their fullest potential; strengthen families; prevent child abuse and neglect, and educational programs in young children; and stabilize the economic conditions of the families
- To conduct research on the conditions and factors associated with poverty and other social/economic problems in high-risk communities
- To evaluate the effectiveness of service delivery
- To operate a National Training Center to share and disseminate information, material, and curricula to service providers and policymakers interested in supporting at-risk Latino families.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. resume	Re: Gloria G. Rodriguez (partial, dates of birth) (1 page)	n.d.	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 15624

FOLDER TITLE:

Women's Conference Circle [binder] [3]

2013-0534-S
ry1732

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Gloria G. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
VITAE

Personal Data:

Work:	301 S. Frio, Suite 310 San Antonio, Texas 78207 Office Phone: (210) 270-4630 Office Fax: (210) 270-4612	Home:	7746 Oakhill Park San Antonio, Texas 78249 (210) 691-1493
Birth Date:	(b)(6)		
Marital Status:	Married - Salvador C. Rodriguez		
Children:	Salvador Julian Rodriguez - (b)(6)		
	Steven Rene Rodriguez - (b)(6)		
	Gloria Vanessa Rodriguez - (b)(6)		
Health:	Excellent		
Citizenship:	U.S.A.		
Ethnicity:	Mexican-American		

[001]

Education:

Ph.D. - The University of Texas at Austin, (Early Childhood Education/Curriculum and Instruction), 1990
M.Ed. - The University of Texas at San Antonio, (Mid-Management Certificate to become an Elementary School Principal), 1979
M.Ed. - Our Lady of the Lake University (Supervision Certificate in Education), 1973
B.A. - Our Lady of the Lake University (Liberal Arts/Bilingual Education Certificate), 1970
Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Executive Public Management Training Program, 1988
Center for Creative Leadership Executive Management Training Program, 1989
Personnel Decisions Incorporated, Impact Leadership Program, 1994

Employment:

Founder and President/ C.E.O.- Avance Family Support and Education Program, 1973 - Present
Curriculum Writer/Editor - Avance Curriculum and other Avance Publications, 1973-present
Research - Project Director - Project C.A.N. (Child Abuse and Neglect) National Demonstration Research Project, 1979-1982; Principle Investigator, Cossmho/Avance Parent-Teen

Shared Interaction Model, 1984-1985; Project Director,
Carnegie Avance Evaluation, 1987-1991
Parent Educator -Avance Parent Child Education Program, 1973-1979
First and Second Grade Bilingual School Teacher, Cable Elementary
School, 1970-1973

AVANCE:

Budget: \$4 million

Staff: 192

Family Centers: 42

Individuals Served annually- 5,000

Locations: San Antonio, Houston, Brownsville and McAllen, two
colonias in the Rio Grande Valley

Major National Federal Initiatives: Comprehensive Child
Development Program; Even Start, Family First, National
Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Grant

Avance National Office

Hasbro National Family Resource Center: training,
technical assistance, curriculum development, dissemination

Avance Research Department

Avance Publicity:

Print Media: New York Times, [1988 (two editorials- Jan. 1 and
March 8, and featured story -April 11), cited in front page article, April
12, 1994]; Business Week, September 1988, February 20, 1989; Atlantic
Monthly, September, 1990; The Boston Advocate, Nov. 1992; Dallas
Morning News Feb., 1992; Education Week, April 18, 1990; Vista Magazine,
Jan. 1, 1989; Parade Magazine, May 10, 1987; Boston Science and
Technology Review, July 1988; International Herald Tribune, Jan. 19,
1988; Parents Magazine, June, 1994; Houston Chronicle, Sept. 4, 1994; San
Diego Union, Nov. 26, 1989.

Electronic Media: Good Morning America, 1992; ABC World News
Tonight, June, 1988; Shapiro Production: "Scared Silent"; Perlmutter
Productions: "The Creative Spirit at Work" and "An Ounce of Prevention:
Abnormal Psychology".

Visitors: HRH Prince Charles of England, February, 1986; First Lady
Barbara Bush July 1988, September, 1989; First Lady of Mexico, Cecilia
Occelli de Salinas, April, 1991; Governor of Texas Ann Richards, March,
1990; First Lady of Colorado, Bea Romer, 1988; Jesse Jackson, March
1988, Aspen National Domestic Policy Council, Sen. Bradley, Chairperson

Recognition: Barbara Bush's publication of ten outstanding programs in Family Literacy entitled "First Teachers"; Inspector General's Report on "Colloborative Models"; The Best of Texas -Tom Harris Memorial Award; Houston Chapter/Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, 1986

Special Recognition:

MALDEF - Matt Garcia Public Service Award - 1994
Parent's Magazine - Social Action Award -1994
La Mujer Hispana - La Prensa - May 1994
Texas Woman Hall of Fame - 1993
Hispanic American Women Calendar (October) - 1993
World's Who's Who - 1992
Notable Hispanic American Women - 1992
Temple Award for Creative Altruism - 1992
Leadership America - 1992
Who's Who Among Hispanic Americans - 1991-92
JCPenney - Spirit of Teamwork Award - 1991
"Attitude Award" for changing public attitudes toward family support - Life Time Television Nationally Syndicated Program Attitudes - 1990
"Gloria G. Rodriguez Collection" - Eugene Barker Texas History Center, Austin, Texas - 1989-present
National Hispana Leadership Institute - 1989
Outstanding Alumni in Residence Award - O.L.L.U. - 1989
100 Influential Hispanic Leaders - Hispanic Business Magazine - Nov., 1988
Leadership Texas - 1987-88
Professional Achievement Award in Education" - San Antonio Women in Communication - 1987
San Antonio Hall of Fame (Education) - 1984
Edgewood Independence School District Hall of Fame - 1983
Woman of the Year - San Antonio Light -1981
Leadership San Antonio - 1981
Outstanding Women of America - 1977 , 1979

Boards, Commissions, Task Forces, Appointments -

Task Force Member, Meeting the Needs of the Youngest Children, (Starting Points), Carnegie Corporation of N.Y. - 1992-present
Presidential Appointment - U.S. Delegate to the United Nations

Commission on the Status of Women Meeting - 1994
Presidential Appointment -Commission on Education Excellence
for Hispanic Americans
Chairperson - Texas Headstart Collaborative Project - 1993
Co-Chairperson- San Antonio Ready to Learn/Success by Six
Council - 1993-94
National Christian Children's Fund Advisory Board - 1993-present
National Council on Families in America - 1991 - Present
Parent Action Board - 1991 - Present
Governor Ann Richard's Transition Team in Early Childhood
Education, 1990
Texas Health and Human Service Coordinating Council - 1988-1990
U.S. Delegation to France to study Child Care/Family Policies -1989
Founding Board Member - Family Resource Coalition - 1982 - 1989
National Council for the Enhancement of Hispanic Children and
Families, 1985
San Antonio Development Agency - Vice Chair - 1982-1985
Target 90 - Chair, Family Task Force; and Chair, Action Plan for
Human Services, 1984-85
White House Conference on Families, Delegate - 1980

Consultation

Editorial Board, "La Familia de Hoy", Whittle Communications -
1989-1993
Video on Racism - Family Communications, (Mr. Roger's) - 1993-94
"El Manana Es Hoy", Parents Magazine, 1977-78
Josten's Early Childhood Advisory Board, 1989-91
Yale University, Bush Center, 1989
Editorial Board/featured writer - San Antonio Light, 1988 - 1989
Harvard Family Research Project, 1984
Georgetown University, 1987-88
Federal Government - Maternal Child Health Bureau, Administration
for Children, Youth and Families, Housing and Urban Development,
Head Start Bureau - 1981- 1994

Presentations at National Forums

Carnegie Corporation - Starting Points, 1994, Our Children's Future,
1990, Implications for Prevention of Damage to Children, 1985
Smithsonian Institute. Partners for Livable Communities, 1994.

