

2448 N. Pocomoke St.
Arlington, Va. 22207
May 8, 2000

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

Congratulations on putting together such a splendid conference on teenagers, and thank you for including the Speakers and me in it. I was amazed at how prepared everyone was, how smoothly the conference ran and how chock-full it was with good information. Your staff was incredibly helpful and good-natured throughout the preparation process, a true accomplishment given the short amount of time they had to put everything together.

Unlike other conferences about youth that I have attended, which have been weighed down with problems, this one was characterized by an upbeat, can-do spirit that infected all of us. The best compliment I heard came from Roxanne Spillett, president of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. She told me, "The conference made me wish I could be a parent of a teenager again." You don't hear that very often!

Thank you especially for your kind words about *Our Last Best Shot*. In this country's current climate of negativism about youth, those of us who write about teenagers and their families in a constructive way can feel very much alone. Your support meant a great deal. The conference made me believe, more than ever, in the promising lives that teenagers can lead and the positive role that parents can play in ensuring that promise.

I look forward to sending you and President Clinton a hard copy of *Our Last Best Shot* when it comes out in June.

Best regards,

Laura S. Stepp

Laura Sessions Stepp

Laura Sessions Stepp

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Proposed edits/Lissa

The President and First Lady today will host the first-ever White House Conference on Teenagers. The conference will include parents, teens, policy makers and other experts who will discuss the importance of the teenage years in the social and intellectual development of children. Like the White House Conference on Early Childhood Development in 1997, today's gathering will underscore some of the common misconceptions that parents have about the teenage years and will offer strategies for raising responsible and resourceful youth. Conference participants will highlight ways in which parents, schools, businesses, the media and others in the larger community can support children during this critical stage of life.

The President and First Lady will announce several new steps the Administration is taking to enlarge our understanding of the teenage years and provide the support that America's teens need.

[paragraph #2 – Report shows good signs....]

The President will release a new report by the President's Council on Economic Advisers, *Teenagers and Their Parents in the 21st Century*. The report outlines positive trends for today's teenagers, including increases in student achievement, college access, and participation in community service, as well as declining rates of pregnancy, suicide and homicide. The report concludes that teenagers whose parents are engaged and involved in their lives are more likely to excel in school and avoid risk behaviors. The report also makes clear that many challenges continue to confront America's teens: college opportunities remain more elusive for Hispanic youngsters and those from low-income families; the number of teens who smoke and eat poorly is increasing; and, in states where teens have greater access to guns, teen suicide and homicide rates are rising.

TO: ANN O'LEARY

6-2878

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS: RAISING RESPONSIBLE AND RESOURCEFUL YOUTH

May 2, 2000

Today, the President and First Lady will host the first-ever White House Conference on Teenagers. This gathering of experts, policy makers, and practitioners, [a bookend to the White House Early Childhood Conference held in 1997] will highlight the social and developmental importance of the teenage years and will stress that, contrary to common belief, teenagers need the critical support of their parents as much as young children do. The Conference will explore the role of parents, communities, schools, businesses, health providers, and the media in raising responsible and resourceful youth. The President and the First Lady will announce several new steps the Administration is taking to engage the public and private sectors in: 1) information about today's teens; 2) tools for parents; and 3) tools for teens. *parents + teenagers*

TODAY'S TEENS AND THEIR PARENTS

Report Shows Good Signs for Today's Teens and Need for Continued Parental Involvement. At the Conference, the President will release a new report by the President's Council of Economic Advisers, *Teenagers and their Parents in the 21st Century*. This report outlines positive trends for today's teenagers – including increases in student achievement and college access, increased participation in community service, declining rates of pregnancy, and declines in suicides and homicides. The report shows that teens with engaged and involved parents are more likely to do better in school and to avoid risk behaviors. It also outlines real challenges facing young people today: college-going opportunity gaps remain wide between whites and Hispanics, as well as between teenagers from low-income and high-income families; more teens are smoking and have poor nutrition; and, in states where teens have greater access to guns, teen suicide and homicide rates are higher.

