



Record Type: Record

To:

cc:

Subject: new draft of mrs. c's column

Revised draft 8pm EST 1/14/97

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
COLUMN FOR PUBLICATION JANUARY 16, 1997
TALKING IT OVER/CREATORS SYNDICATE**

With the Presidential Inauguration upon us and a second term about to begin, many people are asking me about my plans for the next four years.

First and foremost, I will continue to work hard to support my husband and his goals for our country. I want to do whatever I can to promote the possibilities for peace, progress and prosperity that the President champions and that will ensure America's continuing greatness and leadership into the 21st century. That is what I have tried to do during the last four years too.

Whether through advocating for health care reform, speaking out about women's rights, promoting democracy and civil society, writing a book about responsibilities for raising children, advancing the arts and humanities, working to extend credit to the poor, studying the illnesses of Gulf War veterans or fighting for breast cancer research and detection, my hope has been to unite people around common goals of creating opportunity, demanding responsibility, and strengthening community.

In the next four years I will continue to focus my time and attention in much the same way -- by working to ensure that people are equipped with what I call the tools of opportunity: adequate health care, education, access to jobs and credit, protection from violence and

injustice, and the freedom to participate fully in the political life of their country.

One of the great joys of the position I'm in is that I can help draw public attention to what is working in America and around the world to give people these tools: Microcredit programs have lifted women and their families out of poverty and transformed entire villages in Bangladesh. Grass-roots efforts are building democracy from the ruins of dictatorship in the former Soviet bloc. Innovative charter schools are changing the face of public education across America. I want to help galvanize people to exchange ideas like these.

Although there are no quick fixes to the challenges of poverty, racism, oppression, and irresponsibility, we know more now about how to encourage men and women to take greater control of their lives and contribute in positive ways to their families and communities.

In the coming months, I will have the chance to travel around the United States, as well as to represent our country overseas, and to highlight programs that are working.

Close to home, Washington, DC offers all of America a moral challenge. It's not right that in the capital of the strongest nation on earth so many children live in fear of violence, attend schools that lack basic resources, grow up in inadequate housing and see few prospects for jobs or a brighter future.

The bad news is that these problems are not unique to Washington. The good news is that we are discovering innovative ways to remedy some of the causes of these social ills, here and elsewhere. Just in the past few weeks I've had the chance to pursue two of my long-time interests in Washington -- microcredit and early childhood development. I hope efforts in these areas will help make the city the vibrant, confident capital it should be.

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros and I recently joined together to help launch a community bank that will provide modest loans to District residents who want to start their own businesses but are typically passed over by larger banks. Modeled after similar microlending operations elsewhere in the United States and overseas, the community bank will promote economic self-sufficiency and encourage investment and jobs in the city.

This is an issue I have learned about visiting places as far apart as Denver, Colorado, Managua, Nicaragua, and Ahmadabad, India, and I am pleased to see the seeds of a great idea planted in our own capital. I believe strongly that lessons about positive change can transcend

national borders and benefit us all. That's one reason I am pleased to serve, along with Queen Sofia of Spain and former Prime Minister of Japan Tsutomu Hata, as an honorary chair of an international microcredit summit in Washington next month.

Last week I was also delighted to kick off a campaign in Washington to educate parents about the importance of brain development in the first months and years of life. I was joined at a local hospital by children's author and illustrator Maurice Sendak to read his book, Where The Wild Things Are, to young children and to hear from doctors and nurses who are integrating literacy efforts and children's health. At regular check-ups and vaccinations, these doctors will give parents a "prescription" to read to their children and provide parents with children's books. As I discussed in my own book, It Takes a Village, scientific advances have shown that the brain's physical development from birth to age three depends heavily on how it is stimulated by activities like talking or reading to a child. We have to do more to educate parents about the importance of exposing children in the first three years of life to spoken words, stories, ideas and language.

To raise awareness about the latest scientific research about the brain, the President and I will host a conference at the White House on brain development in young children sometime this spring.

While the issues I work on may seem different on the surface, they all come back to what I care about most -- ensuring that all people have the chance for a better life. I know there are no guarantees in life. But people at least deserve the right to try. And the only way every man, woman and child will be assured that right is if they are equipped with the tools of opportunity.

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TO: MRS. CLINTON

New draft with Creators changes marked in pen and the new language we discussed on page 2
7 pm

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First and foremost, I will continue to work hard to support my husband and his ^{goals/} agenda for our country. I want to do whatever I can to promote the possibilities for peace, progress and prosperity that the President champions and that will ensure America's continuing greatness and leadership into the 21st century. *That is what I have tried to do the last 4 yrs too.*

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ok
cut

In the coming months, I will have the chance to travel around the United States, as well as to represent our country overseas, and to highlight programs that are ^{working.} empowering people to lead healthier lives, pursue their educations, create greater prosperity for themselves and their families, and enjoy basic legal and political rights that are fundamental to the endurance of democracy.

ok

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new language I've added

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Last week I was also delighted to kick off a campaign in Washington to educate parents about the importance of brain development in the first months and years of life. I was joined at a local hospital by children's author and illustrator Maurice Sendak to read his book, Where The Wild Things Are, to young children and to hear from doctors and nurses who are integrating literacy efforts and children's health. At regular check-ups and vaccinations, these doctors will give parents a "prescription" to read to their children and provide parents with children's books. As I discussed in my own book, It Takes a Village, scientific advances have shown that the brain's physical development from birth to age three depends heavily on how it is stimulated by activities like talking or reading to a child. We have to do more to educate parents about the importance of exposing children in the first three years of life to spoken words, stories, ideas and language.