Aspen Institute - Hispanic Leaders and the Business Community, 1988, 1989, Media Executives, 1993
 Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government, The Forum Institute of Politics. "Action Agenda for Children and Youth in Urban Poverty. Nov. 1992
 National Municipal League of Cities Conference, 1992
 Council of Governors' Policy Advisors, 1991
 Grantmakers for Children and Youth Conference, 1991, 1987
 U. S. House of Representatives, Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families - (Testimony Presented) 1989, 1984.
 NASA Johnson Space Center- "Enlarging the Pool of Potential Hispanics in Science, Engineering and Technology ", 1988
 Council of Chief State School Officers 1988 Summer Institute, 1988
 Kamehameha Schools, "Family Support Programs are Critical Investments", Family Support in the Home Conference, Hawaii, 1988
 National Assembly of Religious Women, "Women, Welfare and Alternatives, 1988
 Rockefeller Brothers Fund, 1988
 United Kingdom/United States Conference on Literacy, 1988
 Rockefeller Foundation and the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families - "America's Discarded Children: How Can We Put Them on the Political Map", 1988
 President's Child Safety Partnership Hearing, 1986
 Wingspread Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect - National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, 1981
 National Association For the Education of Young Children - 1975, 1977, 1978
 Association for Childhood International - 1975

Articles, Chapters, Books

"Early Family Interactions of Young Children: Critical Stages and Different Contexts". Early Childhood and Family Education. Analysis and Recommendations of the Council of Chief State School Officers, 1990
 "Avance Evaluation Experience", by Gloria G. Rodriguez and Carmen P. Cortez, in Weiss, H. and Jacobs, F., Evaluating of Family Programs. New York: Aldine, 1988
 "A Historical Perspective of Avance's Twelve Year Evolvment",

E.R.I.C. - Early Childhood Education,(Ed. 264 -034), April 1986
"The Meaning of Family Support", Family Resource Coalition
Newsletter, 1983; ""The Right to An Adequate Education:
Implications for Family Support Programs and Education Reform",
Family Resource Coalition Report, 1987
Featured Writer for the San Antonio Light Newspaper
"Inner-City Problems Linked to Values", November 8, 1992
"Young Teens Must Not be Gang Targets", September 6, 1992
"Society Fails to Safeguard Quality of Life", July 19, 1992
"Where Are Absent Fathers Today?", June 21, 1992
"Deprived Moms Need Helping Hand", May 10, 1992
"We Can Define Goals for Children", April 19, 1992
"Focus on Family to Help Youth Succeed", February 2, 1992
"Family Support Programs are Critical Investments", January
13, 1988
"Family Crises Can Darken Our Futures", May 14, 1989
"Inalienable Rights Cut Short by Realities", June 11, 1989
"Rebuilding Our Community by Rebuilding Our Families", June
12, 1989
"French Child-Care Standards Offer Example", July 9, 1989
The Effects of the Avance Family Support and Education Program on
Low Income Mexican American Mothers. Dissertation. U.T.
Austin, 1990



DISABILITIES UNLIMITED

Consulting Services

Harilyn Rousso
Executive Director

September 12, 1995

Melanie Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

WCC

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am writing to accept the invitation sent to me by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. This unique project will ensure that the wealth of information gathered and commitments made at both the Fourth World Conference on Women and the NGO Forum on Women benefit all women and girls, along with their allies, throughout this country. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to become involved.

I recently had the privilege of attending the NGO Forum on Women in Beijing as part of the delegation of community activists sponsored by the Ms. Foundation for Women. As a long-time activist, speaker, trainer and writer on issues of disability rights, and specifically on the issues of disability and gender, I found it exhilarating to meet and confer with the several hundred disabled women from around the world who attended the Forum - clearly the largest international meeting of women with disabilities in history. It is my hope that the briefings organized by and for the Women's Conference Circle will fully incorporate the issues of women and girls with disabilities as discussed at the Forum and addressed at the U.N. Conference through the Platform of Action. I am eager to assist in any way possible to ensure that such inclusion occurs.

In addition, as you probably know, the conditions of access at the Forum were horrendous and unjust, greatly limiting the participation of women with disabilities at the Forum and the Conference. I believe it is important for the briefings to acknowledge the access issues and to express a commitment to full access at all future international events. Let me also express my hope and willingness to help ensure that the briefings themselves, including any materials that may be distributed, are accessible to women and girls with a broad range of disabilities.

Please extend my gratitude to Mrs. Clinton for this opportunity to join the Women's Conference Circle. I look forward to working with her and other participants on this most important project.

Promoting

Equal

Opportunity

and

Empowerment

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Harilyn Rousso'.

Harilyn Rousso
Executive Director

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

Divider Title: _____ S

BELEN STINCER SABORIDO
8253 Southwest 40th Street
Miami, FL. 33155

August 30th, 1995

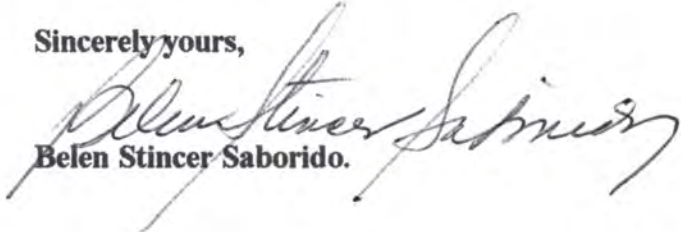
Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
Room OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

I want to thank you for the honor you are bestowing me with your invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle.

I will be happy to accept this invitation and actively get involved in the important issues that the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women will bring up in its agenda promoting the progress for women, girls and their families and please keep me informed of any future meetings and dates.

Sincerely yours,


Belen Stincer Saborido.



Presidential City
Monroe Office Center, Suite 100
City Avenue and Presidential Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19131
Telephone (215) 581-6267

Facsimile to The White House
Hillary Rodham Clinton

From: Marie A. Savard MD
Medical Director, Center for Women's Health
Medical College of Pennsylvania/Hahnemann University

Total pages 2

I accept with great pleasure your invitation to join the Women's Conference Circle.
Please let me know what further I can do. I await your reply. My home fax Number is
610-649-0431

Sincerely,

Marie A. Savard, MD

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 15, 1995

Dr. Marie A. Savard
Director
Center of Women's Health Medical Group
421 Owen Road
Wynnewood, Pennsylvania 19096

Dear Dr. Savard:

I would like to invite you to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. The Circle will be composed of citizens who are dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls at home and around the globe.

Women everywhere have the same aspirations -- for economic opportunity and personal security, for strong and thriving families, quality health care and the ability to participate in the decisions that affect their lives. Concerned people from villages, cities and communities around the world will go to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on women to voice their hopes and goals for increasing opportunity for women and their families. The value of this conference will be greatly enhanced by local initiatives in the nations represented at the conference. Your involvement in your community on these issues is directly connected to the discussions to be held at the upcoming U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women.

At the conclusion of the U.N. Women's Conference, the initial activity of the Women's Conference Circle will be to arrange special briefings for the Women's Conference Circle by U.S. Conference participants. Additionally, Administration officials will report on the agreements in the Conference's **Platform for Action**, discuss its implementation, and share some of the lessons learned from the non-governmental participants of the NGO Forum.

The United States is sending only a small official delegation to the U.N. Women's Conference. A majority of the members are government experts selected because of their expertise on issues to be discussed at the conference. As citizens, members of local grassroots organizations, and NGOs, our real challenge is to continue the discussion started at the U.N. Conference and implement the **Platform for Action** at home. Because of your interest

WCC

**PEDIATRIC ADMINISTRATION
FLOATING HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN**

at New England Medical Center
750 Washington Street, Box #286
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Telephone: (617) 636-5080*
Fax Number: (617) 636-8388*

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: August 29th
TIME: 12:30 pm

NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 1

TO: Melanne Verveer

ADDRESSEE'S FAX NUMBER: (202) 456-6244

FROM: Karen McCart
Dr. Jane Schaller's office

COMMENTS: Per Mrs. Clinton's letter,
Dr. Schaller, would be interested in
attending the Women's Conference Circle.
Please send more details when available

*new telephone exchange as of November 1994

Thank you

WCC

BAKER & McKENZIE

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

THE WELLS FARGO PLAZA
TWELFTH FLOOR

101 WEST BROADWAY

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-3890

TELEPHONE (619) 236-1441

FACSIMILE (619) 236-0429

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SANTIAGO
TIJUANA
TULSA
WASHINGTON DC

LYNN SCHENK
SENIOR CONSULTANT
(618) 236-7705

September 14, 1995

VIA FACSIMILE 202-456-6244

Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: Women's Conference Circle

Dear Melanne:

In response to the First Lady's invitation, I would be interested in participating in the Women's Conference Circle.

Sincerely,


Lynn Schenk

WCC

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636460

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TELECOPIER TRANSMITTAL

DATE: August 29, 1995

73504

TO: OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

TELECOPIER NO.: (202) 456-6244

FROM: DAWN M. SCHOCK, PRESIDENT, CALIFORNIA WOMEN LAWYERS

TELECOPIER NO.: (310) 436-7416

RE:

OUR FILE NO.: 999999-10

YOUR REF. NO.:

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 2

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WOMEN
LAWYERS

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Keesal, Young & Logan
Catalina Landing
P.O. Box 1730
Long Beach, CA 90801-1730
Ph. (310) 436-2000

Executive Office

926 J Street, Suite 905
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 441-3703
Fax: (916) 441-5723

August 29, 1995

VIA FACSIMILE (202) 456-6244

Hilary Rodham Clinton, First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Thank you for your invitation to join the Women's Conference Circle as a means effectuating the goals and results of the Beijing Conference.