Teens and Parents Differ in their Concerns. A YMCA of the USA poll commissioned for the White House Conference and conducted by Global Strategy Group, shows that despite the positive trends highlighted in the CEA report, parents *are anxious* feel significant anxiety about the well-being of their teenagers. They rate drugs and alcohol, *education*, and violence as their top concerns, while teenagers rate "not having enough time together" with parents and education as their top issues. The poll shows that many families are unable to eat meals together more than a few times a week; *reveals* that many teens report that they watch television and surf the Internet without parental supervision; and *among* many parents wish they had more quality time with their teens.

New Brain Research Suggests that Early Adolescence is a Critical Time of Development.

The First Lady will highlight preliminary research conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health indicating that the cognitive portion of the brain goes through a critical second wave of development just before puberty. Although the total size of the brain is already 95% of its adult size by the first grade, *research* this research shows that the gray matter of the brain thickens as the brain cells grow extra connections. This process peaks at about 11 years in girls and 12 years in boys, after which excess connections are "pruned," resulting in a thinning of the gray matter. This exciting new finding implies that the early years of adolescence are pivotal years for determining the make-up of the adult brain.

TOOLS FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

Ensuring Workplaces that Do Not Discriminate Against Parents. Today, the President will sign an Executive Order to bar discrimination against parents in the federal workplace. This Executive Order mirrors the "Ending Discrimination Against Parents Act of 1999," which the President announced in his 1999 State of the Union address, and which was introduced on November 10, 1999, by Senators Dodd and Kennedy. The Order would bar discrimination against parents in all aspects of employment, including recruitment, referral, hiring, promotions, discharge, training, and other terms and conditions of employment. The Order would also prohibit employers in the Executive Branch from acting on ~~more~~ assumptions that parents, or those with parental responsibilities, cannot satisfy the requirements of a particular position. The Order would not interfere with an employer's ability to select workers who are able to perform the jobs in question; it would simply ensure that workers are not discriminated against simply because they are parents.

Urging Support for Parents to Spend Time with Their Teens. Research to be discussed at the Conference shows that teens whose parents are active and engaged in their lives are more likely to avoid risky behavior and to do better in school. Today, the President and First Lady will announce a number of steps to help parents and teens spend time together:

- **"Time with Your Teens Campaign".** The President and First Lady will announce a new public education campaign to raise awareness about the importance of parent-teen time together, including family mealtime. The National Partnership for Women and Families, along with the Families and Work Institute, will spearhead an effort to bring a national coalition together to develop a public education campaign around this issue. This campaign will highlight the importance of business support for family time, the need for continued parental involvement in middle school and high school, and a challenge to parents and teens to make time for one another.
- **Family Meal Time for Federal Workers.** In the Federal workplace, the Office of Personnel Management will raise awareness among parents of teenagers about benefits they can use – including flexible work schedules – in order to make family time a priority.
- **Expansion of FMLA.** The President and the First Lady will also renew their call for Congress to pass an expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act to allow eligible workers an additional 24 hours of leave to participate in family responsibilities, such as parent-teacher conferences.

Task Force on "Navigating the New Media Age". Today, the First Lady will announce a public-private effort to provide tools for parents and teens to find resources through the media and to help parents monitor their teens' media usage. The task force plans to complete its work within six months and will: establish an Internet site that provides a one-stop information site for parents of teenagers, including a newly developed Federal effort, "Parenting Resources in the 21st Century" www.parentingresources.ncjrs.org; provide comprehensive information for parents on understanding and monitoring the usage of media by their teenagers by developing one web-site, sponsored by the media and entertainment industries, on media ratings systems; establish a portal for teenagers

that would include non-commercial teenager-friendly resources on the Internet; and, provide guidance to local communities on how to set up one-stop information centers to provide information on services, hotlines, and community opportunities to teenagers and parents of teenagers through 1-800#s and local web sites.