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draft #3

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In the coming months, I will have the chance to travel around the United States, as well as to represent our country overseas, and to highlight programs that are empowering people to lead healthier lives, pursue their educations, create greater prosperity for themselves and their families, and enjoy basic legal and political rights that are fundamental to the endurance of democracy.

Close to home, I'm excited about the work I've been involved with to help make Washington, DC the vibrant, confident city our nation's capital should be. Just in the past few weeks I've had the chance to pursue two long-time interests -- microcredit and early childhood development and education -- right here in Washington.

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*Creators
recommended
changes*

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[CUT THIS GRAPH]

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In the next four years I plan to focus my time and attention on making it easier for people to attain these tools.

One of the great joys of the position I'm in is that I can help bring public attention to what is working in this country and around the world: Microcredit programs have lifted women and their families out of poverty and transformed entire villages in Bangladesh. Grass-roots efforts are building democracy from the ruins of dictatorship in the former Soviet bloc. Innovative charter schools are changing the face of public education across America. I want to help

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Close to home, I'm excited about the work I've been involved with to help make Washington, DC the vibrant, confident city our nation's capital should be. Just in the past few weeks I've had the chance to pursue two long-time interests right here in Washington.

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draft #2

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Close to home, I'm excited about the work I've been involved with to help make Washington, DC the vibrant, confident city our nation's capital should be. Just in the past few weeks I've had the chance to pursue two long-time interests -- microcredit and early childhood development and education -- right here in Washington.

In December, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros invited me to help launch a community bank that will provide modest loans to District residents seeking to start their own businesses. Modeled after similar microlending operations here and overseas, the bank will promote economic self-sufficiency and encourage investment and jobs in a depressed inner city. This is an issue I have learned about on trips to places as far flung as Denver, Colorado, Managua, Nicaragua, and Ahmedabad, India, and I am pleased to see the seeds of a great idea planted here. I believe strongly that all of us can learn from one and other and that lessons about positive change cross geographic borders. PM of Spain, Honorary chair of

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I know there are no guarantees in life but should at least give people the right to try. Only way every xxx can have right to try is if they are quipped with.....

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draft

My main goal for a new term, as it was four years ago, is to do whatever I can to advance my husband's agenda. I have tried to help him by being involved with a range of activities, and that's what I'll continue to do. If I had to sum up my efforts with one phrase it would probably be to help empower people with what I call the tools of opportunity.

My activities over the last four years reflect my long-held belief that we cannot progress as individuals, or as a nation, or as a world until every man, woman and child is assured the opportunity of good health, education, economic self-sufficiency, legal protections, political freedom, and human rights.

This is what I have been working for, whether through the vehicle of health care reform, speaking out about women's rights, democracy and civil society in countries around the world, writing my book, advocating for the arts and humanities, or working on issues like microcredit, Gulf War syndrome and breast cancer. All of these issues come down to the same thing: making sure that people have the capacity to live up to their potential, take responsibility for their lives, fulfill the obligations of citizenship and contribute their communities.

I see the next term as a continuum of the first term. And the first term, in many respects, was a continuum of my work over the previous two decades. Whether the issue is human rights abroad or the importance of reading to infants, I hope I can use my position to encourage all of us to work together to give people more control over their lives and their futures.

The greatest joy of the last four years has been the people I have met across our country and around the world. I have learned so much about what is possible when people transcend their differences and work together for common goals.

Statement from Hillary Rodham Clinton
January 11, 1997

During the last four years, I have worked hard to support my husband and his agenda for our country. I have also been involved in activities aimed at encouraging people to work together in tackling the issues confronting them on a daily basis. Whether it is through advocating for health care reform, speaking out about women's rights as human rights, writing a book and talking about our responsibilities for raising our children, encouraging support for the arts and humanities, working to extend credit to the poor, studying the illnesses of our Gulf War vets or promoting breast cancer research and detection, I have tried to join people together in pursuit of certain common goals.

One of those goals is to help equip people with what I call the tools of opportunity such as health care and education, that will enable them to succeed as individuals and citizens. Although there are no quick fixes to overcoming obstacles like poverty, racism, or irresponsibility, we now know more about what works to help individuals and communities help themselves.

One of the opportunities I have is to bring public attention to what is working in America and around the world and to be a catalyst for the constructive exchange of ideas and the creation of positive solutions.

I have learned so much about what is possible when people transcend their differences and work together for the common good here and abroad. I want to do what I can to promote and foster the possibilities for progress and prosperity that the President champions and that will ensure America's continuing greatness and leadership.

draft #1

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Although there are no quick fixes to the challenges of poverty, racism, or irresponsibility, we know more now about how to encourage men and women to take greater control of their lives

and contribute in positive ways to their communities.

In the coming months, I will have the chance to spotlight programs in our country and abroad that are empowering people to lead healthier lives, pursue their educations, create greater prosperity for themselves and their families, and enjoy basic legal and political rights that are fundamental to the endurance of democracy.

[examples / something about DC?]

I'm ^{been} ~~concerned~~ ^{concerned} abt D.C. + have done some work - ^{when} ~~miscredit~~; early days led to my fall M.S. Endok

We're gonna have a conference - the one
Plan to go to Africa + 2. Am. w/ ~~them~~ -
w/ ~~them~~ - behalf of the auto

<General Theme>

DKG - language - There are big forces out there

they ~~need~~ ^{need} to be tools of opportunity -
<Admin stuff>

equip ~~tools~~ ^{tools} to help themselves
overcome obstacles -

Brain = long standing interest in Educ'm + where it starts