I am delighted to accept your invitation.

In the meantime, I will be attending the Beijing Conference and hope to have contact with the U.S. Delegation there. My address, phone and fax number in Beijing will be as follows:

Name: Jing Guang Center
Address: Hu Jia Lou
Chaoyang District
Beijing 100020 China
Phone: (8610) 5018888
Fax: (8610) 5013333

Thank you again for the invitation. I look forward to working with you.

Best regards,

Dawn Schock
Dawn M. Schock
President

(SMU\LTR\314716)

Affiliates: Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles; Fresno County Women Lawyers; Kern County Women Lawyers; Lawyers Club of San Diego; Mendocino County Women Lawyers; Monterey County Women Lawyers; Napa County Women Lawyers; Orange County Women Lawyers; Queen's Bench San Francisco Women Lawyers Alliance; Santa Barbara Women Lawyers; Santa Clara County Bar Association Women Lawyers Committee; Solano County Women Lawyers; Sonoma County Women-in-Law; South Bay Women Lawyers; Stanislaus County Women Lawyers Association; Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles; Women Lawyers Association of San Luis Obispo County; Women Lawyers of Alameda County; Women Lawyers of Long Beach; Women Lawyers of Sacramento; Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County; Women Lawyers of Ventura County; Women Lawyers Section of San Mateo County Bar Association; Women Section, Contra Costa County Bar Association

2121 S. Fillmore St. 
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303 692-9249

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

WCC

DATE 9-22-95TIME SENT 10:00 am MDTTO Melanne VanderFAX NUMBER 202 456-6244FROM Margaret SeawellFAX NUMBER 303 692-~~9282~~ 9282

Message Melanne - In all the chaos of
doing the Gala on Wednesday and the
President's visit I'm afraid I've never
gotten back to you guys about the
Women's Conference Circle - Hop it's not
too late to still get on the list - I'd
love to hear about the follow-up -
My best to Helary -

Thanks!

Number of pages following this sheet 0

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State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Municipal Wastewater Assistance
CN 425
Trenton, NJ 08625-0425
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Fax. # 609-633-8165

Nicholas G. Binder, P.E., P.P.
Assistant Director

Location

1333 Brunswick Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08625

Fax Number

(609) 633-8165

PLEASE FORWARD DOCUMENT TO:

Katie Button

Melanne Yerver - fax (202)-456-6244

DATE: *8/31/95*

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: *2*

4:15

DOCUMENT SENT FROM/CONTACT PERSON:

*Maureen Shuster
20 Windover Ln.
Doylestown, Pa 18901*

TELEPHONE:

(609)-633-1208 (secretary)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

(609)-292-3168 (desk)

*Attached is my re-fax on the Women's
Conference per your request of 10:15. I
guess my machine at home is on the
blink again.*

Aug 31, 1995

Fax (202) 456-6244

To: Melanne Verueer
The White House
Room 100 - OE OB
Washington, D.C. 20500

of pgs: 2
including cover page

From: Maureen Shuster, NJ DEP
20 Windover La.
Doylestown, Pa 18901
Fax: (215) 348-2071 * 7 (home)

I would be pleased to contribute
whatever I can to the Conference Circle.

Thank you for thinking of me &
I hope to hear from you soon.

P.S. I'm so glad to hear of Mrs. Clinton's
decision. Her attendance will certainly
be an asset to the Success of the Conference
She always seems to have some type
of thought provoking comment on any
topic. And, China, more than any
other nation needs this type of support
presently. What better place to hold
this gathering!

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WCC

TO: Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff

FROM: Jeffrey Z. Slavin *js*

DATE: August 30, 1995

RE: Women's Conference Circle

Thanks to you and the First Lady for inviting me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I accept your offer.

Please let me know when and how I need to start getting involved.

You sent the letter to my home but I would appreciate all future correspondence to my office, as follows:

Jeffrey Z. Slavin
C.J. O'Shaughnessy, Inc. REALTORS
200-A Monroe Street, Suite 105
Rockville, MD 20850
301-424-5151
301-424-5596 (FAX)

I look forward to working with you.

*Melanne -
As you may know, I worked
for Policy Secretariat in the 80's
when your son Michael was our
ambassador intern + political operative!*

A X I S D A N C E T R O U P E



WCC

ATTN: MELANNE VERVEER
 OFFICE of the FIRST LADY
 Room 100 OE03
 The White House
 Washington DC 20500

FROM: JUDITH SMITH
 962A 54th St.
 Oakland, CA 94608

RE: Womens Conference Circle
 2 pages including this
 cover

A X I S D A N C E T R O U P E



Aug. 30, 1995

Dear Melanne,

I am honored that I have been invited to join the Women's Conference Circle. Of course, I am very interested in participating & am writing this letter to confirm my interest. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Judith Smith



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIAN CENTER, INC.

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2550, Garden Grove, CA 92642-2550

Telephone: (714) 530-0221 FAX (714) 636-4226

August 30, 1995

Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady Room 100 OEOb
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

FAX TRANSMITTAL: (202) 456-6244

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am extremely honored to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I am very delighted that the First Lady, Hillary Clinton, is actively seeking non-governmental participation from grassroots organizations like Southern California Indian Center, Inc. (SCIC). SCIC's Board President, Alma E. Rail, a respected elder in our community, and I are greatly appreciative of the White House's efforts to include American Indian women, girls, and their families in The Circle.

Please inform me of the dates and times, along with any additional information I may need to join The Circle's discussions, and the Platform for Action's work to be done at home.

Again, thank you for your support and energy.

Walk in balance,

Paula Starr-Robideau
Assistant Executive Director

offices of Southern California Indian Center

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12755 Brookhurst St.
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Representing
San Mateo County

September 2, 1995

Ms. Melanie Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington D. C. 20500

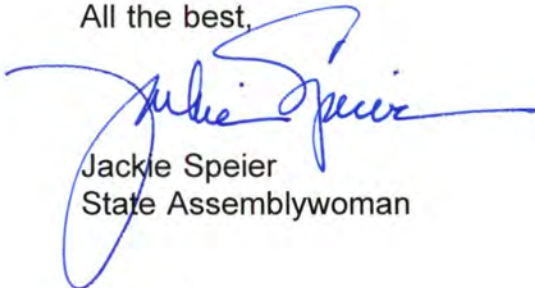
Dear Ms. Verveer:

I would be pleased to participate in the Women's Conference Circle.

I am committed to advancing the status of women in our country and throughout the world. It is not a commitment I make lightly or without "ulterior motives" I have a year old daughter to whom I want to turn over a more equitable world.

I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the Women's Conference Circle.

All the best,



Jackie Speier
State Assemblywoman

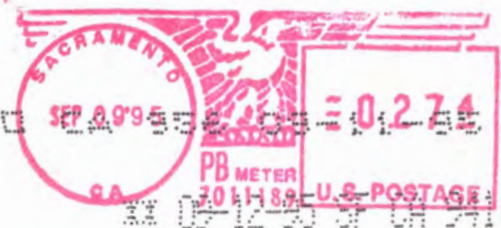
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XX SACRAMENTO

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Ms. Melanie Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington D. C. 20500

Sent



Office of First Lady's Correspondence

Phone: 202-456-2941

Fax: 202-456-5199

Date: 09/06/15

To: Mrs. Barbara Schneider

From:

Fax Number: 809-776-4912

Number of pages including cover: 3

Comments:

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 15, 1995

Mrs. Barbara Schneider
United States Virgin Islands
Office of the Governor
Government House
Saint Thomas
Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands 00802

Dear Mrs. Schneider:

I would like to invite you to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. The Circle will be composed of citizens who are dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls at home and around the globe.

Women everywhere have the same aspirations -- for economic opportunity and personal security, for strong and thriving families, quality health care and the ability to participate in the decisions that affect their lives. Concerned people from villages, cities and communities around the world will go to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on women to voice their hopes and goals for increasing opportunity for women and their families. The value of this conference will be greatly enhanced by local initiatives in the nations represented at the conference. Your involvement in your community on these issues is directly connected to the discussions to be held at the upcoming U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women.

At the conclusion of the U.N. Women's Conference, the initial activity of the Women's Conference Circle will be to arrange special briefings for the Women's Conference Circle by U.S. Conference participants. Additionally, Administration officials will report on the agreements in the Conference's **Platform for Action**, discuss its implementation, and share some of the lessons learned from the non-governmental participants of the NGO Forum.