The following partners are members of this task force: Center for Media Education, American Psychological Association, America's Promise, Children's Defense Fund, National Network for Youth, United Way of America, and GetNetWise. [Industry??? Need to fix on Monday—possibly broadcasters, cable networks, Motion Picture Association of America, Recording Association of America, Interactive Digital Software Association (ISDA), and the major Internet providers.]

Tips for Parents. Parents want to know how they can best nurture and raise their children to avoid risky behaviors, including drug, alcohol and tobacco use, sex, and violence. For the first time, a coalition of prevention campaigns has joined forces with the Federal government to offer strategies for parents. *Parents Matter: Tips for Raising Teenagers* was jointly produced by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the National Campaign Against Youth Violence, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, the U.S. Department of Education, in partnership with the Afterschool Alliance, will release the Afterschool Parent Action Kit to help parents identify, create or improve afterschool programs in their communities in order to provide safe and enriching places for teenagers in the non-school hours.

TOOLS FOR TEENS

A Web Resource for Teens. The President will announce a new web site for teenagers, www.americasteens.gov. The site provides a gateway to federal and other publicly supported web sites for teens. With this new web site, teens can find information to help them do their homework, pursue a hobby, or choose a career. The site was developed by 17 federal agencies supported by Vice President Gore's National Partnership for Reinventing Government and the General Services Administration. The President will also direct federal agencies to expand educational material for youth on their own websites and to assure that all federally-supported websites for youth comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act and relevant federal regulations.

Communications Tips for Teens. As part of this conference, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will release a guide to help teenagers better communicate with one and other and with their parents. It will be distributed through community-based organizations and schools.

Youth Summit. The Corporation for National Service, together with two dozen other national organizations, will be hosting a National Youth Summit, entitled "Young People: Partners in Fulfilling the Promise" June 22-25 in Orlando, Florida. Up to 1,000 teens and adults who work with them will attend the summit to build their skills and develop action plans for youth to play a role in meeting the needs of their communities.

**A BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE:
THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S
FY 2001 BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS FOR
TEENAGERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

The Clinton-Gore Administration has developed and implemented new policies, and expanded on existing policies that support families with teenagers by helping parents balance their responsibilities at home and at work, provide teens with greater educational opportunities, engage young people in civic action, and make communities safer and stronger. The Administration's FY 2001 budget includes a wide range of new initiatives for teens and their families.

I. HELPING PARENTS BALANCE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AT WORK WITH THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO THEIR TEENS

Parental Involvement In Schools Pays Off, but Parents need Support from Employers to Stay Involved. The President has called on Congress to allow eligible workers under the Family and Medical Leave Act to take up to 24 hours of additional leave each year to meet certain family obligations, such as participating in school activities, including parent-teacher conferences.

Today More Than Ever, Working Families Struggle with Child Care or After-School Opportunities for their Children and Teenagers.

- **Helping Over 8 Million Families Pay Child Care Expenses.** The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) provides tax relief to those who, in order to work, pay for the care of a child under 13 or for a disabled dependent or spouse. The President's proposals, which cost \$30 billion over 10 years, broaden this tax relief and will help over 8 million families pay their child care expenses.
- **Universal After-School Opportunities for Children and Teenagers Most In Need.** The President's budget includes \$1 billion to expand after-school and summer school for students across the nation – more than doubling the \$453 million enacted last year, and representing the largest expansion ever proposed. With this increase, the program can provide every child in every failing school with the chance to participate in quality extended learning programs and work toward higher academic standards. Studies have shown that extended learning programs such as after-school and summer school help improve student achievement in reading and math, as well as increase student safety and reduce juvenile crime. Under the President's proposal, the number of children served will nearly triple, from 850,000 to 2.5 million children.

