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**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
YWCA ANTI-VIOLENCE EVENT
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
OCTOBER 8, 1996**

[Acknowledgments: TBD]

- I'm delighted to be here. I had the opportunity earlier today to speak to a group of 4th graders who had signed a pledge to make their schools safer and free of violence. It's wonderful to see these kinds of programs which not only educate children, but also encourage them to take responsibility and an active role in the fight against violence.
- The President is committed to a tough anti-crime agenda. His Administration's accomplishments include:
 - A falling rate of violent crime four years in a row -- the first time since 1960
 - A 21% drop in the number of reported robberies in Detroit
 - Passing the toughest crime bill ever -- putting 100,000 more police officers on America's streets -- Nearly 1,200 in Michigan alone
 - The Assault Weapon Ban
 - The Brady Bill -- 60,000 fugitives, felons and stalkers stopped from buying guns
 - Violence Against Women Act
- He is also working to keep our children safe by:
 - Expanding the Safe and Drug Free Schools program -- benefitting 40 million students in 97% of America's school districts
 - Encouraging school uniform, curfew and truancy policies
 - Signing Megan's Law, which requires states to disclose information about released child molesters and sexual violent offenders
- In the next four years, the President will continue to fight crime and violence. He has proposed:
 - Tougher sentences for drug dealers and gang members that bring guns to schools
 - A ban on the manufacture of "cop-killer" bullets
 - An extension of the Brady Bill to ban those convicted of domestic violence from purchasing guns

*w/ signing of budget will increase:
Tougher penalties*

*- 3 strikes & you're out
- drug dealers and communities in public housing*

*② breaking up local crime & drug:
drug testing for prisoners & parolees
& treatment programs*

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YWCA VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM
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- The President is committed to a ⁿtough anti-crime agenda. His Administration's accomplishments include:
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 - A 21% drop in the number of reported robberies in Detroit
 - Passing the toughest crime bill ever -- putting 100,000 more police officers on America's streets -- nearly 1,200 in Michigan alone
 - The Assault Weapon ^{Ban}
 - The Brady Bill -- 60,000 fugitives, felons and stalkers stopped from buying guns
 - The Brady Bill extension -- to prohibit all those convicted of domestic violence from buying handguns
 - Violence Against Women Act -- This month is National Domestic Violence Prevention Month
 - Tougher penalties for criminals -- "Three strikes and you're out"
 - Breaking the cycle of crime and drugs -- drug testing and treatment programs for prisoners and parolees
- The President has worked to keep our children safe by:
 - Expanding the Safe and Drug Free Schools program -- benefitting 40 million students in 97% of America's school districts
 - Providing new grants to cities to fight gangs and youth violence
 - Encouraging school uniform, curfew and truancy policies
 - Issuing a Presidential Directive enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" guns policy in schools
- In the next four years, the President will continue to fight crime and violence. He has proposed:
 - Tougher sentences for drug dealers and gang members ^{who} bring guns to schools
 - A ban on the manufacture of "cop-killer" bullets.

② POWS knows that we will only

succeed in making our communities

safe from violence if we

all work together -- individuals, community orgs, teachers, business role + govt -- to give young people

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opportunities, demand respect responsibility, foster stronger communities

YWCA

I. PURPOSE

II. BACKGROUND

Your visit to a YWCA violence prevention program in Detroit provides an opportunity to highlight the President's commitment to making America's neighborhoods safer for children and families. This week, the national YWCA is holding its second annual "Week Without Violence," a program designed to encourage children and adults to live one week without participating in or experiencing violence. Each day of the week will focus on a different type of violence, ranging from domestic violence and youth crime to racism and hate crimes. To highlight each day's theme, local YWCAs around the country will host events and activities aimed at teaching non-violent methods of conflict resolution. For instance, on Thursday, when the theme of the day is violence among men, the Detroit YWCA will xx; on Wednesday, when the theme is violence against women, the YWCA will xx.

On Tuesday, the YWCA is focusing on the theme "Making Schools Safer for Children." In Detroit, thousands of schoolchildren will take a pledge of non-violence, and sign pledge cards promising to be respectful of each other, and more safety-conscious (pledge attached). Pledge cards were also distributed to local YWCAs around the country -- all together, more than one million children around the country are expected to take the pledge.

Event

On Tuesday, you will visit the YWCA chapter in Detroit, where approximately 60 fourth-graders will recite their pledge of non-violence for you. The children attend Duffield Elementary School and xx, two public schools in Detroit's predominately lower-income, inner-city neighborhoods. The program will include the national executive director of the YWCA, and two students who will give testimonials on how much they would like to live in a world without violence and hatred.

Following this portion of the event, you will have an opportunity to participate in a discussion with several citizens who are involved in violence prevention efforts. The discussion will include a counselor who works with a Latino family services agency to prevent gang violence; a teenager who leads a non-violence training program for young people; a concerned parent who started his own neighborhood watch group; a police officer who heads the Detroit Police Department's new unit for domestic violence, and a survivor of domestic violence (bios attached). During the discussion, you might want to note that October is National Domestic Violence Prevention Month; the President signed a proclamation ... ??

The audience at this event will be comprised of approximately 300 parents, teachers and representatives from local advocacy groups and social services agencies.

YWCA

As you know, the national YWCA is an excellent example of a nonprofit organization that has expanded its traditional role to fulfill pressing social needs. Over the years, the YWCA has evolved from a basic facility for women and children into a thriving social services agency and one of the nation's largest charities. YWCA organizations around the country provide women and their families with a variety of social services, ranging from day care and teen counseling to support therapy for cancer patients and shelter for battered women. Founded in the mid-1800s, the YWCA is one of the oldest women's membership organizations in the United States.

Administration Accomplishments

This event provides an opportunity to highlight the President's efforts in several areas:

Domestic Violence: The President's Violence Against Women Act is taking an aggressive approach to domestic violence and sexual assault, combining tough new sanctions with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victim of violence. The Act has already provided \$156 million to help states bolster law enforcement, prosecution, and victims services, and established a 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline to provide immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals (the number is 800-799-SAFE). Expansion in Brady Bill....

Youth Crime: In an effort to stem the tide of rising juvenile crime and drug use, the President has worked to strengthen and expand the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, which provides funding to schools for violence and drug-prevention programs; provided new grants to cities to fight gangs and youth violence; and issued a Presidential Directive enforcing a "zero tolerance" guns policy in schools. In August, Attorney General Janet Reno announced the first decrease in juvenile crime in over a decade. Studies show that juvenile violent crime and murder arrest rates are down, although the rates are still much too high.

Safer Streets: The President has worked to make America's families safer by adding 100,000 new police officers to the streets; banning 19 of the deadliest assault weapons on the street; and fighting for and signing the Brady Bill, which has prevented more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns.

(Barbara Levin will be in the audience)