



Important Fax Message

To: KAREN Finney Fax # (202) 456-⁶²⁴⁴7805

Company: _____

From: IRA Wolfman

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Date: 5/2/94 No. Pages (including this page): (2)

Notes: Please review & call us ASAP
with any change.
Thnx!

Children's Television Workshop
One Lincoln Plaza • New York, NY 10023 • (212) 595-3456

Introduction by Hillary Rodham Clinton



Children First



PHOTO © KEN SHUP

We live in an age of great promise—
and great peril—for our nation's children.

Although we have made considerable strides in improving health, education, and job opportunities for American youth, today children of all ages shoulder burdens never before encountered by youngsters in any civilized society.

The statistics are heartbreaking. One of out every four children under the age of six lives below the poverty line. Nearly 40 percent of our children reach age two without being fully immunized against the major childhood diseases. Hundreds of thousands of pupils go to school each morning on an empty stomach. And far too many young people are subjected to the numbing reality of gun violence in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods.

Unless we take bold steps, these tragic statistics will get worse.

Clearly, government can and should play an important role in helping families. But government action alone is not enough. We parents must assume full responsibility for the children we bring into the world. We must be more vigilant about their nutrition, health, and safety, and must work harder to ensure that they develop emotionally, physically, intellectually, and spiritually. And together we must strive to rebuild the values of family and community so that our children can flourish in this increasingly complex, competitive world.

Like all parents, I want my daughter to know the joys and benefits of childhood, and to build on those experiences so that she grows into a happy, productive adult. We must not forget that children are our greatest legacy. By investing in them now, we can make sure that their future—and their world—will be a safer and healthier one.



FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
CHILDREN MUST COME FIRST
SESAME STREET PARENTS MAGAZINE

Today we live in an age of great promise -- and great peril -- for our nation's children.

While we have made considerable strides in improving health, education, and job opportunities for American youth, our children shoulder burdens never encountered by children in any other civilized society.

Too often, children today grow up in families torn apart by poverty, violence, substance abuse, or emotional instability. One of every 10 children between the ages of 3 and 5 live in deficient home environments. Ten percent of our children do not receive polio vaccines. Hundreds of thousands of children go to school each morning on an empty stomach. And far too many children are subjected to the numbing reality of gun violence in their homes, schools and neighborhoods.

Unless we take bold steps to cure our societal ills, these tragic statistics will get worse.

To help ensure that children grow up in safe, healthy, nurturing environments, President Clinton has placed children firmly at the top of the national agenda. Virtually all of the initiatives he has proposed since taking office relate to improving the lives of families and children. Health care reform, deficit reduction, crime prevention, welfare reform, and a greater emphasis on education reflect his belief that our nation cannot afford to waste one person -- particularly not a child.

Fortunately, we are making progress. Already the President has signed a Family and Medical Leave law that helps parents be good parents by giving them time off for family emergencies. We provide nearly \$1 billion over the next five years for family counseling, parenting training and other services designed to help parents and families cope with stress.

To ensure that every child receives proper nourishment, the President has proposed major new investments in Head Start and other nutrition programs for children.

We all know that education is the foundation for success in careers as well as a training ground for good citizenship. To that end, the President has proposed a seven-point agenda for lifetime learning that will help children develop their intellectual potential from the time they are born. A key

component of that agenda is the landmark Goals 2000 Educate America Act, which the President signed into law earlier this year and will set national standards for public education.

Perhaps most important, Congress now has an historic opportunity to pass health care reform legislation. Nothing is more important to ensuring that our children get the right start in life.

Today, nearly 10 million children lack health insurance, and the number is increasing. 20% of Children don't get routine preventive care and nearly half of today's private health plans don't pay for preventive services for children or prenatal care for mothers.

The President believes that every American needs and deserves health security. That means guaranteed private insurance that offers comprehensive health benefits -- benefits that can never be taken away.