II. GIVING PARENTS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO PROTECT THEIR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS IN THE NEW MEDIA AGE

Parents Need Good Information to Help Monitor and Protect their Children's Usage of Media. With leadership from the First Lady, the President is calling on leaders in the media and

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a crucial time in children's lives when

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS: RAISING RESPONSIBLE AND RESOURCEFUL YOUTH

May 2, 2000

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Today, the President and First Lady will host the first-ever White House Conference on Teenagers. This day-long conference – a bookend to the First Lady's Early Childhood Conference – will highlight the teenage years as years that are just as important as the early years. In fact, these years are ones in which more than ever teenagers need the critical support of their parents, families, and communities to help them develop into healthy, productive, and engaged adults. This Conference will explore the role of parents, communities, schools, businesses, health providers, and the media in raising responsible and resourceful youth. The President and the First Lady will announce steps the Administration is taking to engage the public and private sectors in better supporting and providing tools for teens and their parents.

wasn't there a WH conference too?

TODAY'S TEENS AND THEIR PARENTS

Report Shows Good Signs for Today's Teens and Need for Continued Parental

Involvement. At the Conference, the President will release a new report by the President's Council of Economic Advisers, *Teenagers and their Parents in the 21st Century*. This report shows positive signs for today's teenagers – including increases in student achievement, and college access, increased participation in community service, declining rates of teen pregnancy, and declines in teen suicides and homicides. Even with these positive signs, however, the report demonstrates that real challenges remain: College-going opportunity gaps remain wide between whites and Hispanics as well as between the teenagers from low-income and high-income families; teens are increasingly participating in unhealthy behavior including teen smoking and poor nutrition; and, in states where teens have greater access to guns, teen suicide and homicide rates are higher. The CEA report stresses that one of the most important indicators for the health and well-being of teens is having parents who are involved and engaged in the lives of their teenagers.

Concluded as

opportunities for college differ widely for

Teens and Parents Differ in their Concerns. A poll conducted by the YMCA, shows that despite the positive trends highlighted in the CEA report, parents feel significant anxiety about the well-being of their teenagers in regards to outside influences such as drugs, alcohol, and violence. The same poll showed that teenagers, on the other hand, are most concerned about receiving a quality education and not having enough time with their parents.

Promising New Brain Research Shows that Early Adolescence is a Critical Time of Development. The First Lady will highlight exciting preliminary research conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health indicating that the brain goes through a second wave of development just before puberty. Although the total size of the brain is already 95% of its adult size by the first grade, this research shows that the gray matter or thinking part, of the brain thickens as the brain cells grow extra connections. This process peaks at about 11 years in girls and 12 years in boys and then the excess connections are eliminated or "pruned" resulting in a thinning of the gray matter. This exciting new finding implies that the early years of adolescence

are critical years for determining the make-up of the adult brain so if time is spent on academics or music or sports or video games that is what the brain will be optimized for in the adult years.

TOOLS FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

Urging Support for Parents to Spend Time with Their Teens. Research shows that teens whose parents are active and engaged in their lives are more likely to avoid risky behavior and to do better in school. With more parents working more hours than ever before and with teens also working more hours, taking more challenging courses, and engaging in activities from community service to team sports, finding time is difficult without the support of the community, the school, and the business sector. Today, the President and First Lady will announce a number of steps to support parents and teens spending time together:

Expansion of FMLA. They will call on Congress to pass an expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act to allow eligible workers an additional 24 hours of leave to participate in family responsibilities, such as parent-teacher conferences.

"Time with Your Teens Campaign" The President and First Lady will announce a new public education campaign to raise awareness about the importance of parent-teen time together, including family meal time, and the needed community supports to make this time possible. The National Partnership for Women and Families along with the Families and Work Institute will spearhead an effort to bring a coalition of organizations together to establish a public education campaign around this issue. This campaign will highlight the importance of business support for family time, the need for continued parental involvement in middle school and high school, and a challenge to parents and teens to make time for one another.

Family Meal Time for Federal Workers. And, in the Federal Workplace, the Office of Personnel Management will work to raise awareness among parents of teenagers about the benefits they can take advantage of in order to make family time a priority.

