

**REMARKS OF THE FIRST LADY
BENEFIT LUNCHEON OF MOTHERS AGAINST VIOLENCE IN AMERICA
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
JUNE 24, 1996**

It's always a pleasure to be in Seattle, but even more so for an occasion such as this one.

Back in 1994, I met with my friend Pam Eakes, along with several founding members of Mothers Against Violence in America and mothers whose children were victims of crime. I came away from that meeting so encouraged. Here were women who, despite their heavy hearts, were determined to create a world in which others would not suffer at the hand of senseless and often random acts. Unselfishly, courageously and intelligently they looked beyond their personal suffering for the greater good of us all. Today, in just three years, MAVIA [Mah-vee-ah] is a grassroots leader creating partnerships of peace among families, communities, law enforcement, businesses, schools and local government agencies around the nation.

We know that innovative partnerships can yield some of the most effective strategies for reducing crime and violence. Many of you are aware of Seattle's Partners against Youth Gun Violence. Fondly known as "Cops and Docs," it teaches middle school children about the trauma of gunshot wounds and their dangers. I can't help but think that these kinds of programs have contributed to the 41 percent drop in incidents involving firearms in Washington public schools.

These encouraging statistics are not surprising because Washington has a history of leading the rest of the nation with innovative efforts to reduce crime and violence. Perhaps there is something in the coffee you love so much. Or perhaps it is because you are blessed with outstanding leaders like Patty Murray, Alene Moris, Pam Eakes, Police Chief Norm Stamper, and the young people we recognize here today.

I wish -- I just wish -- every child in America could grow up today with the sense of personal security that I, and many of you, had when we were kids.

I was raised in a typical middle class suburb of Chicago. My brothers and I rode our bikes everywhere -- to the library, to the movie theater, to the shops, to restaurants. Sometimes we would leave at 9 in the morning and come back at 6, just in time for dinner. Our parents seldom had to worry about us. If they couldn't find us, they'd call a neighbor who likely knew where we

were.0

Not that we were under the illusion that the world was entirely safe. We were under strict instructions never to get in a stranger's car. Remembering this admonition, my brother Hugh once declined a ride from a policeman in his patrol car who wanted to drive him home one day.

By the time my daughter was growing up, that sense of security was beginning to vanish. I remember one warm spring afternoon when Chelsea was about nine, she and a friend were riding their bikes around the governor's mansion in Little Rock. They came inside to ask if they could bike to the public library ten blocks away. I had made many trips to my local library at their age, unaccompanied and unafraid. Tears welled up in my eyes as I told my daughter no. I just didn't feel it was safe. So I put down what I was doing and gave them a ride.

I'm not suggesting that we can recreate the past. We can't. But we can build a society in which values -- civility, decency, respect for human life and individuality -- prevail again. And we also can do something about social problems that are the root of so many violent crimes.

Earlier today, I was in Nashville with the President for the annual family conference hosted by Vice President and Mrs. Gore. Over the past few years, the conference has helped political leaders, policy makers, advocates and everyday citizens think of new strategies for strengthening families. And one particular focus has been the negative influences of the mass media, an issue that Tipper Gore has been a leader on for almost two decades.

I think this subject has great relevance to all of you in this room. Since the 1950's, a steady stream of articles, books, and studies have documented the harm television does to children. The American Psychological Association's Commission on Violence and Youth concluded that "viewing violence increases violence" and "prolonged viewing of media violence can lead to emotional desensitization toward violence."

Television is a fact of life. With hundreds of channels available 24 hours a day, our children are just one click of the remote control button away from images that of violence, gratuitous sex, and a glorification of dysfunctional behavior.

That is why I commend MAVIA's efforts to discourage violent programming and messages through your "Speak-Up" resource handbook for parents and last year's conference on media violence.

On this issue, the President is behind you 100 percent. Earlier this year, he met with executives from the media and entertainment industry and announced a breakthrough agreement to develop a voluntary ratings system that, along with the V-Chip, will help parents protect their children from violence and adult content on TV.

More recently, he announced that he is inviting the leaders of the television networks and the nation's pre-eminent children's programming experts to come to the White House to discuss ways to improve the quality and quantity of children's programming. And, we are hopeful that the FCC will soon agree to a proposed rule requiring every television station to air three hours of children's programming per week.

Clearly, it is up to parents to exercise more responsibility when it comes to what their children watch on television. But as parents we must also demand that the media executives who produce and broadcast violent programming take more responsibility themselves.

As far as I'm concerned, shows like the "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers" have no place on any listing of children's shows. There is no excuse for a program that depicts hundreds of acts of violence in each episode and teaches children that the best -- in fact the only -- way to resolve conflict is through violence. As one expert said of the "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers," the show is "devoid of any enriching value." It is one of the most violent programs on television today.

Even a 10-year-old boy who participated in a roundtable we had last year about television violence told me that his playmates "just pretend they are Mighty Morphin Power Rangers the X-Men and then they'll just go around pretending they're killing each other or such things and think nothing of it."

Now I'm not against businesses making a profit. And I'm not against freedom of creative expression. But at some point, media executives need to ask themselves whether they are subverting values for the bottom line. You can still make money without harming children. And it is time for our media executives to take greater responsibility and show more accountability for the enormous power they wield in our children's lives.

Although we remember today the lives lost and damaged by crime, we must recognize how far we've come -- and how much we have accomplished in reducing crime and assisting crime victims.

First and foremost, the crime rate has been down for the past three years.

Second, crime victims' rights are no longer a novel idea. Victim Assistance programs, which were few in number in the late 1960's and generally served rape victims and battered women, now number in the thousands and serve all types of crime victims.

Twenty years ago there were few victim compensation programs. Today, every state has a program to help reimburse victims for mental health, medical, funeral and other expenses. Today we have a Crime Victims Fund -- money from federal criminal offenders -- which has provided over \$1 billion to crime victims programs in the past decade and \$5.4 million to Washington in this fiscal year.

But in a sea of statistics the one that encourages me the most is this one: since the passage of the Brady Bill, 60,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers have not been able to buy handguns. It proves that we can do something about the unacceptable level of crime and violence in our communities.

The President has sought to make our streets safer, to strengthen our families and communities, and to stem the tide of violence: The Brady Bill, the Assault Weapons Ban, the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, the Violence Against Women Act, the Safe and Drug-Free School Act, the Domestic Violence Hotline, the Anti-Terrorism Bill, and the one-strike crime initiative, to return the rule of law to public housing.

He has proposed the National Gang Tracking Network and Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Control Act to make the juvenile justice system tougher and smarter and to help our young people stay drug-free and away from guns and gangs.

And last month, the President signed Megan's Law. There is no greater right than a parent's right to raise a child in safety and love. With the signing of Megan's Law, every state in the country will be required to tell a community when a dangerous sexual predator enters its midst. Building on that, the President has asked the Attorney General to come up with a plan that will enable police officers in every state to share information and track sex offenders nationwide.

Many of these laws and initiatives were the result of effective anti-crime advocates -- survivors of violent crime who were able to turn their pain and anger into power and action, much like Mothers Against Violence in America.

You are making a difference. You are helping bring peace and security to millions of families across our country. And we are eternally grateful for your efforts.

Thank you all very much. And godspeed.



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

Washington, D.C. 20531

MEMORANDUM TO:

Sabrina Corlette
Office of the First Lady

21 JUN 1996

FROM:

Aileen Adams
Director

SUBJECT:

Additional Youth Violence Prevention Programs

As promised on Wednesday, the following are seven examples of youth violence programs that draw upon a variety of community entities and partnerships. No one unit of government, no one person, and no one program can prevent youth violence. There is and must be a role for everyone. The partners in the effort to prevent youth violence include parents, traditional programs like those offered by the Boys and Girls Clubs, national groups like the National Crime Prevention Council, teachers, coaches, crime victims, and youth themselves. All of these programs have been cited in "Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan, published this year by the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Seven youth violence prevention programs, categorized by their sponsors, include:

- 1) **Community based organizations:** The Boys and Girls Clubs of America have comprehensive strategies to help their members build self-esteem, acquire honest values, and pursue productive futures in more than 200 clubs, reaching tens of thousands of young people. These clubs also work specifically to prevent gang involvement. Supported in part by federal funding, these clubs have developed partnerships with corporations, private foundations, individuals, and government agencies. According to a 1992 Columbia University study, Boys and Girls Clubs have been effective in increasing rates of school attendance and improving academic performance. In addition, clubs in public housing projects have contributed to a 13 percent reduction in the juvenile crime rate.
- 2) **Government, community, law enforcement, victims, and gang members:** The Gang Violence Reduction Project in East Los Angeles, sponsored by the California Youth Authority, is a gang violence effort that enlists the participation of parents and kids in ten Latino neighborhoods of Southern California. The program is staffed by a few professional people, ten former gang members from different youth gangs, and many mothers, fathers, and young people who volunteer to help with the Mothers and Daughters group, the Fathers and Sons group, the literacy and tutoring program, and other "alternatives" to gang membership activities. The program tries to expose the kids in gang-infested communities to non-violent life experiences, such as going to museums, to sporting events, to exhibits, and even to the

legislature to watch government in action. Many of the volunteers are the survivors of gang violence or the family members of gang related homicide victims. These volunteers also spend their time talking with students in local elementary and junior high schools, and in the county and state detention facilities to encourage them to avoid gang violence.

3) **National organizations and schools:** The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) and the National Institute for Citizen Education efforts entitled "Teens Crime and the Community" and "We Can Work It Out", promote mediation, negotiation, or other non-litigating methods as strategies to settle unresolved confrontations. The programs emphasize the importance of showing students that many problems can be solved more effectively through cooperative methods, such as peer mediation. In this curriculum integration approach, teachers deliver daily lessons in conflict resolution and infuse conflict resolution concepts and skills into core curriculum areas. The NCPC "Teens, Crime and the Community" program also provides ways for young people to contribute to their community instead of destroying it.

4) **Schools:** In New York, the Resolving Conflict Creatively Program (RCCP) is implemented as a peaceable schools model of conflict resolution. The RCCP approach requires schools to participate in the curriculum for a year or more and includes a student mediation aspect. The RCCP approach to conflict resolution integrates two primary components: the RCCP elementary and secondary curriculum and the RCCP student mediation program. A third component -- the parent training curriculum -- introduces RCCP principles into the home to send youth a consistent message from parents and teachers, who reinforce each other.

5) **Citizens and community leaders:** The Nuestro Centro (Our Center) Gang, Drug, and Dropout Intervention Program in Dallas, Texas, inaugurated in 1991, took a grassroots prevention approach to the problem of juvenile violence. Citizens and community leaders in a predominantly minority neighborhood decided to take back their streets by converting an abandoned fire station into a community-run youth center. Participants in the after school program are unemployed and undereducated youth affected by drug abuse, gangs, school problems, family problems, physical and sexual abuse, and delinquency. Through the dedicated work of counselors and volunteers, most of whom live in the neighborhood, the program has shown significant success in deterring gang violence and drug use, with 95 percent of participants surveyed involved in educational activities, including school, general equivalency diploma (GED) preparation, and vocational training.

6) **Survivors of homicide victims:** The SOSAD (Save Our Sons and Daughters) Peace Project is a crisis intervention, violence prevention, and peace promoting program started by Clementine Barfield, whose son Derick was killed in the summer of 1986. Along with other parents of slain children, Clementine decided to go beyond her mourning and began working to create positive alternatives to violence in Detroit. SOSAD provides counseling and training in violence prevention, crisis intervention, multi cultural conflict resolution, gang redirection, peer and bereavement support. In SOSAD's Peace and Conflict Resolution Curriculum for Elementary School Age Children, teachers, students and community members are trained to assist traumatized kids. This Curriculum teaches peacemaking skills, peace activities, and peaceful behavior to the children. SOSAD's Violence Prevention and Peach Program is

aimed at creating Peace Zones throughout the city. It is violence free, drug free, and weapon free. SOSAD's dream is to eventually link all of the Peace Zones together until the entire city is at peace.

7) **Federal leadership and parents:** The Corporation for National Service's AmeriCorps program has established a Safe Corridors program in the elementary schools in Philadelphia. The program is designed to ensure the safe passage of youth to and from school by using 80 parent volunteers who patrol the streets around the schools in the mornings and afternoons. The volunteers designed the program structure and are responsible for recruiting other parents to carry out the program. The Safe Corridors program has been so successful in increasing safety that the city is offering it as a model for statewide implementation. In Seattle, Washington, AmeriCorps members staff seven Safe Haven sites that provide an opportunity for more than 1,000 at-risk youth to participate in workshops, tutoring and mentoring programs, and conflict resolution sessions. The programs are designed to increase self-esteem, provide educational opportunities, and reduce violent behavior.

If you have any questions regarding this information, I can be reached at 7-5983.



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
COVER SHEET**TO: SABRINA CORLETTEOFFICE: OTFL/WITFAX #: 456 5709 DATE: 21 JuneFROM: David OsborneOffice for Victims of Crime
Office of Justice Programs
Phone # : (202) 307-5983

Fax #: (202) 514-6383

PAGES: 3 (including cover sheet)NOTES: More stuff on Wash. State-PLEASE NOTE THE LAST
PARAGRAPH, WHICH GIVES GOOD INFO
ON THE MAUIA PROGRAM DIRECTOR THAT
SHOULD BE MENTIONED IN THE FIRST
LADY'S ADDRESS.STILL CHECKING ON THE STATUS OF
VICTIM'S RIGHTS IN WASH.