For children and parents, those benefits will include a full range of medical services, such as prenatal care, well-baby exams, preventive and diagnostic tests, and childhood immunizations.

By keeping children healthy instead of waiting to treat them once they're sick, we can save money and maximize our children's chances of growing up into happy, healthy, productive adults.

Clearly, government can play a role in helping families and children. But parents must not assume that government action alone is a panacea.

In the society we live in today, parents must assume greater responsibility for the children they bring into the world. They must be more vigilant about their children's nutrition, health, and safety. They must work harder to ensure that their children develop emotionally, physically, intellectually, and spiritually.

And together we must all strive to rebuild values of family and community so that our children can flourish in a complex, competitive world.

Let's not forget that children are our greatest legacy. By investing in them now we can make sure that their future -- and their world -- will be a safer and healthier one.

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THE WHITE HOUSE



OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

FAX: 202/456-6244
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TO: Sara Ryan

FROM: Nicole Rabner

RECEIVER FAX: x66235

RECEIVER PHONE: 67136

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 2

COMMENTS: FYI for tomorrow

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 11, 1994

RECEPTION WITH MEMBERS OF THE NONPROFIT COMMUNITY

DATE: April 12, 1994
LOCATION: State Floor
TIME: 4:00 pm
FROM: Melanne Verveer

I. PURPOSE

To recognize the important work of the nonprofit sector and underscore the Administration's commitment to working in collaboration with the nonprofit community.

To announce Administration liaisons to the nonprofit community who will work closely with nonprofits and foundations on matters of common interest.

II. BACKGROUND

This event is important to reassure representatives of the sector that the Administration values its work. There has been a perception held by many in the "independent sector" that on specific matters of policy affecting the charitable community, the Administration has been less than accomodating.

The Nonprofit Community and the Clinton Administration

Over the last many months, members of the nonprofit community have publicly expressed their dissatisfaction with some of the Administration's positions on matters that directly affect the charitable sector: lobbying disclosure, postal rates and tax policy (specifically, that the floor on itemized deductions were made permanent). In particular, they have expressed unhappiness with the Administration's support for specific provisions in the Lobby Disclosure Act (LDA) affecting the nonprofits. Because nonprofit organizations are already required to disclose their lobbying activities to the IRS, they believe LDA will force them to keep a second set of detailed records. They feel that by placing an additional burden on the nonprofit sector, the pending legislation will inhibit advocacy. (The bill, passed by the House and the Senate, is now in conference.)

Notwithstanding some dissatisfaction, the nonprofit community has applauded many of the Administration's initiatives and goals. For example, Secretary Cisneros has worked actively with nonprofit organizations and foundations to revitalize inner-city neighborhoods. The nonprofit community has been generally pleased with the Administration's positions on specific policy issues, such as health care reform.

Nonprofit Liaison Network to be announced by the President

The Nonprofit Liaison Network is composed of twenty-six Administration officials who represent every principal department and agency within the Administration. The liaisons will serve as the designated contacts within their department or agency for the non-profit community. They will be responsible for communicating with the nonprofit community and ensuring that the Administration has input from nonprofits and foundations on matters of policy that affect them. The nonprofit community is excited about the official designation of these liaisons; the Chronicle of Philanthropy, the principal newspaper for the nonprofits, will print the list of liaisons in its next issue.

III. PARTICIPANTS

- The President
- Mrs. Clinton
- Secretary Shalala

- 200 representatives of nonprofit organizations and foundations, including John Gardner (founder of Common Cause, the Independent Sector and respected expert on the nonprofit sector), Jim Rouse, Dorothy Height, Charles Benton, Elaine Jones, and the heads of the Coca-Cola Foundation, Readers Digest, and New World Foundation, among others.

- A complete list will be provided by the Social Secretary's Office.

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

To be provided by the Social Secretary's office.

V. PRESS PLAN

Specialty press have been invited to the reception; therefore, it should be considered on the record.