The United States is sending only a small official delegation to the U.N. Women's Conference. A majority of the members are government experts selected because of their expertise on issues to be discussed at the conference. As citizens, members of local grassroots organizations, and NGOs, our real challenge is to continue the discussion started at the U.N. Conference and implement

the Platform for Action at home. Because of your interest in the Conference, I ask that you join the Conference Circle and share with its members the work you are doing in your community to promote the goals of the U.N. Conference.

Please indicate your interest in participating in the Women's Conference Circle by contacting my Deputy Chief of Staff, Melanne Verveer, at:

Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

FAX: (202) 456-6244

It is my hope that the Women's Conference Circle will provide for you, and for all of us who share your interests, an opportunity to be actively involved in the important issues that the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women will raise. I invite you to join me and the Conference Circle members as we work together to promote progress for women, girls and their families.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

WCC

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October 5, 1995

Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

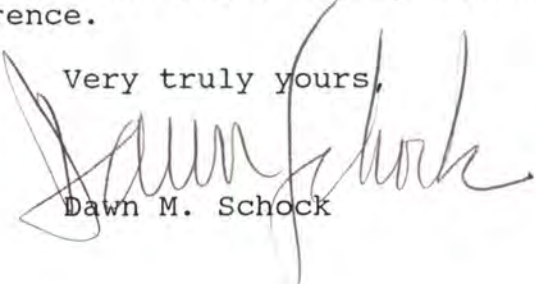
Dear Ms. Verveer:

Now that the Fourth World Conference On Women has concluded, I am writing to inquire about further details regarding Mrs. Clinton's Women's Conference Circle which was proposed in her letter to me of August 15, 1995.

I am anxious to report to my members at California Women Lawyers any proposals and opportunities to implement the goals of the Platform For Action.

In the meantime, congratulations both to Mrs. Clinton and the U.S. delegation for their highly successful participation in the conference.

Very truly yours,


Dawn M. Schock

DMS:su
(SMU\LTR\321523)

MOBILITY INTERNATIONAL USA

P.O. Box 10767, Eugene, Oregon 97440 USA

v/tdd: 503-343-1284 fax: 503-343-6812

e-mail: miusa@igc.apc.org

wce

fax

to: Deputy Chief of Staff, Melanne Verveer

fax #: 202/456-6244

from: Susan Sygall, Executive Director (Suzanne Shelley)

date: 29 September, 1995

subject: Women's Conference Circle

pages: 1

NOTES:

Ms. Verveer,

I have returned from Beijing and will be preparing a report to summarize information on our symposium on Issues on Women with Disabilities.

Please fax me a list of the Women's Conference Circle participants and any updated information of the Circle's activities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (503)343-1284.

Sincerely,

Susan Sygall

no list

MOBILITY INTERNATIONAL USA

P.O. Box 10767, Eugene, Oregon 97440 USA

v/tdd: 503-343-1284 fax: 503-343-6812

e-mail: miusa@igc.apc.org

fax

to: Melanne Verveer, Office of the First Lady

fax #: 202/456-6244

from: Suzanne Shelley for Susan Sygall

date: September 5, 1995

subject: Women's Conference Circle

pages: 1

NOTES: Ms. Verveer,
Susan Sygall would like to announce her interest in the
Women's Conference Circle and accept the First Lady's
invitation to attend. What details can I forward to Susan
in Beijing regarding the time and location for the
Conference Circle?
Sincerely,
Suzanne Shelley

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FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: 10/13/95 ORGANIZATION: Office of The First Lady

TO: Melanie Verveer FROM: Pat Thorney

Fax # 202-456-6244

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS SHEET) 2

MESSAGE: Please see enclosed transmission
concerning the White House Women's
Circle meeting post Beijing.

Thank you

If there is a discrepancy in the number of pages sent or the copy is unclear,
please phone:

ABOVE & BEYOND: (860) 435-4681

Pat Thorney, Senior Partner

FAX NUMBER: (860) 435-9678



ABOVE & BEYOND

49 State Line Road, Lakeville, CT 06039 Phone 203-435-4681 Fax 203-435-9678

October 13, 1995

Ms. Melanie Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of The First Lady
Room 100
O.E.O.B.
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer,

I am faxing this letter along to you at the request of Dr. Linda Talbot for notice of a follow-up meeting to the Beijing conference I attended with her.

Dr. Talbot received a fax from your office while we were in Beijing concerning the White House Women's Circle meeting to be scheduled. I am very interested in attending this meeting. Would you please send or fax me any update on this meeting?

I appreciate your attention and efforts concerning this request.
Fax Number: (860) 435-9678

Most Sincerely,

Pat Thorney, Senior Partner



西苑飯店

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August 29, 1995

To: Melanne Vermeer
 Deputy Chief of Staff
 Office of the First Lady
 Room 100 OE08
 The White House
 Washington, D.C. 20500
 FAX: 202-456-6244

Just received Hillary Clinton's letter of invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle which was faxed to me from my office in Kansas City, Mo.

I am pleased to accept her kind invitation. I am here in Beijing as a U.S. Citizen Ambassador and look forward to representing Proplismist International and the University of Missouri - Kansas City Women's Council at the NGO Forum of the UN Fourth World Conference on Women next week.

I appreciate the difficulties of preparations regarding Mrs. Clinton's decision to address the Fourth World Conference on Women, but believe it was absolutely the right decision.

Linda Hood Talbott

琳达 胡陶贝 博士
 LINDA HOOD TALBOTT, PH.D.
 PRESIDENT

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Date of Transmission: September 18, 1995

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TO: MELANNE VERVEER, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

FACILITY: THE WHITE HOUSE

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

FROM: SR. YOLANDA TARANGO

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS ONE: 1

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OLGA RUEDA

Additional Message: Dear Ms. Verveer: As per your August 15th letter, I would like to inform you that I am interested in participating in the Women's Conference Circle. Thank you for your invitation and I apologize for taking so long to answer.

Sincerely,

Sr. Yolanda Tarango

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305-579-2180 Fax 305-579-2156

September 4, 1995

VIA FAX: (202) 456-6244

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

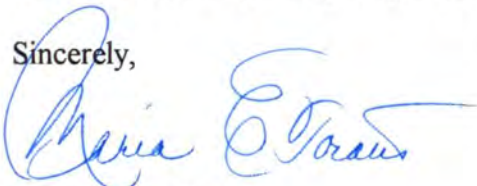
Dear Ms. Verveer:

I will be honored to become active on the Women's Conference Center and participate in the Platform for Action activities being planned as the sequel to the U.N. Women's Conference in Beijing.

Please continue to address my correspondence to my Virginia office as it is shown in your records.

I look forward to participating in the activities of this body under the leadership of Mrs. Clinton.

Sincerely,



Maria Elena Torano



To help people help themselves

Wce

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Send to: Melanne Verveer

Total pages (including cover): 1

Organization: Office of the First Lady

Fax Number: 202-456-6244

Date: August 29, 1995

From: Carol J. Laird, Secretary to Dr. Treadwell

Telephone Number: 616-969-2025

Return Fax to 616-969-2127
(Use main fax number below if left
unmarked)

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COMMENTS:

Dear Ms. Verveer:

Dr. Henrie M. Treadwell, program director at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, accepts Mrs. Clinton's invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. She wishes to thank the First Lady for the opportunity to serve in this capacity and share information gained from the U.N. Women's Conference and the NGO Forum.

We will wait further detail.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Laird

Carol J. Laird CPS
Secretary to Dr. Treadwell

P:\DOC\FCIRLCE.DOC

W.K. Kellogg Foundation, One Michigan Avenue East, Battle Creek, MI 49017-4058
Telephone: (616) 968-1611 FAX (616) 968-0413

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
POST OFFICE BOX 94094
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Wce

GAYLE F. TRULY
SECRETARY

August 28, 1995

Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Attention: Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff

Dear Ms. Verveer:

In response to a letter I received from First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, dated August 15, 1995, I am notifying you that I am interested in participating in the Women's Conference Circle.

As Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Labor and one of the pioneers of the Women's Movement in Louisiana, I have gained the expertise needed for participation in the Women's Conference Circle.

I look forward to hearing from you when plans are finalized for this conference.

Sincerely,

Gayle Truly
Gayle F. Truly
Secretary of Labor

GFT/jl

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88 East Newton Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02118-2393
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Elaine Ullian
President and
Chief Executive
Officer

September 1, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 GEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am delighted to respond to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's invitation for my participation in the Women's Conference Circle. It is an honor for me to join this effort in support of the issues that arise from the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women.

I look forward to sharing with other Circle members my work to enhance the quality of life for women and their families in the Boston community. The mission of increasing opportunities for women is one to which I have long been personally devoted, and I thank you for the opportunity to be involved in this most important initiative.