OVC FORMULA GRANT FUNDING

The State of Washington received a total of **\$6.378 million** in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) crime victim assistance and compensation formula grant funding, up from **\$4.77 million** in VOCA funding in FY 1995. **\$3.831 million** was provided to support victim compensation in FY 1996, up from \$3.193 million for victim compensation and **\$2.547 million** was provided for victim assistance, up from \$1.575 million for victim assistance. Since FY 1986, OVC has provided a total of **\$24.105 million** for victim compensation and **\$13.165 million** in victim assistance formula grant funds to the state.

VOCA victim assistance grant funds supported 97 local victim services programs in FY 1995 (34% to fund services to sexual assault victims; 30.5% to domestic violence victims; 18% to child abuse victims; and 18% to underserved victims, such as victims of elder abuse, DUI/DWI crashes, assaults, etc.). In FY 1994, the most recent year for which complete statistics exist, VOCA victim assistance funds supported services to more than 58,400 primary victims and 19,000 secondary victims in Washington state.

The agency that administers the VOCA victim compensation grant is the Department of Labor and Industries. The Department of Social and Health Services administers the VOCA victim assistance grant program.

VOCA-FUNDED PROGRAMS OF INTEREST

The victim services programs described below are noted for their exemplary and innovative services and are all located in the Seattle area.

1) Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services in Seattle (\$137,676 in VOCA victim assistance grant funding from 1987 to 1995)

Founded in 1986, this program is the only one of its kind in the United States. This community-based organization provides services to deaf and deaf/blind individuals who are victims of domestic or sexual violence. This program also provides services to deaf children.

Contact: Marilyn Smith, (206) 453-1408

2) United Indians of All Tribes in Seattle (\$211,625 in VOCA grant funding from 1991 to 1995 – Victim Assistance: \$175,000; Victims in Indian Country: \$35,625)

This community-based program provides services to the Native American community through its Ina Maka Family Services Program. Although the program has been in existence for 15 years, it has provided services to victims of crime since 1991. It provides culturally sensitive and relevant treatment techniques to Native American victim of crime, including child abuse victims. **Contact: Bernie Whitebear, (206) 325-0070**

3) Virginia Mason Medical Center In Seattle (\$99,603 in VOCA victim assistance grant funding from 1991 to 1995)

This hospital-based program established in 1991 provides support and education to

survivors of homicide victims. In collaboration with the King County Medical Examiner's office, the Separation and Loss program contacts the family members of homicide victims and provides a comprehensive array of services. The program has developed a plan for meeting the needs of culturally diverse populations, as well as individuals and families who are unable to receive services from any other organization in the community. **Contact: John Purrington, (206) 223-6398**

4) **Harborview Medical Center, Seattle**

This facility is noted for its programs for child abuse victims, as well as one of the few offender-focused programs in the country. Lucy Berliner, a nationally known expert on child physical and sexual abuse, serves as the Director of the Harborview Sexual Assault Center in Seattle and as a clinical social work professor at the University of Washington. Ms. Berliner has conducted some of the most important research studies on child victimization. She has written more than 40 articles and book chapters, and co-edits several journals, including the Journal of Interpersonal Violence and Child Maltreatment, and Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment. She has also contributed to three award winning films, one of which, "Double Jeopardy," continues to be cited as a model to assist children going to court. She received the **Crime Victim Service Award** from President Clinton in 1995. **Contact: Lucy Berliner, (206) 223-3047**

5) **Refugee Women's Alliance, Seattle**

This community-based program providing comprehensive services to refugee and immigrant women, including a well-developed program focused on domestic violence. REWA was founded in 1984 by a group of successfully re-settled refugee women who were concerned that refugee women were not being served by existing refugee services. It has entered into successful collaborative effort with the Seattle Police Department to develop a better response to youth and battered women. This program has not applied for VOCA funding in the past, but will be encouraged to do so in the upcoming funding cycle. **Contact: Sue Wilkes, (206) 721-0243**

OVC INTERACTION WITH MAVIA

In May, Jenny Wieland, the MAVIA Program Director and a founding board member, participated in an Office for Victims of Crime focus groups examining the treatment of victims of gang violence. This group met to discuss issues involved in assisting this underserved population of crime victims and offered recommendations regarding the development of a national network of people and organizations to address these issues. This group will present a report to Associate Attorney General John Schmidt outlining other recommendations to improve the federal response to victims of gang violence, and Ms. Wieland has agreed to serve in a continuing advisory capacity to address these problems. Ms. Wieland also attended the White House signing of the 1994 Crime Act.





U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
COVER SHEET**TO: SABRINA COLLETTEOFFICE: OTFL/W4FAX #: 452 5709 DATE: 21 JuneFROM: D.W.D.Office for Victims of Crime
Office of Justice Programs
Phone # : (202) 307-5983

Fax #: (202) 514-6383

PAGES: 4 (including cover sheet)NOTES: WASHINGTON APPEARS TO HAVE A STATE
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ON CRIME
VICTIMS' RIGHTS

CONSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON

ARTICLE 2, SECTION 35

Ratified by the people of Washington on November 7, 1989.

§ 35. RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS.

Effective law enforcement depends on cooperation from victims of crime. To ensure victims a meaningful role in the criminal justice system and to accord them due dignity and respect, victims of crime are hereby granted the following basic and fundamental rights.

Upon notifying the prosecuting attorney, a victim of a crime charged as a felony shall have the right to be informed of and, subject to the discretion of the individual presiding over the trial or court proceedings, attend trial and all other court proceedings the defendant has the right to attend, and to make a statement at sentencing and at any proceeding where the defendant's release is considered, subject to the same rules of procedure which govern the defendant's rights. In the event the victim is deceased, incompetent, a minor, or otherwise unavailable, the prosecuting attorney may identify a representative to appear to exercise the victim's rights. This provision shall not constitute a basis for error in favor of a defendant in a criminal proceeding nor a basis for providing a victim or the victim's representative with court appointed counsel.

**WASHINGTON AMENDMENT LANGUAGE
RATIFIED BY VOTERS IN NOVEMBER 1989**

STATE CONTACT:

**Mike Grant
Attorney General's Office
Highways-Licenses Building, 7th Floor
Olympia, WA 98504-8071
(206) 586-1883**

Article I.

CONSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON

Art. 2, § 33

had shot and killed her husband, and could be admitted in murder prosecution, despite defendant's claim that admission

of evidence violated this section. State v. Neslund (1988) 50 Wash.App. 531, 749 P.2d 725.

§ 30. Rights Reserved

Notes of Decisions
Executions 4

4. Executions

Journalist failed to establish right to attend execution absent proof that at-

tendance at execution was "fundamental, inalienable right under the laws of God and nature" protected under State Constitution. Halquist v. Department of Corrections (1989) 113 Wash.2d 818, 783 P.2d 1065.

§ 35. [Rights of Crime Victims]

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Adopted by Amendment 84 (Laws 1989, S.J.R. No. 8200, approved Nov. 7, 1989), eff. Dec. 7, 1989.

ARTICLE II—LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

§ 25. Extra Compensation Prohibited

Notes of Decisions
Health care benefits 26

26. Health care benefits

A county may lawfully eliminate its provision of medical, dental, and life in-

surance benefits to its superior court judges when the judges, who are also state officers, receive similar benefits from the state. Op.Atty.Gen. 1988, No. 29.

§ 33. Alien Ownership

Law Review Commentaries
Historical analysis of Alien Land Law: Washington territory and state

1853-1888. Mark L. Lazarus III, 12 Puget Sound L.Rev. 197 (1989).

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 20, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE WOMEN'S LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

The Washington Hilton
Washington, DC

12:55 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. If I had any sense, I would quit while I'm ahead. (Laughter.)

Thank you for that wonderful, warm welcome. I thank those here at the head table for their work -- Ellen Malcolm and Pauline Schneider. John Bryan, thanks for sitting up here with me and upholding gender equality. (Laughter.) I appreciate that. And thank you for proving as, I believe, one of America's truly outstanding chief executive officers, that it is possible to do well and to do good in one's life. Thank you for what you have done. Thank you. (Applause.)

And thank you, Judy Lichtman. You know, she was saying all that about constancy and always being there. And the truth is, I just could never bear to disappoint her. (Laughter.) You are a remarkable national treasure for what you have done here, and we are very grateful to you. Thank you. (Applause.) Thank you. (Applause.)

You were kind enough to mention the women who hold prominent positions in our administration and who fill judgeships of this country, and the U.S. attorneys positions and others. There are two who came with me today who have a lot to do with the work we do on women's issues, and I would like to acknowledge them in particular -- Alexis Herman and Betsy Myers. I thank them for what they have done in -- (applause).

I note with some satisfaction and pride that in the last two years you had the Vice President speak here. And then you had Hillary speak here. And I'm glad you finally got around to me. (Laughter.) I appreciate being given the chance to come. (Laughter.)

I also appreciate, and I know Congresswoman Jane Harman, who's here with me, appreciates what you said about the Congress and the budget. John heard me say this yesterday, but about 10 days ago or so I was at one of these fundraisers, you know, that you do a lot of

at this time of year, there was a gentlemen there at the fundraiser who had brought his son. His son was his companion at the fundraiser. And this young man was 10 years old. I asked him after this interchange how old he was because it was so amazing. This young man comes up to me, shakes my hand, says, you know, Mr. President, he said, I imagine it's difficult for you to hear a funny joke that you can actually retell in public, isn't it? (Laughter.) A 10 year old boy. And I said, well, now that you mention it, it kind of is. (Laughter.) When I was a governor, I used to keep people laughing all the time. Then they told me it wasn't presidential.

And he said, well, I heard one that I think you can use. I think it's appropriate. (Laughter.) I said, alright, what is it?

He said, well you should tell people that you're being President with this Congress is sort of like a man standing in a cemetery. There are a lot of people under you, but nobody's listening. (Laughter and applause.) In case you'd like to meet that young man, he's now the youngest member of the White House speechwriting staff -- (laughter) -- and intending to support his parents in their old age.

I am very honored to be here, especially on your 25th anniversary, to thank you more than anything else for the work that you have done for opportunities for women, for stronger families, and a brighter future for America. As many of you have heard me say so many times, I am convinced that we are moving into an age of enormous possibility for our people as we move from the Industrial Age to the Information Age, as we leave the Cold War behind for a new global society that is full of its own problems but still provides people more opportunities to live out their dreams in different ways than any previous period in human history.

I ran for President because I wanted to move our country into the 21st century, meeting the challenges of this new era, protecting our values and guaranteeing that every American who would be responsible should have the chance to pursue opportunities; that would give every person -- without regard to their race, their gender, their background -- the chance to live out their dreams, because I wanted to see this country coming together instead of being divided. And I was very tired, and I'm even more tired today, of seeing the political process used to take this incredible kaleidoscopic, diverse society to divide the American people when we ought to be working for ways to unite the American people. (Applause.)

And because I felt very strongly that our country at the end of the Cold War could not revert to its historic impulse, to withdraw into our borders -- that this is a time when we have to stay involved in the world, when only America can be the world's greatest source of inspiration for peace and freedom and for prosperity.

So those were the things that I wanted to do when I ran for this job, that I was determined to do when I got this job. And you have helped in that mission. You know, preserving the basic values of America and making us live up to them -- that's really what the Women's Legal Defense Fund is all about. The opportunity for people to live out their own personal dreams and to build strong families and forge strong communities -- that's really what

the Women's Legal Defense Fund is all about.

We are still working on those things, and we are still bedeviled by some old problems. Yesterday, you many have seen in the press reports, I spend a lot of time working with governors and other officials to try to come up with even more effective strategies to not only find the people who are burning these religious institutions -- most of them African American churches, at least one of them a mosque and, I might add, some white churches that have burned in our country in the last 18 months -- there has been a big upsurge in overall burnings of religious institutions in the last 18 months. But we were also searching for ways to reach the heart of America to prevent these things from occurring. because they are a stark reminder that while we value religious liberty more deeply than any other nation in human history, the demons that haunt the human spirit in every land are not absent from America. And you have to stamp them out whenever they rear their ugly head. (Applause.)

I will always be very grateful, as Judy said, that the first law I signed was the Family and Medical Leave Law. (Applause.) And I wanted it so badly -- and some of you may remember, it was a hotly debated issue in the 1992 campaign because Congress had already passed it and it had been vetoed once, maybe even twice. I can't remember. But the thing that struck me about it is that it was the symbol of the kind of country we should be trying to build. I am the son and the grandson of working women. I never thought there was anything abnormal about it. But I also know that the most important job any man or woman has is doing a good job of raising the children that they're fortunate enough to bring into this world.

And it seems to me that if you look at the pattern of work and child rearing and the tensions between them, and the troubles so many people still have finding adequate child care, and the difficulties so many people still have earning a decent living, an adequate living to raise their children, and still have time left over to spend time with their children.

One of the central goals of America in the 21st century should be to enable people to succeed at work and at home. If we have to choose one or the other, we're going to be in trouble. We know now that our economy needs all these people in the work force. We know that most families, even two-parent families, need both incomes to have a good stable life. How can we even imagine a world with even more rapid changes and more unforeseen challenges that doesn't have systems in America for people succeeding at home and at work? If we have to give up succeeding at work to raise our children, our economy will surely suffer. If we have to give up successful raising our children just to make a living, well, the money won't be worth it.

The Family and Medical Leave Law puts this country on record as saying our national goal is to enable people to be good parents and successful at work. And I'm proud to say that a recent bipartisan panel concluded that just since the law has been in effect, 12 million American workers have been able to take time off when they had a birth in the family or a sick child or a sick parent without losing their jobs. Almost 90 percent of the businesses that were surveyed said that complying with the law costs them little or nothing. This has been good for families and good for America.

The other day we had a very impressive group of people in the White House, the children who were the designated representatives of the Children's Miracle Telethon in each of the states, children who had been desperately ill in children's hospitals, and they and their parents came to the White House. And I went downstairs to shake hands with all of them. And before I got out of the room, two of the parents spontaneously had come up to me and said, we would never have made it if it hadn't been for the Family Leave Law. I got to keep my job and try to help take care of my child. I don't know what this country was like before it.

And I can say to you it's amazing to me there are still people who say that we shouldn't have passed it. There are still people stubbornly saying, oh, there must be some way around this. There is no way around it. Our goal should be success at home; success at work. And that's what it's all about. And if it hadn't been for the Women's Legal Defense Fund, it might not be the law of the land. You were there a long before I had a chance to sign it and I thank you for that. (Applause.)

I've sought for other ways to give women and particularly families more power, more control. It is true that I have sought to protect the right to choose and reproductive rights. We also have dramatically expanded what I call the family tax credit, the earned income tax credit, so that as we go forward today it's worth about \$1,000 to every family in the country with an income of \$28,000 or less with children in the home. Our goal is to say if we're going to preach at people to work, the tax system should not put them in poverty if they have children at home. If you work full time and you have children at home, the tax system should lift you out of poverty, not push you down into it. That's what the earned income tax credit's all about, and I'm very proud of it. And I have opposed vociferously the attempts in the last year and a half to cut back on it in ways that would, in effect, raise taxes on the hardest pressed working families in this country. That is wrong. Success at home, success at work. Don't let the government get in the way of that. The government should be helping that.

We also have tried to give parents more control in helping to raise their children. That's really what the crusade we've been on trying to restrict advertising of tobacco products to children is about. (Applause.) And it's what the V chip was all about. And I applaud the entertainment industry for their willingness to develop these rating systems on television. I don't believe in censorship, I just believe parents ought to have some ability to raise their kids and to try to expose them to things in the appropriate way at the appropriate time. And this is the thing that I think all of you -- I think it would be helpful to all of us if we began to think in these terms.

We don't have a person to waste. We need everybody's ability. We need people to have a chance to grow up and have good schools and a clean environment and safe streets and also strong families. And when I think, when I imagine what the world is going to be like 10 or 15 years from now, I know that there will be millions of people working 10 years from now in jobs that have not even been created yet. Some of them we can't even imagine. And it will be a very exciting time if we have a system by which we can work with other freedom loving people

to fight back the security threats we face from terrorism and biological and chemical weapons and things like that; and if we have a structure of community and family here at home that enables us to give people the chance to be successful at home and successful at work, and children the chance to have safe streets and good schools and a clean environment. If we can do that, if we can set up that framework, there are no guarantees in life, but at least people will have the opportunities they need.

One other thing I want to say about that is that that means that this country must say that the level of crime and violence we have is simply unacceptable and it is not unavoidable. We can do something about it. (Applause.)

You know, when we passed the Crime Bill in 1994, it embodied the central commitments I made to the American people when I ran for President. We also passed the Brady Bill then. I said I want the Brady Bill, I want the assault weapons banned, I want 100,000 police on the street, I want three strikes and you're out for serious offenders, but I want funds going to communities to give young people the chance to say yes to something, to stay out of trouble before they get into trouble. That's what I think we ought to do. (Applause.)

And I have spent years and years and years going around visiting people in law enforcement and looking at these programs and trying to learn what works -- first, of course, in my own state and then, when I began to travel some, around the country. And I was convinced that we can bring the crime rate down. I'd seen it happen in various communities simply by implementing these strategies. And there were those who said that the Crime Bill was a fraud and a fake and wouldn't have any impact. Well, I can tell you that it's 1996 now, and we're almost half-way home on putting those 100,000 police on the street. We're ahead of schedule. We are under budget.

We have passed the assault weapons ban. And there haven't been any hunters and sportsmen or women lose their weapons and their bullets and all that. It was all a big smoke screen. Everybody who wants to go deer hunting is still doing it. (Laughter.) But I'll tell you something, there are 60,000 -- let me say it again, 60,000 -- felons, fugitives and stalkers who have not been able to buy handguns because of the Brady Bill. Check into it. (Applause.)

Now the Supreme Court has agreed to review a case over the constitutionality of requiring local law enforcement officials to help make sure that a person buying a handgun is legally entitled to do so. Well I just want to make clear, I am going to do everything in my power to keep the Brady Bill the law of the land. It's keeping people alive. It's a good thing. (Applause.) Convicted felons and fugitives and people who are a threat to the community or to their own spouses and children should not be out there, if we can keep them legally from having the handguns by a simple waiting period so that we can check whether they should have it or not. Every law enforcement organization in this country has endorsed the Brady Bill. And we dare not walk away from it. It is keeping people alive.

And let me point out now, the prime rate in this country is going down this year. It is

going to be the fourth year in a row that it's gone down. It's because people all over this country now have figured out community policing works, because prevention strategies work; because this whole approach works. There's more to do. We need to ban these cop-killer bullets so our police are not at risk when they're out there. (Applause.) But this is working. (Applause.) And the point I want to make to you is that we can make a difference here. We can make a difference here. Don't let anybody tell you that America is just an inherently violent country and we have to tolerate this level of violence. It is simply not true. We can do better.

There's more to do in a lot of other ways. I thank you for support of the minimum wage. Ten million people depend on it and we need to raise it. (Applause.) I'm rather tired of being told that the only people that get the minimum wage are middle and upper-middle class teenagers who are living at home with their parents who don't need it. Sixty percent of the people on the minimum wage are women workers, many of them have children they're trying to support on the minimum wage. (Applause.)

We have to help people adjust to the changes in the new economy. That's why I, even though -- and I appreciate what Judy said about health care, and I thank -- so many of you helped Hillary when we committed the unpardonable sin of trying to give every American health care that they could afford. (Laughter.) And somehow I don't think God's going to hold it against us when our final accounting comes. (Applause.)

But we ought to pass the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill, and we ought to do it now. We ought to do it in a uncluttered fashion. And we ought to quit fooling around with it. (Applause.) It's time to stop holding these good legislative measures. That bill passed 100 to zero in the Senate. And it is now being held hostage to controversial measures inessential to the fundamental purpose of the Kennedy-Kassebaum bill. We should pass it now. People should not lose their health care because somebody in their family has been sick or because they have to change jobs. That is wrong, and we can change it and we should do it. (Applause.)

We ought to guarantee that whenever someone loses a job or they're grossly underemployed and they need more training, they qualify for federal help. I believe they should get a voucher they can take to their local community college. That's the G.I. Bill for American men and women workers. That has been tied up in the Congress over an ideological argument, extraneous to the merits, for a year. It is time to pass that. (Applause.)

The Congress has a package of pension reform legislation which would make it much easier for small businesses and self-employed people to take out pensions and then to carry it with them from job to job without ever losing their coverage. That sounds like a simple thing if you happen to work for the government and you've got a good retirement program, or you're fortunate enough to be in a big company with a good retirement program. But it is a huge deal to American men and women who do not have access to this. And as far as I know, there is no opposition in the Congress to this package of pension reform legislation. We ought to pass it, get it out there, tell people you can at least save for your retirement and you won't lose it if you lose your job for a while or you have to change jobs. These are important measures that

need to pass. (Applause.)

And I believe that while we dare not get into some flagrant tax-cutting war until we finish the work of balancing the budget, we should give families a deduction for the cost of college tuition and a tax credit so that everybody who wants to can go to at least two years of education after high school; to make community college 14 years of education, not 12 the rule in America. We need it. It would help the American economy. It would lift the incomes of millions of working women. (Applause.)

I also want to say that we have more to do in the area of public safety, especially on the issue of domestic violence. A lot of you were particularly active when we working for the Crime Bill in passing the Violence Against Women provisions and setting up the domestic violence operation in the Justice Department, which Bonnie Campbell is doing such a good job of heading. And I thank you for that. But there is more to be done there. Violence against women is certainly no stranger in this country. It is an unwelcome intruder. And it is not a family problem, and it is not a woman problem, and let me say it is most assuredly not just a poor person's problem. This is an American problem that we have to face. (Applause.)

In September federal prosecutors used that law to ensure that a man convicted of severe violence against his wife was sentenced to life in prison. The Violence Against Women Act says that victims of domestic violence should be able to seek relief in federal court for a violation of their civil rights, and yesterday a federal judge upheld that provision of the law as well. (Applause.)

Last February, we launched a 24 hour, seven day, toll-free hotline so that women in trouble can find out how to get emergency help, find shelter, or report abuse to the authority. Today, the hotline has responded to over 20,000 calls from women all across this country. Again, that's just the first three months. We don't have the latest up-to-date. But, think of that -- a lot of those people never would have even called for help before. And I'll get in my plug, the number is 1-800-799-SAFE. And I want people to keep using that number. We are working those cases and helping people.

Today, we are taking the next step. I am proud to announce that our Justice Department is awarding over \$46 million to help 336 different communities in America to fight domestic violence through the community policing program. The police departments who will be receiving these grants have well-established community policing programs, strong relationships with local providers of services to victims. We're coupling the power of the police forces routed in the community with the experience of people who have been fighting domestic violence for a long time.

And again, I say, this will work. I was in San Diego recently, and let me just give you one example. Their police department has one of the largest domestic violence networks in America. They formed it in 1992 and since then, domestic violence homicides have been cut by 50 percent. You must believe we can do something about these problems, otherwise all these

things just become words. I'm telling you, you can make a difference if we do the right things and we do them together.

The San Diego Police Department is getting a grant today that they will use to help start an information network with the local YWCA to give victims and service providers and police officers one-stop access to all the available help in the area, to bring the domestic violence rate in San Diego down even more and to help victims as they work to take control of their lives back.

As I said when I announced the hotline, you know, if it just saves one life it's worth it. But it's not enough. We have to keep doing this until this is the exception, not the rule. We have to keep working on all these problems until crime is the exception, not the rule. We will never rid the country of crime. We will never have no domestic violence. But you know what the test is? The test will be when you can go home at night, turn on the evening news and if the lead story is a crime story, if the lead story is a domestic violence story, you are surprised instead of numb to it. That is the test. And we have to keep going until you are surprised again. (Applause.)

So I will close by echoing Judy's wonderful remarks. As you celebrate 25 years of progress in the lives of women and strength for the women and families of this country, I ask you to rededicate yourselves to the work yet to be done. I ask you to see this as an unfinished journey. I ask you to celebrate your achievements as evidence that you can make a difference. Sometimes I think that when we think about our thorniest problems, our biggest difficulty is that we tend to get so weighed down by them we think that we can't change the fundamental fabric of this society. Two hundred twenty years-plus of American experience gives the lie to that cynicism. You can make things better, you can make progress, we can make a difference. You have a great 25 years, and you have got an agenda that will fill up the next few years. I ask you to embrace it with vigor and good humor and determination and courage, and we will prevail.

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

END

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Glendale, California)

For Immediate Release

June 11, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE COMMUNITY OF GLENDALE

Glendale Community College
Glendale, California

10:40 A.M. PDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so much. Thank you very, very much. President Davitt, thank you very much for welcoming here and for your kind remarks. And thank you, Hazel Ramos, for not only the fine statement you made, but for the power of your example. If you represent the future, I think the future is in good hands, indeed. I thought you did a very good job. Thank you. (Applause.)

I want to thank your mayor, Calvin Baker, and the others who came out to welcome me today, to make me feel so at home. And I want to thank all of you for coming out on this beautiful day in this beautiful community. I told President Davitt, you know, that it is true that I visit a lot of community colleges. I believe in the community college. I believe that as I look at all of you, from all different backgrounds, all walks of life, average age about probably 27 -- the student body -- I see the future of America at its best.

And I believe that the country we have to create in the 21st century has to work more like the community colleges. It has to be less political and more personal and more human. (Applause.) We have to be very flexible and willing to change and move with the markets, but also be committed to the development of every single individual. And that's basically what the community colleges do. And I hope in these next few months in this election season, as we discuss the future of our country we'll be able to do it in a civil and open and honest way that reflects the kind of strength and roots in America that we all share, as well as the honest differences of opinion we all have. And I see that in the community colleges and I sense that here at Glendale here today. So I thank all of you for being here and for representing that for our country. (Applause.)

I'd also like to say, on a more personal note -- and in keeping with the comments I just made -- I realize that Washington is a long way away and it's easy for all of us to become alienated from it. And I know we live in a time when it is fashionable to criticize public service and long tenure in public service. But even though I am about to begin a rather vigorous

campaign with Senator Dole, I would like to ask all of you, including those of you who are my supporters, to just take a moment and wish him well. This is his last day in the Senate. He has given over 30 years of his life to serving our country in the U.S. Congress, and I think we ought to give him a hand today. (Applause.)

You know, this school has been a center of learning for nearly 70 years. I learned, in preparing to come here, that when the earthquake occurred here in 1933 -- not 1993 -- the students here were so dedicated to their education that they actually met in tents after the earthquake. Over the years, the student body has changed here. Many of you were born in other countries, including the young woman who just introduced me. But what has remained unchanged is that this community college is a place where students can get the knowledge and skills they need to help to realize their dreams.