Sincerely,

Elaine Ullian
Elaine Ullian

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of _____
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Area Code Number Extension

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WANTED TO SEE YOU	☒	WILL CALL AGAIN	☒
WANTS TO SEE YOU	☒	URGENT	☒

☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL
Message Re: letter about
Women's conference circle
YES
[Signature]
Operator [Signature]



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September 5, 1995

Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Via Telefax and U.S. Mail - (202) 456-6244

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I was very delighted to receive the First Lady's letter of August 15, 1995, inviting me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I am definitely interested in participating and, as Executive Director of the Dade County Commission on the Status of Women, I will make sure that the Commission plays on active role is keeping alive the spirit of the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women in South Florida.

I can be reached at the following addresses and telephone numbers:

Work - Dade County Commission on the
Status of Women
111 N.W. 1st Street, Suite 660
Miami, FL 33128
(305) 375-4967
(305) 375-5715 (fax)

Home - 900 16th Street, Apt. 203
Miami Beach, FL 33139
(305) 674-7945

Thank you again for the kind invitation, and I look forward to participating in the Women's Conference Circle.

Sincerely,

Laura Varela
Director

cc: Kay Sullivan, Chairperson, DCCOSW

Melanne

the Platform for Action at home. Because of your interest in the Conference, I ask that you join the Conference Circle and share with its members the work you are doing in your community to promote the goals of the U.N. Conference.

Please indicate your interest in participating in the Women's Conference Circle by contacting my Deputy Chief of Staff, Melanne Verveer, at:

Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

FAX: (202) 456-6244

It is my hope that the Women's Conference Circle will provide for you, and for all of us who share your interests, an opportunity to be actively involved in the important issues that the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women will raise. I invite you to join me and the Conference Circle members as we work together to promote progress for women, girls and their families.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Hillary Rodham Clinton

MS ADIS M. VILA
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
505 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
UNIT 1903
CHICAGO, IL. 60611-3810

Tel. 312-923-1069

Fax 312-923-9094

WCC

yes

WCC

October 3, 1995

2110 Columbus Avenue
Duluth, Minnesota 55803

Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

As response to Hillary Rodham Clinton's invitation in her letter of August 15, 1995, I am contacting you to express my interest in participating in the Women's Conference Circle. As a participant at the NGO Forum at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, I am extremely interested in working with such a group to further the goals of equality for women and girls around the world.

As a young feminist, I would like to work with women and girls on a national level to further the goals of the conference. I believe that it is crucial to have younger voices heard. Today's girls are tomorrow's women.

I would consider it a privilege to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. Please keep me informed as the Women's Conference Circle is established and begins its work in continuing the discussion back home started at the U.N. Conference.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah J. Vokes

Sarah J. Vokes



Sarah Vokes
2110 Columbus Avenue
Duluth, MN 55803



USPS DULUTH 558 10/04/95 18:38

MELANNE VERVEER, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500



VOTAW

6717 Loring Court
Bethesda, Md. 20817 Tel. 301-365-0339, fax 301-469-7561

August 25, 1995

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. FAX 202-456-6244

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Thank you for your letter of August 15th asking me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle.

Although I was very disappointed in not being appointed to the delegation and particularly by the letter sent to me by the Office of Personnel indicating I did not have experience in the latest conferences, I would like to share with you the abundant and useful experiences I have had since the Mexico City Conference, attending almost all the preparatory meetings for the Copenhagen and Kenya meetings and all the World Conferences on Women. Besides, I have participated in nearly 36 international UN conferences and interamerican fora--few in the delegation have that track record. I understand there is only one Hispanic on the delegation to boot.

However, I would, of course, like to participate in the Circle if we are going to see that the Platform of Action is implemented.

I am leaving for Beijing on Monday and there I will conduct an educational equity materials program exchange on behalf of the Coalition for Women and Girls in Education; with the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, I will be sponsoring a dialogue between Hispanic and Latin American Women; with the World Organization of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, I will be assisting in their peace workshop; with the National Women's Conference Committee, I will be facilitating a multicultural dialogue on the priority issues of the official conference; with the Dialogue in Diversity, I will be on a panel on entrepreneurship; and with the Latina Initiative of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense Fund, I will be participating in a workshop on Human Rights for Hispanic Women in the U.S.

So you see my agenda is full. I will also be an official observer at the UN Conference and after I come back I am already booked to speak before the UNA Association, Capital Area (which I am representing at the Forum), at a luncheon of the Pan American Liaison Committee of Women's Organizations, at a luncheon of the Public Members Association of the Foreign Service, at events of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, MANA an international women's organization, and others.

Please count on me to continue pursuing common goals.

PS My book Notable Puerto Rican Women is hot off the press.

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August 31, 1995

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Ms. Melanne Verveer, Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
FAX TO: 202 456-6244

Dear Ms. Verveer:

This is in response to Mrs. Clinton's letter of August 15, 1995, in which she invited me to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. I am very pleased to accept this invitation, and the opportunity to work with others equally committed to exploring new opportunities for women's empowerment in the U.S. as well as globally.

I was truly disappointed that I was not included in the official delegation to the U.N. Forum, but I understand the limitations and challenges the administration faced in comprising its membership. I look forward to the chance to have input into the implementation of the Platform for Action in the U.S., as well as the opportunity to disseminate this information in Oregon.

I would appreciate if you could send me additional information on the Women's Conference Circle. In particular, how will it function? Who has been invited to participate in it? Will the members ever physically meet, or will all communication be conducted via correspondence?

Please thank Mrs. Clinton for extending this invitation to me. I am looking forward to working with your office.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Anita M. Weiss
Associate Professor

cc: Senator Mark Hatfield
Representative Peter DeFazio
Dave Frohnmayer, President, University of Oregon

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August 25, 1995

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Melanie Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff,
First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

FAX: 202 456-6244

Dear Ms. Verveer:

In response to the First Lady's letter of August 15th, I am delighted to accept her invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. May I congratulate the First Lady for taking this initiative to help improve the lives of women and girls at home and around the globe.

It will be a privilege to work with Mrs. Clinton in the Women's Conference Circle after the World Conference on Women is over to promote the goals of the Conference. I am in complete agreement that the challenge is to continue the discussions started at the many Preparatory Conferences and the World Conference itself and to implement the **Platform of Action**.

Let me note that the American Veterans Committee (AVC) has been a leader in the struggle for equal rights, as well as for civil rights, in this country. Furthermore, through its membership in the World Veterans Federation since its formation in 1950, AVC has expressed its dedication to bringing equality to all women. It has been my great privilege to serve as the Chair of the Standing Committee on Women of the World Veterans Federation for the past 10 years.

Please call upon me at any time to assist with this very important project.

Sincerely,

June A. Willenz
Executive Director

June A. Willenz

june a. willenz

Executive Director
AMERICAN VETERANS
COMMITTEE



Chairperson
Committee on Women

WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION

6309 Bannockburn Dr.
Bethesda, Md. 20817
Telephone & Fax (301) 320-6490

Statement submitted by the World Veterans Federation (WVF)
to United Nations Commission on Status of Women,
Thirty-Ninth Session
New York, N.Y., 15 March - 4 April 1995.

The World Veterans Federation is pleased to comment on the Draft Platform for Action (February 17, 1995) for the forthcoming U.N. World Conference on Women in Beijing. We address the following sections: " D. Violence against women; E. Effects of armed or other kinds of conflict on women; and I. Lack of awareness of, and commitment to,...women's human rights."

At its General Assembly December 1994 in Bordeaux, the WVF supported the forthcoming United Nations Conferences that will impact heavily upon women and their positions in society: the World Summit on Social Development, and the World Conference on Women, and sent its good wishes "for the success of these Conferences which will have broad ramifications not only for women but for the entire international community in the years to come."

The WVF, founded in 1950 by war veterans and war victims, has 27 million members located in 71 countries on every continent. One of its major objectives is "to maintain international peace and security by application of the Charter of the United Nations and by respecting the rights of man and fundamental freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Recognizing that war and armed conflicts can impact differently upon women than upon men, the WVF in 1985 created a Standing Committee on Women to focus on the situation of women in and after armed conflicts and to suggest ways and means of alleviating their sufferings and improve their situations. With that mandate, the WVF Committee on Women is examining the full consequences of armed conflicts and wars on women which have been barely appreciated historically, and suggesting policy changes.

The World Veterans Federation is a powerful advocate among NGOs on behalf of disarmament, peaceful resolution of conflicts, strengthening the United Nations, protecting the environment, assisting the disabled, and supporting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It has been the voice in the international community addressing the needs of war victims and war veterans, with special emphasis on those hurt, traumatized, disadvantaged, disabled and uprooted by armed conflicts.