And now the community college movement indeed is sweeping the U.S. There are more than hundred community colleges in California alone. And enrollment is exploding everywhere, because community colleges fill a need to strengthen the communities, to strengthen people's individual dreams, and to help them build successful families. There are so many examples of that here, in your Professional Development Center, in the work you do to provide low-cost babysitting services for people who have to be students and parents and workers at the same time.

I want to say a special word of thanks to Glendale for the Volunteer and Service Learning Center that Americorps, our national service program, has helped to fund. I thank you for that. (Applause.)

When I became President, and California's economy and the American economy was under such distress, and there was so much division and rancor in our country, one of the things that -- (audience interruption).

You know, we have now -- wait, wait, wait, wait -- we have now observed her free speech rights; it will be interesting to see if she will observe ours, won't it? (Applause.) Thank you. Thank you. Wait, wait, wait, wait. Folks, you cannot blame this poor woman. They have nothing to run on. We have a good record, so they have to try these kind of radical, crazy attacks. She can't help it. (Applause.) It's just like when you take a cookie away from the kid and they're mad about it. You know, they can't help it. (Laughter.) Just be patient. (Applause.) Some people think they own the public institutions of this country and they have a right to terrify you to get them back. They don't. Just relax. We'll have a good time and talk about the real issues. Thank you. (Applause.)

Now, where was I? (Laughter.) When I ran for this job, what concerned me most was that this was a country of enormous strength. I mean, look around here. You would be here, you're doing this. You would be here regardless of who's president or what was happening. That's not quite true when it comes to student aid, but I'll get back to that. (Laughter.) But we did not seem to have any sense of how we were going to deal with all these challenges as we moved into the 21st Century.

The world is changing very dramatically. Now the difference in the world today and when I was the age of those of you who are in this community college is breathtaking. I mean, we have moved from a world dominated by the Cold War and big blocks into a global economy. We have moved from an economy dominated by heavy industry into one dominated by information and technology and every form of human endeavor, whether it's industry or agriculture or the services. We have moved into a world where knowledge, which has always been a key to individual opportunity is now the key to the success of the whole society and is literally the dividing line between those who can continue to do well for a lifetime and those who risk being left behind.

Now the question we face is how are we going to meet these challenges of the 21st Century and preserve the values which have made it possible for America to be the world's greatest multi-racial, multi-ethnic democracy in human history. How are we going to do both? (Applause.)

I strongly believe that the mission of this country must be to offer every American citizen an opportunity and demand that every American take responsibility -- that that is the basic bargain, and that's the bargain you signed on to at this community college. (Applause.) I think if we do that, we can create a strong America that's based on strong communities and rooted in strong families.

Today, I want to talk just a moment to all of you because people in community colleges are on average just a little older than the typical undergraduates that go right from high school into college, about how success for individual Americans relates to success for American families -- because we cannot succeed in this country unless we work together in communities across the lines that divide us. And the ability to work together begins with the ability to build strong families.

When I gave the State of the Union address, that's the first challenge that I attempted to deal with. Cardinal Bernadin of Chicago said once that families are the smallest democracies across the heart of society. I believe that that is clearly true. And one of the things that concerns me most about the world we live in today is that, contrary to what a lot of people think, we don't have more lazy people in America. The average American is working a longer work week today than he or she was 25 years ago. People are working hard out there. (Applause.)

And there are a lot of people in this community college today who are very busy every week. They're working as students, they're working at jobs and they're working with their children. That is hard, hard work. (Applause.) And it seems to me that one way to think about how we're all going to live five, 10, 20 years from now in this exciting global economy, with all the opportunities that are open to you, one way to think about it is to think about how we can create a country in which people can succeed at work and at home. How can you be successful in your job, or in a series of job over a lifetime, and be successful in building a family. How can you do well raising children, as well as going to work every day and, if necessary, going

back to school over and over again for a lifetime.

And if you think about it, any great society that forces people to make a choice in the end is going to fail. If you have to fail at home in order to succeed at work, we're in trouble. But if the only way you can succeed at home is to fail at work, we're in trouble. So when I think about the kind of world we're trying to create, I often ask myself, how can I create an America so that when I leave office every American who is willing to work for it can get up every day and do well at home and do well at work and do well at school. That is what I want.

The first thing we have to do, obviously, is to give people economic opportunity. I'm proud of the fact that in the last three and a half years we've cut the deficit by more than 50 percent. It's wrong to leave you with a legacy of debt. We've got interest rates so we can grow the economy. (Applause.) I'm proud of the fact that we are now seeing an all-time record in the products and services we're exporting, more than ever before, to the Asian Pacific region here out of the West Coast. I'm proud of the fact that in each of the last three years we've had a record number of new small businesses and that there have been 3.7 million more Americans move into their own homes in the last three and half years. I am very proud of that. (Applause.)

And I'm proud of the fact that when we passed our economic program by one vote in both Houses -- the Vice President had to break the tie -- and some of the people who were against it said it would bring on a recession and crash the economy. We said it would bring 8 million jobs in four years. Well, they were wrong, but so were we. It brought 9.7 million jobs in three and a half years. (Applause.) And 600,000 of them in California, and a lot more to come after four years of losing jobs. And so we're moving in the right direction.

But it's not enough. We also have to think about, what about all those working people? How are they going to succeed at home? We passed the Family and Medical Leave law to say that if you have to take a little time off, you won't lose your job because your child is sick. And I think that's important. (Applause.) We strengthened child support enforcement 40 percent increase in three years in child support enforcement. (Applause.) We worked with state all over America to help people who were on welfare move into school, move into work. There are 1.3 million fewer families on welfare today than there were the day I became President, and I'm proud of that. We have worked had to reduce the welfare roles. (Applause.)

We also recognize what you recognize every day when you come to this community college: that we simply cannot create the kind of America we're working for until every single American has access to a higher level of education. And we cannot allow this country to become a more divided society. One of the most disturbing things that has happened in America in the last 15 years is that after spending almost 40 years after World War II in which we were growing together, in which the poorest Americans who were working were increasing their incomes at roughly the same rate as the wealthiest of Americans, for the last 15 years we have become a more divided society. And about half of our people are working harder and harder without getting raises. Almost entirely the division is due to the lack of skills that are

marketable in the global economy.

This community college and community colleges like it all around America can turn that around. That's why I said it is time to guarantee every single American not 12 but 14 years of education. We should guarantee it for every American. (Applause.) The specific proposal that President Davitt referred to that I made at Princeton the other day is that we do two things to increase college education availability. Let me back up and say, what we have done for the last three years is to try to give more options to young people on college loans, to cut the cost, cut the hassle, and give people easier terms to repay, including letting people pay their loans back as a percentage of their income, so that people that don't make a lot of money when they get out of school won't be bankrupt by the repayment. And I think that's important. (Applause.)

We have tried to increase the Pell Grant program every year. It is impossible to overstate how important the Pell Grant program is to a lot of people from working families who need it for education purposes. (Applause.) But I have proposed two more things. Number one, for students at two-year, four-year colleges, any post-high school education, I think we should give people a tax deduction for the cost of tuition of up to \$10,000 a year. All the way. (Applause.)

However, if -- when we studied this for a year -- we were out there advocating this for a year, it occurred to me that that would not necessarily do students a great deal of good if they were in community colleges where the tuition was, let's say, \$500, \$600 a year. The average in America is \$1200. It's less than that in California still, thank goodness. But if you were in a situation where the tuition was that amount, and your tax rate was, let's say, 15 percent, which is what most of American taxpayers are, then the tax deduction doesn't do you very much good. Which is why we said, if wanted to guarantee access to education to everybody for two years after high school, we should give a tax credit, an actual credit up to \$1,500 a year for the first year, refundable for the second year if you maintain a B average or better, so everybody can have access to two years of community college everywhere. And I think that is very important. (Applause.)

Again I say that if we do this, this will make it possible for people to succeed at home and at work. We need some help in other areas. I have challenged the corporations of America to be more family friendly. We had a wonderful meeting in Washington a few weeks ago in which we asked a couple of hundred corporate executives and members of labor organizations and others, what do you think our obligations are to each other as we move into the 21st century? How can we help people succeed at home and at work? I urged businesses to give people more time off so that kids could go to teacher conferences at school, to experiment with flex times, to open satellite offices, to reduce commuting -- which is a huge problem out here -- to help workers with computers and faxes if they can do more work at home. Just to do things to try to figure out how to merge work and family as we move into the future.

All of this is very important for its own sake, but it's especially important if you think about all the problems and challenges are children facing today. When I leave you, I'm going

to Albuquerque to talk about some things that I try to do to help people raise their children more safely. Albuquerque, like Long Beach, California, has adopted a school uniform program. And that's reducing violence and increasing learning -- an important discipline in a lot of schools. (Applause.) There will be people there from Las Cruces, New Mexico, which, like New Orleans and a lot of other cities, has adopted a curfew policy which has dramatically reduced violence and crime among juveniles and helped parents to support their children. These are the kinds of things that I think we have to be alert to.

I also think there's some more things that Washington has to do. This is not very popular when I started it, and it's still unpopular in some places. When we became the first administration ever to ask the tobacco industry to undergo regulations in terms of the advertising targeted at children. Buy you need to know -- (applause.) -- you need to know that it is illegal in every state in America for children under the age of 18 to smoke. Every day -- every single day -- 3,000 kids start smoking and 1,000 of them will die sooner because of cancer, emphysema, heart disease or some other smoking-related problem. That is a stunning thing. That's the biggest single health problem in America. So I believe we have to keep working on it.

Now, California, way back in 1988, passed something called Proposition 99, which emphasized educating children about the dangers of tobacco. I hope you will stay in the forefront of that and I hope you will support me. We should not be spending hundreds of millions -- maybe billions -- of dollars a year to advertise to children to do something that's illegal, that's going to take a third of them out of this life sooner than they ought to leave. It is wrong. It is not right. (Applause.)

One other thing I want to mention that I think affects a lot of parents who are particularly busy is that more and more of our children are spending more and more of their time in front of the television instead of with their parents or in other places. Now, I've worked hard with the entertainment industry, and I want to compliment them for agreeing to develop a system of voluntary ratings for television programs to help parents in dealing with the exposure that their young children might have to programs with excessive violence under improper content.

And the entertainment industry, much of which is here in California, deserves a lot of credit for doing this. They did it entirely voluntarily. We got the Congress to pass something called the V-chip, which will go into television sets which will enable parents to control that. And I think that's a positive thing.

But there's one other issue that I want to mention which is that I have been trying now, for some time, to get a few hours a week -- keep in mind, kids watch about four hours a day of television on average -- I've been trying to get the Federal Communications Commission for a year to just say that three hours a week ought to be devoted to children's educational programming by every network in the country. I believe that. I think it would be a good thing. (Applause.)

And today, I want to formally reissue an invitation to the people from the entertainment industry involved in television to come back to the White House before the end of July to discuss that. If we can control, by ratings, give parents the power to deal with what their children are watching on television, surely, surely, we can agree to increase the content of children's television that goes to education. If you're here in school, going to community college for four hours a day, and your kids are back home watching television, it wouldn't hurt to have at least three hours a week devoted to their education while you're here pursuing yours. And I think that is something that we ought to watch and work for. (Applause.)

Well, let me say again, I view these things together. And when I leave here today I hope you will all have a conversation about the things that I mentioned. I hope you will talk among yourselves and with your family and friends who aren't here about these great questions. This is an incredible time we are moving into. Those of you who are students here will have more opportunities to live out your dreams than any generation of Americans before you. Some of you who are students here, within 10 years, will be working at jobs that have not even been invented yet, that we cannot even imagine.

The best days of this country are still ahead of us if we can figure out how to make opportunity available to every person who will exercise the responsible to seize it, and if we can figure out how to come together, with all of our diversity, if we can respect each other and share the basic values of America, we're going to do fine. You are going to have a great, great future. But we have to be willing to have an honest discussion about this: How do you create opportunity for everybody? How can people succeed at home and at work? How can you build strong families and a strong community? That's the way to a strong America. It all starts here with your education and with making sure that every single, solitary American who is willing to work for an education has a chance to get it -- not just when they're young, but for an entire lifetime. We can do it together. (Applause.)

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

END

11:06 A.M. PDT

How You Can Help Reduce the Violence

- Make a personal commitment to end violence in your family and in your community.
- Know your children's friends. Network with other parents to know where your children are and whom they are with.
- Model good communication and conflict resolution skills in your home. Reject anger or violence as a means of settling conflicts or solving problems.
- Don't own a gun. If you do, make certain that it has a trigger lock and that it is stored in a secure place where children cannot get access to it.
- Support legislation that addresses both the causes and manifestations of violence.
- Refuse to buy products made by companies whose advertising supports violent programming or violent images, and let them know about your decision.
- Find out about conflict resolution/anger management programs in your child's school. Are effective programs being used? Are teachers well trained? Are administrators supportive?
- Volunteer to mentor a child in the juvenile justice system.
- Let your children see you stand up against bigoted behavior or comments.
- Volunteer with programs providing services to survivors of violence.
- Become a member of MAVIA so that your voice and your choice strengthen those of hundreds of mothers and others across the state. Together, we can give childhood back to our children and let them dream about their futures.

**Call MAVIA, (206) 343-0676, or
(800) 897-7697, for more information.**

Mothers Against Violence in America

Because violence is destroying too many of our children, their dreams, and their futures...

It's time for an organization of mothers, working together to reduce the violence in our society and promote the safety and well-being of our children.

MAVIA Is Working to Find Solutions to Violence

Founded in December, 1993, MAVIA brings the power and perspective of mothers to the search for solutions to the epidemic of violence against and by American youth. We are mothers, fathers, students, and others concerned about this violence, which is threatening an entire generation of children. Together, we are building a strong, effective statewide network directed at protecting children from violence.