Today the casualties among civilians from burgeoning local ethnic and nationalistic conflicts outnumber those of the combatants. The refugee and internally displaced populations have grown, approaching 50 million, mostly women and children. Other victims are the disabled from bombardment and mines; widows, orphans, unaccompanied children, wives of disabled, internees from concentration and labor camps, raped and sexually exploited women.

This increase in civilian victims of war prompted the WVF

to address this development at its 6th International Conference on Legislation (Lisbon, March 1994), attended by delegates of both Governments and Veterans Organizations. WVF also amended its **"GUIDELINES TO BASIC RIGHTS FOR WAR VETERANS AND VICTIMS OF WAR"** which sets forth principles for governments and the international community to follow in responding to the needs of war veterans and victims of war after conflicts end. The Guidelines now respond to **"the steadily increasing numbers of the resulting civilian victims of war, especially women and children"**.

Out of concern for women war victims and the newest civilian victims of war, the WVF took policy positions at its General Assembly last year: 1) In support of Philippine and other Asian governments in their search for justice for the "comfort women" who were forced into sexual slavery in Asia during World War II; 2) Urged states to ensure full respect for all persons' human rights; 3) Suggested programs be designed to meet the developmental needs of children; 4) Called for cooperation with humanitarian agencies and strict adherence to International Humanitarian Law; 5) Urged creation of a permanent Penal Court to bring quickly to justice perpetrators of crimes against humanity and war crimes including rape.

In earlier actions, the WVF supported the UN's Draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, hailed the UN's appointment of a Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women for the Commission on Human Rights. It has encouraged the teaching of international humanitarian law to military personnel and UN Peacekeepers and urged teaching its principles from the earliest levels of education up through the universities.

WVF resolutions denounced the use of land mines and called for a total ban on the utilization, manufacture and stockpiling of anti-personnel land mines; called upon states to refrain from development and testing of anti-personnel blinding laser weapons, and asked for negotiations aimed at prohibiting the production, possession and transfer of such weapons.

Dedicated to peace, WVF applauds the emphasis in the Draft Platform on prevention of conflicts as well as the ending of current conflicts. We agree that women must play a prominent role in fostering a "culture of peace". This is consistent with WVF's presumption that women have a special role to develop attitudes and a climate of opinion that will mitigate against resort to arms and violence to settle disputes amongst peoples and nations. WVF endorses the partnership of men and women in the search for peace, and all other human endeavors, called for in the Draft Platform, noting that such a partnership operates within its own ranks.

In 1993, WVF ran a Special Session on "Rape in War" in Istanbul, where we had direct testimony and results of research on current atrocities against women. We suggest that the Platform

call for more study and analysis of the interconnection between violence against women and war. Women historically have been seen as "spoils of war"; rape has been used as a weapon of war. Under International Humanitarian Law, rape is defined as a war crime, yet rarely have perpetrators been tried before appropriate courts.

When violence against women occurs, whether in the family, community, or from armed conflicts, such violence-induced trauma is likely to have long term consequences, often resulting in "Post Traumatic Stress Disorders(PTSD)" These traumas experienced by women have negative spin-offs upon their partners, families and communities. Extended rehabilitation and medical care, counselling and support will be required before true healing takes place. This is one of the objectives of the International Socio-Medical Information Centre (WISMIC) established by the WVF.

Uprooting of families, often with women as heads of households, can erase legal identities. WVF has called for governments and international agencies to assist such victims and explore creation of an "International Social Services Agency" to help restore legal papers and reunite families.

To develop a "culture of peace" urged in the Platform, we must understand the psychological and social underpinnings of the "culture of war" that have persisted throughout human history. Basic attitudes of children derived from socialization within the family and community require drastic revision. Education from the earliest levels must be consistent with a new image of men and women as partners and equals in and outside the family. Only then can the political environment that ignites armed conflicts be modified to be more harmonious with a "culture of peace".

We believe that more attention needs to be paid to addressing how governments and the international community in the near future can alleviate the sufferings of the victims of current conflicts, most of whom are women. While their situations may fall under discussions of "poverty", "health", "education", etc., their unique experiences call for special treatments and programs. The Lisbon Legislation Conference recommended in this connection the creation within the United Nations of an international relief fund for civilian victims of war.

The current Platform, designed to promote "Actions", does not give some vulnerable populations the attention they deserve. We are pleased that the problems of HIV positive and AIDS sufferers are emphasized, but other vulnerable populations who all too often, fall through the cracks, such as children, the disabled, the caregivers, and the elderly, are shortchanged.

Disabled women, many of whom are disabled from armed conflicts and mines, are a group for which nations and the international community have special obligations. When women are

disabled, they still must carry out their familial and economic roles.

Another category of women who are casualties of armed conflicts and who fall through the cracks of national and international responses are the women care-givers of the disabled, especially the war disabled. Performing crucial nursing, social, and rehabilitation services for their disabled husbands or other members of their families, these care-givers are often not recognized for their contributions which often relieve the state from providing such services. When these women become widowed, they are especially vulnerable because they have not been part of the social security system, nor have they developed a remunerative occupation by which they could achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Other victims of war often are treated unequally by their governments - widows, orphans, mothers and daughters of fallen war veterans. Like the silent unpaid care-givers, they are not recognized as casualties of war equal to the combatants. Especially when they become older, these women are likely to be impoverished and without resources.

We are pleased that Human Rights, properly, has been given significant coverage. Human Rights provides the very framework from which all else follows - the underpinning for efforts to achieve equality and advancement for women. In the WVF Statement to the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993, we noted that "human rights have been assaulted to an unprecedented degree, in large part, because of the proliferation of armed conflicts around the globe." We urged that the **"universality of human rights"** be reaffirmed so that "no loopholes are available to be used for the exclusion of different practices from the upholding of human rights by any persons." We believe a similar statement should be included in this Platform for Action.

We applaud the actions suggested in the Platform to insure the implementation of the CEDAW, and other human rights treaties and conventions, human rights laws, and International Humanitarian Law. Resources must be provided and teeth must be put into all these instruments, including the right to petition, so that infractions of human rights of women will be punished and stopped. Mostly, it will require the political will to bring women under the full force of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The World Conference on Women has the potential of changing the ways women work and live within their society and within the world community. This can be achieved only if those in power today recognize that they will be better off if the full potential of women is released and allowed to contribute to all tasks and challenges that society and this planet require. To reach that state requires basic changes in men's and women's attitudes and the development of a full partnership between men and

women. We send our best wishes to the delegates of the Conference as they work towards achieving these important goals.



nee
WCC

September 23, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am delighted to accept The First Lady's invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle to promote the goals of the U.N. Conference.

During the last two weeks, since my return from China, I have been astonished and pleased by the level of interest in the Conference expressed by every woman with whom I have had contact. Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky has already been speaking to local groups here in Philadelphia. I look forward to helping put forth the Plan of Action in any way I can.

Sincerely,

Connie Williams

Constance H. Williams

California Senior Legislature



SENIOR SENATOR GEORGE "BUD" WINSLOW
870 Park Avenue Suite 312
Capitola, CA 95010 (408) 476-2277
December 16, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I accepted First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's invitation to join her in participating in the "Women's Conference Circle" and be actively involved in the important issues that the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women raised.

Since I have not heard any reply to my acceptance, I thought it best to follow up and let you know that I am still very much interested in being a member of the "Conference Circle.

I look forward to continuing my involvement in women's issues which are contained in the U.N.'s recently adopted "Platform of Action": Violence against women, Peacemaking, Female inheritance, Decisions concerning sexual matters, Rape in War, Children's rights, Women in power, and the family. Of particular interest to me ^{are} of those issues that affect the lives of older women. Please provide me with Information concerning the role, duties, and function of "Circle" members.

I very much appreciate First Lady Clinton's appointment to the "Women's Conference Circle" and anticipate progress toward the goals defined in the U.N. Conference's "Platform for Action" and the other issues defined in the None Governmental Organizational (NGO) sessions in Huairou, China.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bud Winslow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

George "Bud" Winslow



California Senior Legislature

WCE

SENIOR SENATOR GEORGE "BUD" WINSLOW
870 Park Avenue Suite 312
Capitola, CA 95010 (408) 476-2277

September 23, 1995

Sent
10/2

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I would very much appreciate a copy of the U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women's "Platform for Action" document and a copy of the First Lady's speech at the NGO forum in Huairou, China. I received a copy of her speech to the official U.N. delegates at the U.N. Conference from Ms. Alice J. Pushkar, Director of Correspondence for the First Lady, but having heard her speech at Huairou, I would very much like a copy of that speech.

Thank you for previous courtesies and best regards.

Sincerely yours,

George "Bud" Winslow



California Senior Legislature

SENATOR GEORGE "BUD" WINSLOW
870 Park Avenue Suite 312
Capitola, CA 95010 (408) 476-2277

November 1, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOP
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

I responded to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's invitation to join her in participating in the "Women's Conference Circle" and be actively involved in the important issues that the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women raised by accepting her invitation.

Since I have not heard any reply to my acceptance, I thought it best to follow up and let you know that I am still very much interested in being a member of the "Conference Circle."

I look forward to continuing my involvement in women's issues which are contained in the U.N.'s recently adopted "Platform of Action": Violence against women, Peacemaking, Female inheritance, Decisions concerning sexual matters, Rape in War, Children's rights, Women in power, and The family. Of particular interest to me are those issues that affect the lives of older women. Please provide me with information concerning the role, duties, and function of "Circle" members.

I very much appreciate First Lady Clinton's appointment to the "Women's Conference Circle" and anticipate progress toward the goals defined in the U.N. Conference's "Platform for Action" and the other issues defined in the Non Governmental Organizational (NGO) sessions in Huairou, China.

Sincerely yours,

George Winslow
George "Bud" Winslow



California Senior Legislature

WCE

SENIOR SENATOR GEORGE "BUD" WINSLOW
870 Park Avenue Suite 312
Capitola, CA 95010 (408) 476-2277

September 14, 1995

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOP
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

In response to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's invitation to join her in participating in the Women's Conference Circle and be actively involved in the important issues that the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women raised, I am delighted to accept her invitation.

I look forward to continuing my involvement in women's issues which are contained in the U.N.'s recently adopted "Platform of Action": Violence against women, Peacemaking, Female inheritance, Decisions concerning sexual matters, Rape in War, Children's rights, Women in power, and The family. Of particular interest to me or those issues that affect the lives of older women. Please provide me with Information concerning the role, duties, and function of "Circle" members.

I very much appreciate First Lady Clinton's appointment to the "Women's Conference Circle" and anticipate progress toward the goals defined in the U.N. Conference's "Platform for Action" and the other issues defined in the None Governmental Organizational (NGO) sessions in Huairou, China.

Sincerely yours,

George "Bud" Winslow

September 18, 1995

Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington DC 20500
202-456-6244

Dear Melanne Verveer,

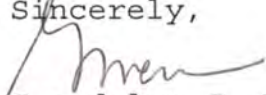
I recently returned from an extraordinary experience in Beijing, China. I was invited by the American Association of University Women to participate in a US/China Women's Issues Conference. People to People Ambassador Program facilitated this event arranged by Sharon Schuster and Sandra Bernard both with AAUW, and Madame Wu, Executive Director of the China NGO Forum Organizing Department for the 4th World Conference on Women and Secretary General of China Women's Association for Science and Technology. It was a tremendous opportunity to meet with the Chinese women to talk about our similarities and differences as women in a range of areas including women in the workforce, publishing, management, medicine and sports, as well as other areas of the status of women. The privilege of meeting with these women from the US and China in small group sessions was truly invaluable.

I then chose to stay for the NGO Forum. Again, another extraordinary opportunity. The Opening Ceremony at the Olympic Stadium was spectacular. The workshops and sessions were most intriguing; giving me the opportunity to meet with women from all over the world to talk and learn about how to create equal partnerships, empower women and advocate for women's rights. My mind was open to difference and the experience. Huairou gave me a chance to further my personal growth.

I have been told that Hillary Clinton plans to have a White House Women's Conference Circle. She would like women who attended the various meetings in Beijing to share perspectives and perhaps discuss ways in which we can help make this international platform become a reality. I would like to participate in this Circle. I participated in two of the three conferences and feel that my motivation to advocate for women and my openness to difference enables me to be a valuable contributor to this Circle.

Please let me know what my next steps should be. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,


Gwendolyn J. Wong
15 Terrier Place
Hillsborough, CA 94010
415 693-1820 (work)



Gale A. Norton
Attorney General

Stephen K. ErkenBrack
Chief Deputy Attorney General

Timothy M. Tymkovich
Solicitor General

STATE OF COLORADO
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
Office of the Attorney General

State Services Building
1525 Sherman Street - 5th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone (303) 866-4500 & 866-3611
FAX (303) 866-5671

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE:

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TRANSMIT TO FAX NUMBER:

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IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO:

Melanne Verveer

FROM:

Betty Wytias

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER):

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Betty J. Wytias, Esq.
1370 Humboldt Street
Denver, CO 80218
(303) 839-8506 (home)
(303) 866-2446 (work)

September 1, 1995

Melanne Verveer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
Room 100 OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

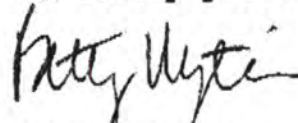
Dear Ms. Verveer:

I am delighted to accept Mrs. Clinton's invitation to participate in the Women's Conference Circle. Please let me know what further information you require from me and if there is any way I can assist in facilitating meetings or identifying resource people in Colorado. I will also be in touch with Dottie Lamm when she returns from Beijing.

I can be reached at the home address above (please note that is a new address) or at work, Colorado Attorney General's Office, 1525 Sherman Street, Denver, Colorado 80203, fax (303) 866-5671.

I greatly look forward to receiving more information about the Women's Conference Circle.

Sincerely yours,



Betty Wytias

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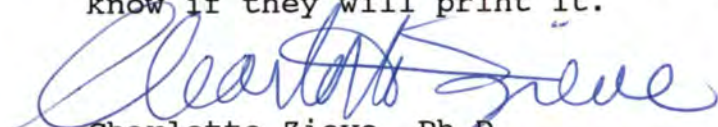
Divider Title: _____ **Z**

Wce
September 23, 1995

Melanne Verveer
Office of the First Lady
White House
Washington, DC 20001

Follow up to the FWCW. I have a slide program ready for presentation. I already have a number of engagements to do that.

I am enclosing an article which appeared in The Sheboygan Press [Wisconsin] on Friday, Sept. 22. It is part of my follow up on the conference. I was a guest on Wisconsin Public Radio WFMR on Thursday Sept. 21. Note that I replied to John Leo's column which appeared in the Sept. 25 edition of US News and World Report. Sheboygan Press also carries John Leo so I gave it to them as well and they were able to print my reply and the column on the same day. Note that I also sent my reply to US News - I do not know if they will print it.


Charlotte Zieve, Ph.D.
National Audubon Society Representative to the FWCW
PO Box 267
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
Phone: 414-876-2114
Fax: 414-876-3065
email: crzieve@facstaff.wisc.edu

enc.

The Sheboygan Press

3 Sections, 40 Pages

Friday, September 22, 1995

50 Cents

Beyond sex: Women in China went for bigger issues

■ Charlotte Zieve of Elkhart Lake is back from the women's conference in Beijing — and angry about the way she says the media trivialized the event



By LINDA McALPINE
OF THE PRESS STAFF

People are misinformed if they think that sexual issues such as abortion and the use of contraceptives were the main focus of the recently concluded Women's Conference in China, said Charlotte Zieve, an Elkhart Lake resident who served as a delegate.

In fact, Zieve is incensed by news accounts that she said gave the impression that sex was the only thing the 30,000 representatives from 190 countries were talking about.

Zieve was one of two national delegates for the National Audubon Soci-

ety.

"I think the media trivialized what the conference stood for and our ability as women to deal with world problems," she said. "There were so many other important and bigger problems that we addressed."

Zieve, a lecturer and research associate at the Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said the conference could be summed up in three words: equality, development and peace.

"By equality we mean equal access to things like education," she said, noting that only 30 percent of girls can read in countries like Egypt, compared

to 60 percent of the boys. "We said that no woman should be illiterate because if a woman can't read she can't assimilate information, and that is such a basic human right."

Equal access also applies to the workplace, Zieve said.

Women should also be able to live free of violence, such as rape and the genital mutilations that are performed in some areas of the world, she said.

"In places where there are military occupations, rape is being used as a weapon of war, as we see in places like Bosnia and Rwanda," said Zieve. "We said that in those situations, rape should be treated as a war crime."



■ Zieve argues with editorial columnist John Leo's criticism of the conference.

OPINION / A9

Zieve also noted that in India, traditionally, women who don't bring a large enough dowry into a marriage can be burned to death by their husbands.

American women may not face as severe problems she said, but that is indicative of the fact that the Women's

Turn to CHINA / A5

China

Continued from Page A1

Conference grappled with global issues, not just those that effect women living in the United States or Europe. There were some disappointments, Zieve said, noting that on some topics, agreement was not reached.

Economic justice for women was one such area, she said.

"In some areas of the world, women have no right to inheritance. If her husband dies, everything goes to the children and she is left with nothing, Zieve said. "The only wording we could get was that women should have the equal right to inheritance, which is different than saying they are entitled to it."