MAVIA Is Growing Community by Community

Local community and neighborhood groups, headed by volunteer leaders, provide the organizational foundation for MAVIA's statewide growth. These Satellite Groups work in schools, law enforcement, and community agencies to say loudly that the violence must stop. The mission of each Satellite Group is to assess the youth violence problems in their community, recommend solutions, and work toward making the solutions a reality.

MAVIA Helps Students Organize to Reduce Violence

MAVIA sponsors Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) chapters—student-initiated, school-based groups that empower kids to reduce the violence in their daily lives. SAVE helps kids find ways to develop their own leadership skills, create safer school communities, and promote community service. A network of MAVIA members is working with schools, PTAs, local officials, and community groups to help ensure that our children acquire these skills.

MAVIA Is Active in Specific Areas

Education MAVIA is committed to reducing violent behavior by fostering the development of strong family, school, and community skills in communication, conflict resolution, and anger management.

Family Violence Most violence against children happens in their homes, and is committed by people the children know and depend upon. MAVIA recognizes domestic violence as a significant problem and is dedicated to reducing its incidence.

Media Violence MAVIA is exploring ways in which we can exert more power in shaping the kind of programming that is produced and broadcast, both by discouraging violence and by encouraging programming that shows alternatives to violence.

Gun Violence MAVIA supports and advocates for legislation to reduce gun violence by and against children. We also promote education directed at parents about the dangers of guns in their homes and strongly encourage the use of trigger locks at all times in homes with children.

Public Policy MAVIA is working independently and in collaboration with lawmakers and other organizations to create effective and comprehensive laws that address the above issues as they relate to youth violence. When legislation on which we have taken a position is pending, we activate our phone tree to inform our members so that they can make their voices heard in state capitals or in Washington, D.C.

Won't you join us?



PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

MOTHERS AGAINST VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

105 14th Avenue, Suite 2-A
Seattle, Washington 98122

F A X C O V E R S H E E T

DATE: June 19, 1996 TIME: 1:46 AM
TO: SABRINA PHONE:
FAX:
FROM: Pamela Eakes PHONE: 206-323-2303
President FAX: 206-323-2132
RE:

CC:

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET:

Message

Sorry about the delay. I will send more tomorrow. Please call with any questions and ask to interrupt me. I will send video tape to you -- could you please call and leave your address (I misplaced it but I think it's room 190?) Please know that any topic variation or spin off of her book is appropriate with the audience.

Attached: MAVIA Overview and other clippings.

A large, dense, circular scribble made of many overlapping loops. Below it, the number '17' is handwritten inside a circle.

Mothers Against Violence in America Benefit
"Building Peace Together"
FACT SHEET

What: Mothers Against Violence in America (MAVIA) will hold its first benefit to support youth violence prevention programs.

When: Monday, June 24, 1996

Time: Reception for Award Recipients 11:45 a.m. in Foyer.
Lunch from 12:30 until 2:00 p.m. in Grand Ballroom.

Where: Sheraton Hotel - Grand Ballroom - Seattle, WA

Attendance: 1100

Benefit

Co-Chairs: Jean Gardner, MAVIA Founding Board Member
and Phil Nudelman, President & CEO Group Health Cooperative

Speaker: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Sponsors: Lead Sponsors: The Jones Foundation, PriceCostco, The Seattle Times, Group Health Cooperative, The Boeing Company, Seafirst Bank
Major Sponsors: US Bank, Washington Mutual, PEMCO, Weyerhaeuser
Microsoft Corporation
Contributing Sponsors: Key Bank, AON Risk Services, Inc., Vision, Inc. Tillicum Printers, The Rockey Company, KIRO-TV

Recognition: **Honoring:** Alene Moris will be receiving the 1996 Community Catalyst Award for her lifetime achievement and contributions to her community. For three decades, Alene has inspired and taught others to identify and pursue their highest level of contribution and commitment to the quality of life in their community. She has been a catalyst for positive change across America and exemplifies the definition of peacemaker.

Youth Peacemakers: MAVIA and The Seattle Times will recognize three young people in elementary, junior high, and high school, who, by influence, example or action, make peace a visible way of life in their community or school.

"Legacy of Caring" Scholarship Awards to 3 High School Seniors:

Three Seniors will be recognized for their exemplary contribution in promoting nonviolence in their school. The \$ 1,000 scholarship may be used for post high school work and/or college. The scholarships are named in memory of 1) **Loetta Coston**, a 9-year-old who was shot and killed while sitting the back seat of her mother's car; 2) **Antonio Terry**, a Seattle Police Officer, age 34, who was murdered by a 17-year-old; and 3) **Amy Ragan**, a 17-year-old who was murdered by another teen.

To: Sabrina
From: Pamela Eakes
Date: 6/18/96
Subject: HRC Seattle Trip -
Speech to Mothers Against Violence in America (MAVIA)

This provides you with an overview of the MAVIA benefit luncheon, MAVIA's organizational mission, goals, and objectives, and backup materials.

BENEFIT LUNCHEON

Objectives of Luncheon - Theme "Building Peace Together"

The objectives of the benefit are 1) to create a broad based awareness of MAVIA, its mission and program, 2) create perception of hope among attendees on the issue of youth violence, and confidence that MAVIA itself is the organization to support to find solutions to youth violence.

Audience Definition

1. 1,100 people, 80/20 female/male
2. Corporate sponsors include **Group Health Cooperative** [CEO Phil Nudelman is Benefit Co-Chair was supportive the Administration's Health Security Program], **Seafirst Bank, PriceCostco, The Boeing Company, The Seattle Times, Microsoft, PEMCO Insurance, The Weyhaeuser Company, US Bank.**
3. Attendees have been invited to attend by a friend serving as a Table Captain. The cost of the benefit has been underwritten by the sponsors and the attendees will be "asked" at the benefit to write a check of \$ 100 or more with all the funds going directly to the youth violence prevention program of MAVIA.

-2-

Benefit Program Strategy and Tactics

1. Do Business of Event - feed, inform, make "ask"
2. Add value to event -
 - a. Visible community leaders are Co-chairs
Jean Gardner, former first lady of Washington state, husband is
Booth Gardner, GATT Ambassador
Phil Nudelman, CEO & President, Group Health Cooperative
 - b. Award youth recognition program - Youth Peacemakers and Legacy
of Caring Scholarships
 - c. Honoring Alene Moris - 1996 Community Catalyst Award.
 - d. Testimonial of mother of victim, who is now involved with MAVIA
 - e. Emcee is KIRO-TV Anchor and former Today Show News
Announcer, Margaret Larson.
 - f. Keynoter (HRC) - best in nation on subject of children/advocacy
 - g. Entertainment - The Main Attraction - perform "The Greatest Love
of All" - Whitney Houston's hit.

Program Sequence

1. **WELCOME** by Cheryl Terry, Chair of Board, MAVIA; Benefit Co-chairs, Jean Gardner & Phil Nudelman; Performance by Main Attraction.
2. **VIDEO "Building Peace Together"** 7-minutes about the vision, accomplishments, and mothers and others working together.
3. **MAVIA Founder (Pamela Eakes) 5 - minutes establishes "NEED" of the grassroots organization and its "VISION" for change.**
4. **PRESENTATION OF THE 1996 COMMUNITY CATALYST AWARD TO ALENE MORIS.**
5. **PRESENTATION 1996 Youth Peacemaker Awards - elementary, middle and high school. The Seattle Times and MAVIA sponsorship.**
6. **PRESENTATION of Three "Legacy of Caring" Scholarships.**
7. **The "ASK" by Cultural Anthropologist, Jennifer James.**
8. **Keynote Address by HRC.**

-3-

HRC Speech - Suggested Talking Points

Basis Speech Theme:

“Building Peace Together” -- or Working Together to build (or rebuild) communities in our country around our children that will deliver a violence free place for children to live, learn, play, and grow-up.”

National changes in violence reduction begins with local, grass roots efforts and building partnerships with law enforcement, educators, justice system, health care providers, local government, community groups, and business.

- * Mothers Against Violence in America is a model grass roots, educational, volunteer organization of people working together in their community to find solutions to the epidemic of youth violence.
- * Mothers, fathers, and anyone involved in raising children must make a PERSONAL COMMITMENT to ALL CHILDREN that they deserve to have a violence free place to grow up.
- * Children must be supported and urged to create peace in their schools and community. MAVIA's youth anti-violence program, Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) empowers young people to become active in promoting peace resolution to conflict, stress, anger.
- * Recognition that building a sense of purpose is a task beyond the capacity of most families today. The crucial consistency to provide the foundation for a violence free must come from everyone involved in the child's life -- coach, teacher, neighbors, local police officer, etc.
- * Seattle leads the nation in innovative ways to incorporate partnerships to promote youth violence prevention. TIME magazine reported (March '95 I think) that Seattle's 32% decrease in the homicide rate lead the nation.
- * Police Chief Norm Stamper's (in the audience) emphasis on anti-gang activity certainly helped Seattle reduce its homicide rate.

page 4

- * Seattle's **Partners Against Youth Gun Violence** is an innovative violence prevention program involving police, doctors, prosecutors, community organizations, and the public school system. Known as Options, Choices, and Consequences, cops' and docs' go into middle school classrooms and talk about the trauma of gunshot wounds and their dangers, including lifetime physical disabilities.
- * April 1995 reported that Washington's public schools had a 41% drop in the number of incidents involving firearms and a 26 % reduction in report of all types of weapons. (attached clipping)
- * But the tragic shooting of a teacher, and two students, in Moses Lake (surviving victim Natalie Hintz , 13, and mother is in the audience) in February and the accidental shooting of 13-year-old Alison Barkley (her parents are in the audience) in Seattle in April makes us realize we must all work to prevent other tragedies.
- * Nationally, CDC reported recently that murders of young people between the ages of 15 and 24 rose 30%. (attached clipping)

Other Talking Points:

- * HRC met award recipient Alene Moris in 1992 when she was First Lady of Arkansas. Alene was giving a talk to the Governor's Spouses conference chaired by Jean Gardner. Alene's talk that day was about "How to Have Your Own Identity When Married to a Governor." According to Alene, HRC was very engaging in the training session and introduced Alene to BC and invited Alene to join them for lunch. Alene had to decline because she had another training session to give



MAVIA Newsline

*Working together to reduce the violence in our society
and to promote the safety and well being of our children.*

JUNE BENEFIT TO BUILD PEACE, HONOR PEACEMAKERS

First Lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** will deliver the keynote address at Mothers Against Violence in America's first annual benefit luncheon, "Building Peace Together," on Monday, June 24, at the Sheraton Hotel in Seattle. The benefit will recognize youth and adults who have made a significant impact on their communities in areas related to MAVIA's mission of reducing violence by and against children.

"For over twenty-five years, Mrs. Clinton has made children her passion and her cause, and we are honored to have her speak at our first benefit to fund MAVIA's violence prevention programs," said Cheryl Terry, Chair of the Board of Directors of MAVIA. Mrs. Clinton began her advocacy for children as a staff attorney for the Children's Defense Fund in 1973. During her time as Arkansas' First Lady, she chaired the Arkansas Education Standards Committee, served on the board of the Arkansas Children's Hospital, founded the Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, and introduced a pioneering program called Arkansas Advocates for Children Program for Preschool Youth, which trains parents to work with their children in preschool preparedness and literacy.



First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

The Seattle Times and Mothers Against Violence in America will present the first annual Youth Peacemaker Awards to three young people — one each from elementary, middle, and high school — who, by influence, example or action, make peace a visible way of life in their community or school. Also, "Legacy of Caring" scholarships will be presented to three graduating high school seniors who have made significant contributions toward building peace in their school.

Thanks to the generous underwriting of our sponsors, all proceeds from the benefit go directly to youth violence prevention programs, like Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE), sponsored by MAVIA. Lead Sponsors include **The Jones Foundation,**

PriceCostco, Inc., Group Health Cooperative, The Boeing Company, and SeaFirst Bank. Major Sponsors include **PEMCO, US Bank, Washington Mutual, and the Weyerhaeuser Company.**



Alene Moris

Alene Moris will be honored for her life works as a mother, professional, and a leader in her community. For three decades, Moris has inspired and taught others to identify and pursue their highest level of contribution and commitment to the quality of life in their communities. Among many professional achievements, she most recently played a pivotal role in organizing the Northwest International Women's Conference and is

co-founder of the Northwest Women's Institute. She has been a catalyst for positive change across America and exemplifies the definition of peacemaker. On the topic of violence, Moris says, "Traditional ways of dealing with violence are bankrupt. We must find a way to act against it, both individually and together, both young and old."

ANNOUNCING THE FIRST ANNUAL THE SEATTLE TIMES AND MAVIA YOUTH PEACEMAKER AWARD

Do you know a young peacemaker? We are seeking nominations for the first annual Youth Peacemaker award in three categories: elementary, junior high/middle school and high school. Nominees should be exemplary young people who, by influence, example or action, make peace a visible way of life in their community or school. Award recipients will be announced in The Seattle Times and recognized at the Mothers Against Violence in America first annual benefit luncheon on Monday, June 24, 1996. Please call 323-0233 for information about nominations.

MAVIA is grateful to **The Seattle Times** for their partnership in this youth recognition program.



*Working together to reduce the violence in our society
and to promote the safety and well being of our children.*

Pamela Eakes*
President

Jenny Wieland*
Program Director

Board of Directors:

Cheryl Terry
Chair

Valerie Houtchens*
Vice Chair

Genie Higgins
Treasurer

Susan Topper*
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Pam Borlett
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Karen Reagan*
Dr. Frederick Rivara
Lisa Stamper
Dr. David Tapper

*Founding Board

MAVIA Overview

Mothers Against Violence in America® (MAVIA) was founded in December 1993 in Seattle, Washington in response to the dramatic increase of violence by and against children. As a grass roots, community mobilization organization, hundreds of volunteers, adults and youth, have been empowered and trained to work in their communities to find solutions to youth violence. MAVIA has formed chapters and community action partnerships (CAPS) in over thirty communities across the state of Washington, two chapters in California and additional states are in development.

MISSION/GOALS/ACTIONS: The mission of MAVIA is to mobilize efforts to *work together to reduce violence in our society and to promote the safety and well-being of children.* MAVIA's primary goals are to encourage preventive investment in children before they are affected by violence, and to advocate for changes that support a safer environment for all children. Each MAVIA chapter/CAP determines what efforts are needed to promote violence prevention in their community. With a focus on not duplicating efforts, typical actions steps include providing community education opportunities for parents and students on violence prevention, building community partnerships with government, law enforcement, medical and business communities, juvenile justice leaders, and advocating for public policies that support safer places for children to live learn and play.

MAVIA ACHIEVEMENTS: Through the efforts of hundreds of volunteers, MAVIA's accomplishments have been far-reaching, capturing the heart and hope of the public, the ear of the policy makers, and the spirit of all those who know that violence by and against children must stop. Thousands of volunteer hours resulted in reducing the incidents and severity of youth violence. The following are a few of the many accomplishments:

- ▼ Developed a member/supporter network of more than 4,000 advocates to promote the safety and well-being of children. 175,000 hours of volunteer time were contributed to find solutions to violence.
- ▼ Trained MAVIA community leaders in areas of understanding the issue of violence, grassroots organizing, building collaborations, conflict resolution, advocacy, parenting skills, etc.
- ▼ Held two Annual Conferences, "Finding Solutions to Violence in our Lives," featuring 35 presenters (all volunteered their time), and attended by 400 adults and middle and high school students.
- ▼ Founded, developed and sponsor Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) in 23 elementary, middle and high schools. SAVE's activities reaches over 10,000 students.
- ▼ Partnered with the Seattle Police Department, the Mayor's Office, the Prosecutors Office to initiate, develop, and present a gun violence prevention course to all middle school students in Seattle Schools.
- ▼ Successfully advocated for passage of legislation raising the age of possession of firearms in WA state from age 14 years to 18 years.
- ▼ Produced *Speak Up*, a resource handbook to enable parents to respond to media violence.
- ▼ Received the 1995 City of Seattle Violence Prevention Award, Four KOMO-TV Hometown Hero Awards (a 6th grader, a 12th grader, and two adult leaders), and the 1995 YWCA Community Service Award.

MAVIA's long term goal is to replicate this model in more and more communities until there is a strong, national, network of volunteers committed to reducing violence in America. It is the power of volunteers at the grass roots level that will make this a safer America.

Mothers Against Violence in America (MAVIA) is a nonprofit, educational organization dedicated to reducing violence in our society and to promoting the safety and well-being of our children. As a grass roots, community volunteer organization, our goal is to encourage preventive investment in children before they are affected by violence and to advocate for change that supports a safer environment for all children.

MAVIA's efforts to reduce violence by and against children include:

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- ♥ Community education and leadership training to mobilize involvement in youth violence prevention efforts at the grass roots level
- ♥ Speakers Bureau
- ♥ Neighborhood anti-violence initiatives
- ♥ *Speak Up* resource handbook for parents to respond to media violence
- ♥ Chain of Remembrance in memory of children who have died violently
- ♥ Annual "Solutions to Violence in our Lives" Conference
- ♥ Education programs about gun violence, family violence, media violence

YOUTH PROGRAMS

- ♥ Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) in elementary, middle, and high schools
- ♥ SAVE Speakers Bureau
- ♥ Options, Choices, Consequences program to reduce youth gun violence
- ♥ Anger management/peer mediation for at risk 4th and 5th graders
- ♥ MAVIA and KCPQ-TV Kids Club Elementary School Anti-violence program
- ♥ Annual Youth "Solutions to Violence" Conference
- ♥ Youth Peacemakers Recognition Program

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

- ♥ *MAVIA Newslines* - Quarterly newsletter
- ♥ *MAVIA News You Can Use* monthly newsletter to community leaders
- ♥ Victim Referral Services
- ♥ Media and Press Events
- ♥ MAVIA Home Page on the World Wide Web (spring '96)

PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAMS

- ♥ Public Policy Anti-violence Agenda at the local, state and national levels
- ♥ Legislative Initiatives and Updates

For more information about any program and/or specifics about our public policy agenda, please call (206) 323-2303 or 1-800-897-7697.

Announcing the First Annual

Mothers Against Violence in America - Seattle Times

Youth Peacemaker Award

Do you know a young peacemaker? We are seeking nominations for the first annual Youth Peacemaker award in three categories: elementary, junior high/middle school and high school. Nominees should be exemplary young people who, by influence, example or action, make peace a visible way of life in their community or school. Award recipients will be announced in The Seattle Times and recognized at the Mothers Against Violence in America first annual Awards Luncheon on Monday, June 24, 1996. Let's cherish the young, caring, nurturing spirits among us!

Building Peace Together: The Children Will Lead Us.



NOMINATION FOR YOUTH PEACEMAKER

Deadline May 31, 1996: Nominations must be postmarked or faxed by midnight, 5/31/96.

Nominee's Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 School _____ Grade _____ Birthdate _____
 Nominated by _____ Relationship to Nominee _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Please attach a statement on a single sheet of 8 1/2 x 11" paper (no more than 250 words) telling us why this student should be recognized as a peacemaker in our community. Send entry to MAVIA Youth Peacemaker Award, 105 - 14th Avenue, Suite 2A, Seattle, WA 98122. Fax to (206) 292-7930. For more information, call (206) 323-2132.

Nominations: Nominees must be students currently enrolled in elementary, middle, junior or high school (home school children are eligible). Nominations can be made by teachers, parents, relatives, youth organizations, businesses or community members. Individuals may nominate themselves by including a letter of recommendation. Nominees must not be currently involved in the legal system for committing a crime, including but not limited to being charged, awaiting trial, arraignment, appeal, serving time, or on parole or probation.

Another community program sponsored by

The Seattle Times



MAVIA is a nonprofit, non-partisan, educational organization dedicated to reducing violence in our society and to promoting the safety and well-being of our children. As a grass roots, community volunteer organization, our goal is to encourage preventive investment in children before they are affected by violence and to advocate for change that supports a safer environment for all children.



SAVE is a student-initiated group dedicated to reducing violence. SAVE is a long-range, proactive approach in which students become interested in learning about anger management, peer mediation, and conflict resolution. SAVE students also learn how to build partnerships with teachers, law enforcement, government officials, and business leaders to find solutions to violence in their school and community. SAVE chapters are organized in elementary schools, middle schools, junior high schools, high schools, and colleges. SAVE is sponsored by Mothers Against Violence In America.

Girl dies after gun fired at pal's home

Teenage boy in custody after shooting

BY SUSAN BYRNES
Seattle Times staff reporter

It had the makings of an ordinary teenage Saturday night: four friends eating hamburgers, hanging out in somebody's house.

Ordinary except somebody had a gun.

Police said a teenage boy was showing off a 9-mm semiautomatic pistol to his friends when — apparently accidentally — he shot 13-year-old Alison Barkley in the head.

Alison, a seventh-grader at Whitman Middle School, died shortly after midnight yesterday at Harborview Medical Center.

"She was an upbeat, very vocal kid," said her mother, Joan Barkley. "She was a typical 13-year-old, constantly on the go. She was well loved by everyone that knew her. I'm going to miss her dearly. All her friends were great kids."

Her father, Jerry Barkley, said his daughter loved to roller-skate and bowl and played basketball and softball on community teams. He said she had many friends, but usually hung out with a group of girls. He said Saturday was only the third time she had been over to the boy's house.

"I can't understand why a kid

can have a loaded gun in his house without the parent having a clue," he said. "It just doesn't make any sense at all. Where's the parent? The bottom line is it goes right back to the parent."

The boy is in custody at the Department of Youth Services while police continue their investigation.



Alison
Barkley

Alison and two other teens, a boy, 16, and a girl, 13, were at the boy's house in the 1200 block of Northwest 80th Street where he lives

with his mother and grandmother. "They were weekend friends, after-school friends," the boy's mother said after visiting her son yesterday.

"All he could do is cry," she said.

She said she was downstairs doing laundry when the gun went off.

She said her son had been in "a little trouble off and on in the past." But she said she had no idea he had borrowed a gun from a friend.

April
28
1996

EASTSIDE EDITION

LOCAL NEWS

Editorial Opinion

Ross Anderson

*The GOP hates science;
Democrats hate economics.*

PAGE B 4



THE SEATTLE TIMES SECTION B WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1996

'It's too much. This kind of thing doesn't happen here. It happens in Seattle, not Moses Lake.'

HOLLY SALINAS, WHO HAD KNOWN MANUEL VELA JR. SINCE HE WAS A TODDLER.

Young shooting victim mourned in Moses Lake

BY ALEX TIZON
Seattle Times staff reporter

MOSES LAKE — His lifelong nickname was "Baby Blue." No one seems to remember why. It certainly was not because of his disposition. He was as happy-go-lucky as they came.

Sure, he sometimes had a big mouth, but he had a big heart, too, friends said. He was confident, energetic, endearing.

He wanted, above all else, to be a rapper.

Manuel Vela Jr. lived exactly 14 years, 11 months. He died Friday in algebra class, shot by a classmate with a hunting rifle.

He was buried yesterday under frozen ground. This little lakeshore town of 11,500 paid him tribute and braced for two more difficult funerals.

Two others were killed in the

Vela's classroom at Frontier Junior High School. Today, Vela's close friend Arnold "Arnie" Fritz, 14, will be remembered at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Tomorrow, algebra teacher Leona Caires, 49, will be laid to rest in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Natalie Hintz, 13, who was wounded in the shooting, was listed in satisfactory condition last night at

PLEASE SEE *Moses Lake* ON B 3

Wild pitch? Junior for president

JEAN GODDEN

Times staff columnist



Seattle Mariner Ken Griffey Jr. for president? The off-the-center-field-wall idea gets a boost from Nike commercials, set to

air on Fox Television beginning Saturday.

As described in The Wall Street Journal, the first commercial opens with a shot of Griffey in a presidential pose with the American flag behind him. The narrator intones: "Ken Griffey Jr. Athlete. Family man. Six-time

Moses Lake buries 14-year-old

Moses Lake

CONTINUED FROM B 1

Harborview Medical Center. Meanwhile, the shooting suspect, 14-year-old Barry Loukaitas, sits inside a detention center 20 miles away in Ephrata, awaiting to hear whether he will be tried as a juvenile or an adult.

Despite all the talk of healing and recovery, it was obvious yesterday that the community had not yet gotten over the shock of Friday's violence.

"It's too much," said Holly Salinas, who graduated from high school last year and who had known Vela since he was a toddler. "This kind of thing doesn't happen here. It happens in Seattle, not Moses Lake."

Salinas went to Vela's funeral. She was one of the hundreds of residents who tried to get into Our Lady of Fatima church, but couldn't. The church was too small.

Hordes of people stood outside each entrance. Many had taken time off from work.

Students were released from classes.

Many wore blue ribbons in re-

membrance of Vela.

They huddled together under awnings, trying to peer through windows. Many stood in the rain, shrouded by fog, surrounded by melting icicles. Some openly wept. Others prayed. Others looked angry.

Moses Lake Police Chief Fred Haynes, a member of the parish, said he couldn't recall a bigger crowd for a funeral.

Asked about a possible motive, he said he didn't know. Besides, whatever it is, it won't make the town feel better.

"Even if we knew his motivation, it wouldn't explain what he did," Haynes said. "There is no explanation for what he did."

Moses Lake, like much of the Columbia River basin, is in the midst

of a cold snap. The entire lake is frozen and covered with snow. Spring will be much welcomed; a new beginning.

After the service, townspeople got in their cars and formed the largest funeral procession in memory — nearly 300 vehicles. The procession snaked through town to a cemetery five miles away.

At the cemetery, Vela was lowered into the ground as a woman wailed in grief. Someone was playing an accordion. Someone else in the distance, hidden in the fog, yelled, "Good bye, Baby Blue!"

Afterward, people walked to their cars in silence, and then drove in another procession back into town, the sound of tires through slush filling the streets.

REUPHOLSTERY SPECIAL!

CHAIR (Standard)	\$175 ⁰⁰
SOFA (Standard)	\$245 ⁰⁰
DINING CHAIR (Standard)	\$24 ⁰⁰
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WEDNESDAY, April 10, 1996 ■ A5

Weapons incidents in public schools down dramatically

By The Associated Press

OLYMPIA — Washington's public schools may not be a weapons-free zone yet, but a statewide crackdown is leading to some dramatic improvements, state School Superintendent Judith Billings said yesterday.

Billings released a report that shows a 41 percent drop in the number of incidents involving firearms and a 26 percent reduction in reports of all types of weapons.

School districts reported 2,217 incidents involving weapons in the last school year, including 286 involving guns. The comparable figures for the 1993-94 school year were 3,018 total weapons and 488 firearms.