Another sticking point was what Zieve said was intellectual property rights, which she

explained as the traditional knowledge that women have in some countries pertaining to agriculture.

"What's happening is large, transnational companies are taking possession of this knowledge about crops and seeds from the local women and patenting it," she said. "We felt that those women, who of course don't have access to patent attorneys, should be the prime beneficiaries of selling and using this knowledge instead of these huge companies."

Perhaps one of the more controversial statements coming out of the conference concerned family, Zieve said.

"A family doesn't always consist of a father, mother and children," she said. "We wanted to acknowledge that 30 percent of the families in the world are headed by a single parent, usually the mother."

There are many reasons for

this besides divorce, she added, including the deaths of fathers in wars or in rampant AIDS epidemics present in some countries.

"We also felt it necessary to make a statement about children's rights because there are lots of situations where they live in abusive situations," Zieve said, pointing out that in some countries, young girls are sold into slavery or prostitution. "The family is primary but in the case of abuse, the child's rights have to come first."

Despite the grim topics, Zieve said the conference was an incredible experience.

"This was a gathering of the most remarkable women and they were a joy to be with," she said. "There was such a spirit of camaraderie. No one had the attitude that 'It's not my problem,' because we really cared about each others concerns," she said.

Word games at U.N. conference allow feminists to push agenda

For The New York Times, the story line of the U.N. Conference on Women in China was the same as at the Cairo population conference last year: A progressive band of women were bravely trying to face down the dark, reactionary forces of the Vatican. "These people didn't want to acknowledge that there is sex, much less that there are sexual rights," Bella Abzug said contemptuously about Catholics, or perhaps just the Vatican, in the Times.

The Times made a big fuss about Abzug, an icon of in-your-face early '70s feminism, improbably revived and installed as the key figure of the U.S. contingent. Over at the conservative Washington Times, where Abzugmania was understandably more restrained, much space was given to Betty Friedan, mostly for her non-Abzugian conviction that it's really time for women to drop all the polarizing sexual politics, and end the "war of women against men."

This was apparently quite an improper thought at this meeting, at least by the standards of the European and American feminists who had the most say in staging the conference. The correct thoughts to have were included in the 150-page draft Platform for Action. It's an eerie document, written partly in gender-feminine, partly in campus PC lingo. We read about "gender diversity," "gender-disaggregated" data, the need for more self-esteem and indignant but mystifying attacks on "gender-biased science curricula." Can this be what besieged women of Africa and Asia really want or need?

Worse was the predictable dismissing of religion, tradition, motherhood and family. "This conference is a celebration of family," Hillary Clinton said brightly. Well, no. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto got it right when she called the platform "disturbingly weak on the traditional family." The word "family," used 31 times by Hillary and Bill Clinton to explain why Hillary had to go to China, and 22 times in Hillary's short speech in Beijing, didn't come up much in the draft platform. When it did, it was mostly to be



John Leo
Columnist

depicted as the site of domestic violence or as an impediment to the self-realization of women — the basic gender-feminist view of the world. Mary Ann Glendon, Harvard law professor and head of the Vatican delegation, said, "Like rays from a dead star, the emanations of 1970s feminism live on."

Glendon and the Vatican delegation played a crucial role in breaking the sour anti-family mood. They issued a press release pointing out that pro-family language from the United Nations' own Universal Declaration of Human Rights was about to be removed from the draft platform. The Vatican also pointed out that the removal of the language would undermine the family assistance programs in many European nations. This greatly embarrassed the European gender feminists with their governments back home. So the pro-family language was adopted: "The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and by the state."

The gender feminists lost some other battles too. One was the attempt to change the word "family" to "families," which would have acknowledged that nuclear families, single-parent families, gay households and perhaps any collection of two or more residents were all equally entitled to support and respect.

Another controversy focused on the rights of girls to privacy and confidentiality, which turned out to mean that they must have access to contraception and abortion without parental consent. After this was understood, delegates demanded and got language on the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians to guide the lives

of their children.

Like the bruising battle at Cairo, the more restrained one in China was essentially a closed-door struggle over word games. The game is played by setting forth cloudy or odd language (like "gender" instead of "sex") that no one quite understands but that could be used in the future to justify some unsuspected new rights. At Cairo, the gender feminists came close to smuggling in a worldwide right to abortion under the apparently innocuous phrase "reproductive health services." In China, the universal "sexual rights" about which Abzug thought the Vatican was being so puritanical very likely would have established a right to homosexuality or to any sexual practice at all, including pedophilia.

This interpretation of "sexual rights" sent shock waves through the conference and the language was dropped. But study this replacement language that was adopted: "The human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health." Doesn't this broad language in effect recognize a right to abortion as well as to homosexuality?

Call this the new back door method of getting what you want on the world stage. U.N. meetings are not just talkathons. They are opportunities to seed international law with new norms and rights, many of them hidden in apparently routine language. Though not immediately binding on any nation, they can be pushed on the world's peoples by foundations and funding agencies. After some time, they may be cited as "customary" interpretations of international law and acquire some legal force.

It should be understood that U.N. conferences now have a precise use in hardball politics: They can be used to get by verbal subterfuge what can't be gotten by the honest democratic method of taking the case to the people.

John Leo is a contributing editor to U.S. News and World Report.

Leo's column inaccurate, hostile

BY CHARLOTTE ZIEVE

John Leo's column about the U.N. Conference is inaccurate as well as hostile. It is hard for me to believe he is writing about a meeting that I had been part of for over two weeks.

For starters, the American and European women did not have the most to say about staging the conference. The 190 countries that were represented by 30,000 people had a great deal to say about the document's final form.

Betty Friedan and Bella Abzug were there and participated, but so did many others including Gertrude Mongella from Tanzania, secretary general of the conference, and Khunying Supatra Masdit who convened the NGO Forum.

Leo's terms "campus PC lingo" and "gender feminine" are not so thinly veiled attacks on women asking for equal rights including an end to discrimination in schooling; access to the workplace; freedom from gender based discrimination leading to poverty because of such things as lack of inheritance rights and development projects that convert traditional agricultural land from growing rice and other staples to cash crops for export. These are problems which indeed are besieging women of Africa and Asia

And they occupy a prominent part of the document.

Not only were religion, tradition, motherhood and family taken into consideration in much of the language that he says is a thinly veiled attempt to dismiss them, but the language was arrived at after much discussion over such issues as female genital mutilation, abused children, dowry murders, abuse of women who obtained illegal abortions, and rape.

Pro-family for Mr. Leo means a mother and a father and children. The conference women want to acknowledge that the 30 percent of the families in the world that are headed by a single parent — usually a mother — deserve respect and support.

The rights of girls was another topic that Leo inaccurately portrayed. The document language included parents' rights, but also acknowledged that in all cases the interest of the child is primary. Underlying the final wording is acknowledgment that parents never have a right to sell their daughters into prostitution, sexually abuse them, mutilate them or marry them off.

This conference was about equality, development and peace. Apparently, Mr. Leo and his minions have no interest in anything that went on in Beijing that had to do with allowing women the freedom to determine for themselves what is right in matters pertain-

ing to their sexuality.

The women of the world do not want to be kept in ignorance. They also don't want to be subjected to being stoned or burned to death for "crimes" related to a dowry that is perceived as too small or conduct that a man finds unacceptable in a woman but is condoned for a man — i.e., adultery.

We dealt with so much more than that, including war and its impact on women, the international debt and its contribution to poverty and hunger for many of the world's rural poor, and transitional corporations that usurp the intellectual property rights of indigenous women for profit.

I agree that it would be good if we could take the case to the people. Which people? The same ones who have dictated how women should live their lives?

We decided in Beijing that the time has come to address these age-old abuses and that includes getting more women columnists in the media. The fact that a man wrote about the conference, which was uniquely about women's rights, is reflected in the manner in which he trivialized the issues and the inaccuracy of his comments.

Charlotte Zieve, Ph.D., of Elkhardt Lake was a Non-Governmental Organization delegate to the Fourth World Conference on Women in China.

face

C O V E R

FAX

S H E E T

To: Melanne Verveer
Fax #: 202-456-6244
Subject: Women's Conference Circle
Date: September 15, 1995
Pages: 1, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Please include me in the Women's Conference Circle. I have just returned from Beijing and will begin presenting a slide program I am going to assemble to numerous groups. I will also be giving information to the Milwaukee Journal and the Sheboygan Press.

Charlotte Zieve
PO Box 267
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
Phone: 414-876-2114
FAX: 414-876-3065
email: crzieve@facstaff.wisc.edu

From the desk of...

Charlotte R. Zieve
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Institute for Environmental Studies, University of
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