The most common other type of weapon is knives — more than 1,300 confiscated or reported last year.

An "incident" can be nothing more than a teacher noticing a weapon in a locker or backpack. The report does not provide numbers for accidental or intentional injuries to students, teachers and staff.

The Seattle School District reported 93 incidents and Tacoma schools reported 147 incidents, mostly knives. Spokane schools reported 50, Shoreline 21, Auburn 24, Bellevue 42, Bethel 67, Central Kitsap 24, Edmonds 54, Everett 52, Evergreen of Vancouver 33, Federal Way 97, Highline 43, Franklin Pierce 27, Kennewick 39, Kent 75, Lake Washington 24, Mount Vernon 29, Mukilteo 39, North Kitsap 31, Northshore 23, Oak Harbor 21, North Thurston 30, Pasco 22, Puyallup 31, Renton 44, Richland 20, South Kitsap 31, Tumwater 29, Vancouver 62 and Yakima 23.

Billings attributed the improvements to a statewide crackdown on the problem, including these steps:

- In 1995, the Legislature voted to

require a mandatory one-year expulsion of a student who brings a gun onto school property. This is also now a federal requirement.

- Many districts have adopted a no-tolerance policy regarding weapons and will suspend on the first offense. Billings said most of the 296 school districts have posted gun-free zone signs on school grounds. She said 116 districts reported no weapons incidents at all.

- Many districts have come up with projects to defuse tensions before they lead to violence. Peer mediation programs, substance abuse projects, and other approaches are being tried.

- Parents are getting more involved. Community organizations also are helping.

- "Students seem to have gotten a clearer and stronger message that carrying weapons to school is unacceptable, even if the motivation is personal security," the state school chief said.

"Safety in schools is a critical issue," she said, noting that the recent legislative session approved more money for school security grants, including hall monitors and metal detectors.

"While the drop in weapons incidents is great news, we cannot afford to slacken our efforts to make every school in the state a safe and secure environment for learning," Billings said.

She said the public places safety as one of their top two or three concerns with the public education system.

Private schools that participated in the annual survey reported almost no weapons. Of the 373 schools that reported, or 81 percent of the state total, only 21 incidents were noted, four instances of firearms and 17 knives.

A16 Seattle Post-Intelligencer • Friday, December 29, 1995

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

A Hearst Newspaper



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The voice of the Northwest since 1863

Drop in homicides offset by concerns

Seattle's declining homicide rate and reduced teen-age gang violence is very good news but it is tempered by some disturbing trends.

One is the high percentage of homicides related to domestic violence.

Of the 48 killings in the city so far in 1995 — down from 71 in 1994 — 21, nearly half, were the result of domestic violence. The number of deaths of course doesn't reflect the many cases of assaults in which domestic partners, predominantly women, suffer serious injuries.

Police ability to control this virulent epidemic of often fatal assaults is limited. The clearest means of dealing with this societal scourge are certainty of arrest for domestic assaults, vigorous prosecution and stiff jail sentences combined with mandated counseling for offenders.

Juvenile gang violence offers a brighter picture. Seven of this year's Seattle homicides involved teen-age or younger victims, only five of them linked to gang activity. As woeful as that is, it is a significant improvement over 1993, when 15 youths here succumbed to violence. That youth violence remains a serious challenge, however, was underscored early yesterday when a teen-age boy riding in a car with other youths was shot and killed in north Seattle by an occupant of another car.

There appears to be a direct correlation between Police Chief Norm Stamper's emphasis on anti-gang activity this year and the improved crime

statistics in regard to drive-by and retaliatory youth killings. A 25-member gang unit has penetrated the city's teen gang culture, identifying rivalries that could explode into violence, as well as individuals with the potential for violence, before it occurs.

As gang unit Detective Mike Devine told the P-I's Dan Raley this week, "We find out who they are, what they drive, who they sleep with, their street name and their gang affiliations. There's hundreds of people that we know."

Other successful prevention programs include what is known as "cops and docs," in which police officers and physicians visit middle-school classrooms. Youngsters learn about the trauma of gunshot wounds and their dangers, including lifetime physical disabilities as well as early deaths. Seattle's gain in the reduction of juvenile violence unfortunately appears to be the suburbs' pain, particularly in areas of south King County such as Tukwila, where gang activity is at an all-time high.

Chief Stamper has put the improved homicide statistics here in realistic perspective by noting that an expected surge in the teen-age population over the next several years could reverse this year's downward trend.

"Now's the time to redouble our efforts and set good examples to our kids and drive home the message that any violence in any form won't be tolerated."

That is a very sound new year's message.



Pamela Eakes founded Mothers Against Violence in America after the shooting death of a 9-year-old. "We can't afford to forget it," says Eakes, standing before mementos of slain youths.

A child's death affects us all, anti-violence mom says

By ERIC HOUSTON
PI REPORTER

The tragic shooting death of a 9-year-old Seattle girl two years ago put Pamela Eakes on a national crusade against violence.

Eakes, of Mercer Island, could not put the killing of Loetta Coston out of her mind. The girl was shot to death at a South Seattle intersection after her mother irritated another motorist by honking her horn. The motorist stopped his car, aimed a gun and fired, killing Loetta.

"Most of the time you read something in the paper about a child getting killed, you say, 'That's too bad,' and you forget it," Eakes said yesterday. "But we can't afford to forget it."

So Eakes founded Mothers Against Violence in America, a grass-roots organization that seeks to eliminate violence from the lives of children.

The organization helped win passage of last year's federal assault weapons ban.

In Washington state, the group was instrumental in passing a law making it illegal for people under 18 to own handguns or for adults to sell or give guns to youths under 18.

MAVIA, which has about 4,000 members, has

launched campaigns against TV violence, child abuse and violent toys and games. Earlier this year, the organization sponsored a six-week program at three Ballard elementary schools to teach students how to settle disputes peacefully.

The organization will hold its second annual conference tomorrow at Garfield High School. The conference, which runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., features experts who will show parents, teachers, social workers and others how to prevent violence in homes, schools and neighborhoods.

Seattle Public Schools Superintendent John Stanford will give the keynote address.

"The key thing," Eakes explained, "is activating people to identify one or two things they can do in their communities to make them a safer environment for children."

Eakes is an unlikely person to head a national anti-crime organization. The 49-year-old mother of two teen-age sons lives in an affluent neighborhood and has never lost a loved one to violence. She has had a long career in advertising here and in Chicago.

But Eakes says everyone suffers from violence

See VIOLENCE, Page B2

From Page B1

no matter where they live.

"We are all affected when a child dies," she said. "As mothers, I think our hearts bleed for Loetta's mother instantly."

Eakes notes that violence claims the lives of 15 children in the United States every day. "Today's children can't play in the front yard," she said. "They live in the back of the house and drive-by shootings have become

common in many neighborhoods. If we don't start doing something collectively and make our children our top priority, America's future is in jeopardy."

Eakes models MAVIA after Mothers Against Drunk Driving. U.S. drunken-driving deaths have dropped 30 percent since the early 1980s when MADD was formed.

"What MADD did for drunk driving, we have to do for youth violence," she said. "We

want to change the attitudes that change behavior."

Eakes was one of nine recipients of this year's YVCA Isabel Coleman Pierce Award. The award, which was presented yesterday, is given each year by the YVCA of Seattle-King County for community service.

Eakes' example suggests we don't have to be complacent about intolerable levels of crime and violence in our society," said Larry Peir, executive director of the Washington Council

on Crime and Delinquency. "We can do something at a grass-roots level to combat it."

Susan Eastgard, executive director of the Seattle Crisis Clinic, praised Eakes and MAVIA's efforts.

"If the issue of violence is going to be met, it's going to have to come from the grass roots and I think that mothers are the one to do that," said Eastgard, one of several speakers scheduled to address tomorrow's conference.

Violence: Group holds conference aimed at keeping children safe

October 19, 1995

SUNDAY

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102nd Year No. 51

Communities can address youth violence

By JENNY WIELAND

Violence has become so common that we do not only expect it and accept it, but we have begun to view it as appropriate behavior. Frustrated by unemployment, difficult economic times, interpersonal or marital difficulties, racism and other stresses of daily life, we sometimes respond in a variety of hostile and destructive ways. Our children learn by example.

The ages of the victims and the offenders are getting younger and younger. Ten children under the age of 21 were murdered in our county in 1995. Only weeks into 1996, two more teens had become victims of homicide. On a recent day, the Snohomish County Sheriff's office had seven people in custody on murder charges, six under age 18, the youngest age 14.

If we are to survive as healthy, responsible, and caring people, we must teach ourselves and our children that violence does not solve problems. We must turn our frustration and feelings of helplessness and hopelessness into action. The first step is to make a personal commitment to take action. Taking a proactive approach, we can draw upon and empower the creative energies of our community.

Learn who your neighbors are and share responsibility for safety in your neighborhood. You can encourage local schools to

offer anti-violence curricula. If you choose to own a gun, store it safely, inaccessible to children and burglars. Monitor the violence which you allow into your home through television and videos. Support legislators and legislation that address both the broad, root causes and manifestations of violence.

Mothers Against Violence In America (MAVIA) has been successful at the grassroots level by community mobilization. Anyone who is interested in the well-being of children and finding solutions to youth violence can organize in small Community Action Partnerships (CAP) to address the needs of their particular community.

The CAP members gather and analyze information needed to describe adequately the types of youth violence prevalent in their neighborhoods, set goals and objectives which are not being addressed by any other group in the community, and then find the resources to be successful.

Another major key to success has been building collaborations and partnerships with law enforcement, schools, key players within the criminal justice system, medical professionals, local and state government, business, and other community-based organizations. Deeply embedded cultural problems such as poverty, sexism, drug and frequent exposure to violence are but a few of the important pieces of this complicated puzzle. By inviting diverse interests to participate in the solution process, we gain a

Because there are no simple explanations of the causes of youth violence, we need these valuable partnerships to attain our ultimate goal, peace within our community.

broader understanding of local problems and local conditions. Because there are no simple explanations of the causes of youth violence, we need these valuable partnerships to attain our ultimate goal, peace within our community.

An extremely important component is getting children and young people involved in the solution process. It is important that adults give young people the opportunity to speak out about the issues concerning them most, and that we listen to their suggestions regarding viable solutions: Youth want to interact with positive adult role models, rather than be lectured to, and they want to be part of the process in establishing safe communities.

MAVIA sponsors Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) which is a student initiated program. SAVE is a long-range, proactive approach in which students learn anger management, peer mediation and conflict resolution. Students also learn how to build partnerships to find solutions to violence in their school and community.

We must continue to work on a balanced approach regarding prevention and punishment of youthful offenders. There is no question that changes must occur in the juvenile justice system. Young people need to be accountable for their actions. Current proposed legislation is addressing many of these concerns. However, we must continue to support prevention measures, reach those young adults who are at risk of becoming criminals. Research supports violence prevention education when children are at pre-school and elementary school age.

We must not forget victims of violent crime. As a community we need to develop a process for the community to come together to grieve these losses and publicly honor the young lives who have been ripped from us.

We MUST make violence prevention a priority. We CAN reduce violence. We CAN make our world a safer place for our children, our elderly and ourselves, making it easier for each member of our society to achieve her or his full potential.

Jenny Wieland of Marysville is the program director for Mothers Against Violence in America, which has its headquarters in Seattle. MAVIA has established more than 30 neighborhood Community Action Partnerships in Washington state. The group welcomes ideas and comments at 1-800-897-7697.



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
COVER SHEET

TO:

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19 June

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PAGES:

9

(including cover sheet)

NOTES:

ROUGH DRAFT. IT IS HEAVIER
ON VICTIMS & LIGHTER ON PREVENTION
THAN I'D LIKE, BUT I TRY TO MAKE IT ALL
CONNECT. AT THE VERY LEAST, IT GIVES
YOU SOMETHING TO WORK WITH. IF YOU HAVE
QUESTIONS, CALL US AT 307-5983 OR LEAVE
A MESSAGE ON 616-3580. I'LL CHECK MY
MAIL & GET BACK TO YOU.

I am so very grateful for the opportunity to speak at the Mothers Against Violence in America's (MAVIA) first benefit to support its youth violence prevention programs. Since December 1993, MAVIA has demonstrated to the rest of the nation how a committed grass roots volunteer organization can find productive solutions to address our epidemic of youth violence.

Violence committed against youth is an issue that is very real to me. Every day, my husband and I receive letters from child victims of violence, letters describing situations and violence that would bring tears to your eyes. One very young child living in a domestic violence shelter in Fort Worth, Texas recently made a very straightforward, heartfelt request: "I want you to have police go on the streets and check the houses once a week for people who hurt people and children."

I wish that the solution to violence against youth was that simple, but we know that it is not. But in listening to the types of activities undertaken by this morning's award recipients, we know that some strategies are working.

We can reduce violence nationally only when local grass roots efforts begin building partnerships with law enforcement, educators, criminal justice system personnel, health care providers, local government agencies, community groups, and businesses. It is heartening to see MAVIA and the whole Seattle community leading the way in this regard. The list of those

participating today represents a cross-section of the types of community members needed to reduce violence -- important companies and institutions such as Group Health Cooperative, the Jones Foundation, The Seattle Times, PriceCostco, Boeing, Seafirst Bank, US Bank, Washington Mutual, PEMCO Insurance, The Weyerhaeuser Company, and Microsoft. I think I saw Norm Stamper in the crowd, your outstanding police chief, whose crime and gang control efforts have reduced crime and homicides in Seattle.

Innovative partnerships can yield some of the most effective strategies for reducing crime and violence. Many of you are aware of Seattle's Partners Against Youth Gun Violence, which involves police, doctors, prosecutors, community organizations, and the public school system to prevent violence. This program, fondly known as "Cops and Docs," teaches middle school children about the trauma of gunshot wounds and their dangers. I can't help but think that programs such as this have contributed to the 41 percent drop in the number of incidents involving firearms in Washington public schools.

Not that these encouraging statistics from the State of Washington surprise me. Washington has a history of leading the rest of the country in innovative ideas to reduce crime and violence. Perhaps there is something in the coffee you love, or perhaps Washington is blessed with outstanding leaders like Norm Stamper, Alene Moris, and Pamela Eakes, but Washington has long been a leader in anti-violence initiatives and services.

My husband has recognized the efforts of two Washingtonians in the past two years -- Marilyn Smith and Lucy Berliner -- and has presented them National Crime Victim Service Awards, the highest federal recognition for crime victim advocacy. These are remarkable women. More than twenty-five years ago, Marilyn Smith, deaf since the age of six, was brutally raped. With no services for the hearing impaired, her recovery was long and lonely. Honoring a vow she made to herself, Ms. Smith has worked since 1980 to provide deaf women and children who have been violently assaulted access to a supportive healing environment where they could receive understanding and appropriate services. In 1986, Marilyn Smith founded the Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services (ADWAS) which operates a 24-hour crisis line, provides safe homes for battered women, and offers counseling to sexually abused deaf children. ADWAS's mission is unique in this country and probably the world. The program has developed training programs for deaf and hearing crime victim service providers and provides prevention and educational materials.

Lucy Berliner, the Research Director of the Harborview Sexual Assault Treatment Center, has been a nationally known expert on child abuse, especially child sexual abuse for over 20 years. Even with her many research and program development contributions to the field of child victimization, she remains a practitioner first, working in the "trenches." As a social scientist and scholar, she has conducted some of the most important research studies to date, helping the service providers

understand the effects of victimization of children. Her award-winning film "Double Jeopardy" for children going to court continues to be cited as a model. She, like Marilyn Smith, is counted among Washington's most innovative service providers.

You all know that I am fond of the proverb that "it takes a village to raise a child." And yet, in many respects, you don't have to look much further than today's recipients of the Youth Peacemaker Awards and the "Legacy of Caring" Scholarships to see that it sometimes also takes a child to teach a village. We must never be afraid to empower youth to work for peace in their schools, homes, and communities, and we adults would do well by learning from their example.

Those of you who have worked with MAVIA's Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) program know this all too well. SAVE empowers young people to become active in promoting peaceful resolution to conflict, stress, and anger. These are ideas we should encourage among all our school children.

President Clinton and I have seen other examples of youth doing great things to reduce violence. Teens on Target, a program found in Oakland and Los Angeles, California, organizes gunshot victims to address the consequences of violence by speaking at schools and counseling other shooting victims. The victims, often young, paralyzed, and in wheelchairs, use their leadership skills to encourage other young victims not to seek

revenge, but instead to seek nonviolent solutions. They sometimes work in hospital emergency rooms as youth who have been injured are being brought in. Their interventions and workshops in schools reach thousands of young people each year.

Since this morning is a celebration of individuals whose commitment and dedication has made a difference in the lives of countless victims of crime, I would like to take a few moments to recognize in absentia the many crime victims around the country who are among our nation's most effective voices against crime and violence.

We think of people like Marc Klaas, who has worked to secure tougher penalties for repeat violent offenders and registration of sex offenders after his daughter, Polly, was kidnaped from her own home during a slumber party and murdered by a paroled violent offender. My husband just spoke with him last week following the conviction of his daughter's murderer.

We think of Stephen Sposato, who worked so hard to help pass the assault weapons ban after his wife and seven others were murdered in San Francisco by an assailant wielding a weapon of mass destruction.

We think of people like John and Pat Byron of Louisville, Kentucky whose advocacy led to the development of a computerized call-back system that notifies victims when their offenders are

being released from jail. Their daughter, Mary, had been murdered on her 21st birthday by a former boyfriend after he posted bail on a charge of raping her. Although he had raped her, stalked her, and threatened to kill her, no one notified Mary of his release. Through the Byrons' efforts, the victim notification system has been adopted statewide and is helping to prevent violence.

We think of Frances Davis of Brooklyn, New York, whose three sons were shot and killed in Bedford-Stuyvesant. Frances has channeled her anger and grief into activism by founding an all volunteer organization called "Mothers of All Children." It supports and counsels survivors of homicide victims, and organizes community violence prevention activities, such as youth basketball tournaments called "Shoot Hoops, Not Guns."

And we think of the founders of Mothers Against Drunk Driving who taught America that a loaded driver can be just as deadly as a loaded gun. Largely through MADD's efforts, alcohol-related fatalities have decreased by 31 percent in the last 10 years. MADD's achievements are truly remarkable.

It seems to me that, in many respects, MAVIA is becoming the Mothers Against Drunk Driving of the youth violence issue. You are changing attitudes that are changing behavior, and I commend you for your outstanding efforts.

I mention these activists to remind you that you are not alone. There is a vast network of committed advocates, working to reduce violence in America. Join with them. Draw strength and support from them. Some of them, like the Byrons and Frances Davis, have received Presidential recognition for their efforts. But there are thousands of others like them who are working each and every day to prevent violence in communities and its harmful effects. You are a part of that vital network of service.

Although we remember the lives that have been lost and damaged by crime, we must recognize how far we've come -- how much we have accomplished in reducing crime and assisting crime victims. First and foremost, the crime rate has been down for the past three years. Although the rate remains unacceptably high, we must be thankful that we are heading in the right direction. Second, crime victims' rights -- once a novel idea -- are now a reality in virtually every state. About 20 states have amended their state constitutions to ensure these crucial rights. Victim assistance programs, which were few in number in the late 1960's and generally served rape victims and battered women, now number in the thousands and serve all types of crime victims. Twenty years ago there were few victim compensation programs. Today, every state has a program to help reimburse victims for mental health, medical, funeral, and other expenses. Today we have a Crime Victims Fund -- money from federal criminal offenders -- which has provided over \$1 billion to crime victims programs in the past decade.

President Clinton and Attorney General Janet Reno worked hard for the passage of the 1994 Crime Act, which is helping to put 100,000 community police officers on our streets to fight crime. The landmark Violence Against Women Act is the first comprehensive federal effort to combat these crimes and includes funding for a national domestic violence hotline. We fought hard for funding of a number of prevention programs -- \$6 billion in prevention programs -- but these programs have been curtailed by recent Congressional activity. We will continue to fight to restore that funding.

We have come a long way -- and although we must never forget the victims of youth violence, victims like Loetta Coston, Antonio Terry, Amy Ragan, and Allison Barkley, it is also important to celebrate our many accomplishments and the remarkable programs that have been established for victims throughout Washington and the rest of the country. I would like to describe just a few of the innovative programs that illustrate an important direction for the future.

(INSERT EXAMPLES OF ADMINISTRATION-SUPPORTED EFFECTIVE YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES.)

We must build peace together -- child by child, youth by youth, community by community. We must do all that we can to prevent violence committed against youth and by youth. The idea of prevention, which has been demonized in some political

circles, should never be considered a dirty word, but rather something for which all of us should be proud to fight. We must continue to try to prevent life-changing incidents such as the Moses Lake shootings, or life-ending tragedies like the accidental shooting of Alison Barkley. And when violence does touch the lives of those we love, we must also be prepared to respond compassionately to its victims.

On behalf of the President and myself, I thank you for your tireless efforts to prevent violence. By all means, keep up the good work!

JOURNAL AMERICAN

THE EASTSIDE'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, May 8, 1996

First lady, Gingrich coming to Seattle area

By The Associated Press

SEATTLE — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and House Speaker Newt Gingrich plan to visit the Puget Sound area.

Not together, however.

Gingrich will appear at a May 19 campaign kickoff for Rep. Randy Tate, R-Wash. He will speak to a \$25-

a-head coffee social at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel Convention Center, and at a \$150-per-person dinner.

Mrs. Clinton will be keynote speaker at a luncheon June 24 for Mothers Against Violence in America, at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. The nonprofit group sponsors violence-prevention programs in schools.

Tune

To: SARA GROTE
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REMARKS:

☐ Urgent☐ For your review☐ Reply ASAP☐ Please Comment

Sara — This was in the PT today.
Yesterday was challenging — dealing
with the reporter who said "I know
about HRC coming and I'm putting
it in!" Guess it could have been
worse — it was good overall.

Pam

A10 Seattle Post-Intelligencer • Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Gingrich and first lady to visit here

By JOEL CONNELLY
NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT

A pair of the nation's political polar opposites, House Speaker Newt Gingrich and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, will soon visit the Puget Sound area.

Gingrich will be making a "special guest appearance" at a May 19 campaign kickoff for Rep. Randy Tate, R-Wash. He will speak to a \$150-per-person dinner and a \$25-a-head coffee social.

"We need to show Speaker Gingrich that Republicans are ready for the 1996 election battle, and stand united behind what Republicans are trying to accomplish in Congress," Tate said in a letter to financial backers.

Washington, D.C., political analyst Charles Cook has rated Tate's re-election race against Democratic state Sen. Adam Smith as a "tossup." Tate has repeatedly received help from the House Republican leadership.

Clinton will appear as keynote speaker at a benefit luncheon June 24 for Mothers Against Violence in America at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel.

She will be supporting a nonprofit

See VISIT, Page A10

Visit: Hillary Clinton's speech not political, sponsors say

From Page 1

group that sponsors violence-prevention programs in schools. The group also has lobbied to pass and prevent repeal of Congress' ban on assault weapons.

"It will not be a political event. I have worked very hard to make this nonpolitical," said Pam Eakes, founder of the organization. "We are working very hard on issues that promote the best interests of children. On things like assault weapons, we have been very strong."

The luncheon was sold out even before Clinton's appearance was secured, Eakes added. It is possible, however, that the first lady will make other public appearances during her stay.

Both Gingrich and Hillary Clinton have served as political lightning rods, mobilizing both opponents and supporters.

"I love it! I love it!" Democratic Rep. Norm Dicks said yesterday when told Gingrich would make his second visit of the year to Washington.

Both regional and national polls have shown Gingrich with approval ratings of 25 percent to 30 percent. Upwards of 60 percent disapprove of his performance as House speaker.

Dicks was full of one-liners about Gingrich at a breakfast fund-raiser yesterday.

"If I'm smiling this morning, it's

because I learned that Newt Gingrich will be permanent chairman of the Republican National Convention. Three days of Newt, and we (Democrats) take back both the House and Senate," Dicks said.

But Republicans have been laughing all the way to the bank.

At a January dinner in Seattle, Gingrich raised about \$300,000 for the state's seven GOP House members. The state Republican Party began dispensing the money, in \$10,000 donations to each lawmaker, soon after the dinner.

"He raises money and excites the grass roots," said John Carlson, KVI talk show host. Carlson was master of ceremonies at a Gingrich rally in January that drew three times as many people as GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole did in March.

Hillary Clinton is a premier target of conservative talk show hosts and keynoters at Republican gatherings.

"Hillary could be faced with three strikes and you're out" before Election Day," Carlson told a recent kickoff breakfast for Rep. Jennifer Dunn, R-Wash., referring to the Whitewater and Travelgate probes.

As warm-up act for Dole's March rally, KVI host Kirby Wilbur joked about the first lady's hair styles and ridiculed a visit to U.S. peacekeeping troops in Bosnia by Clinton and her daughter, Chelsea.

Such shots will backfire with women voters, Democratic consultant

Cathy Allen predicted yesterday.

"When they make Hillary the butt of jokes, it means I'm going to work a little harder to defend her," Allen said.

"There's a little bit of every woman at stake in Hillary," Allen said. "Here is a woman who put herself on the line, fought the good fight, is doing the work of the world — and has the respect of her daughter, and the respect and love of her spouse. It is what women aspire to be."

Mothers Against Violence in America is the kind of organization to which the first lady has gravitated.

Its June 24 benefit will honor three young people for their roles in promoting nonviolence. It will also present "Legacy of Caring" scholarships to three graduating high school seniors.

The luncheon's proceeds will go to support violence prevention programs under way in 32 Washington schools

and — if enough money is raised — to 15 on the group's waiting list.

"Mrs. Clinton's contributions, and her lifetime passion toward helping children," are obvious," Eakes said. "We are honored to have her."

Tate is the kind of House freshman for whom Gingrich is crossing the country on fund-raising tours.

He has backed the GOP House leadership on a series of tough votes, ranging from stripping the Environmental Protection Agency of enforcement powers to scaling back the Clean Water Act.

Tate has championed legislation to prohibit all groups that receive federal money from lobbying federal, state and local governments. The prohibition would extend to all forms of political advocacy, including attempts to influence public opinion.

The proposal is a favorite of Gingrich, who describes it as "defund-

ing the left."

The House Republican leader has already set off one controversy twisting arms for Tate.

Last year, House Majority V Tom DeLay wrote a letter to Washington, D.C., political action committee that gave in 1994 to Tate's opponent Democrat Mike Kreidler.

After listing the amount that PAC gave to Kreidler, the letter asked for donations to Tate. DeLay told PACs they had the opportunity work toward "a positive future in tionship."

He said giving to Tate was "personally important" to himself other members of the House Republican leadership.

Tate has received more than \$232,000 from political action committees during the 1996 election cycle making him one of the top 15 House freshman recipients of PAC dollars