Ensuring Workplaces that Do Not Discriminate Against Parents. Today, the President will sign an Executive Order to end discrimination against parents in the Federal workplace. This Executive order mirrors the "Ending Discrimination Against Parents Act of 1999," bill that the President announced in his 1999 State of the Union address and was introduced on November 10, 1999, by Senators Dodd and Kennedy. By issuing this Executive Order, the President will hold the Executive Branch as a model for this important protection for parents in the workplace. The Order would bar discrimination against parents in all aspects of employment, including recruitment, referral, hiring, promotions, discharge, training, and other terms and conditions of employment. The Order would also prohibit employers in the Executive Branch from acting on mere assumptions that parents, or those with parental responsibilities, cannot satisfy the requirements of a particular position. The Order would not interfere with an employer's ability to select workers who are able to perform the jobs in question; the Order would ensure that workers are not discriminated against simply because they are parents.

New Task Force on Tools for Parents and Teens in the Media Age. Today, the First

Lady will announce a public-private effort to provide tools for parents and teens to find resources through the media and for parents to better understand how to monitor the media usage of their teenagers. The First Lady directed the task force to complete their work within six months. The purposes of the task force includes:

1 Establishing an Internet site for parents that connects up non-commercial information on parenting teenagers. As a beginning to this effort, the Federal government has established, "Parenting Resources in the 21st Century" to provide on-line information to parents from family issues, to health and safety, to childcare and education to much more. This website – developed by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention – is available for viewing at www.parentingresources.ncjrs.org.

2 Providing comprehensive information for parents on understanding and monitoring the usage of media by their teenagers. Currently, there is no one place that parents can find information on the various media rating systems or how to use them. The media and entertainment industry has come together to develop one web-site on media ratings systems with helpful information on how to use each system. This site will provide easy access to universal information on the current rating systems.

3 Establishing a portal for teenagers that would connect-up non-commercial teenager-friendly resources on the Internet;

4 Provide guidance to local communities on how to set up one-stop information centers to provide information on services, hotlines, and community opportunities to teenagers and parents of teenagers through 1-800#s and local web sites.

The following partners are members of this task force: Center for Media Education, American Psychological Association, America's Promise, Children's Defense Fund, National Network for Youth, United Way of America, and GetNetWise. ***[Industry??? Need to fix on Monday– possibly broadcasters, cable networks, Motion Picture Association of America, Recording Association of America, Interactive Digital Software Association (ISDA), and the major Internet providers.]***

Tips for Parents to Help Their Teens Avoid Risky Behavior. Parents biggest concerns continue to be drugs, tobacco, alcohol, sex, and violence and parents want to know how they can best nurture and raise their children to avoid these risky behaviors. For the first time, a coalition of prevention campaigns have partnered with the Federal government to offer tips for parents on how to make a difference in the lives of their teenagers. *Parents Matter: Tips for Raising Teenagers* was jointly produced by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the National Campaign Against Youth Violence, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Helping Parents Initiate Afterschool Opportunities for their Teens. As part of this Conference, the U.S. Department of Education in partnership with the Afterschool Alliance will release the Afterschool Parent Action Kit. This kit addresses the questions, concerns and needs

of parents who want to identify, create or improve afterschool programs in their communities to provide safe and enriching places for teenagers in the non-school hours. The kit includes: checklist of qualities to look for in an afterschool program; information on what afterschool programs should offer children and teenagers; information and resources to help parents locate afterschool programs in their communities; steps that parents, teachers and other community members can take to start local afterschool programs; and a list of organizations that offer tools, resources and information on how to start or fund an afterschool program.

TOOLS FOR TEENS

A Web Resource for Teens. The President will announce a new web site for teenagers, www.americasteens.gov. The site provides a gateway to federal and other publicly supported web sites for teens. With this new web site, teens can find information to help them do their homework, pursue a hobby, or choose a career. They can find, in the words of one teen, "awesome links" where they can: explore pulsars, black holes, supernovae and gamma-ray bursts; create 3-D animated movies; send a virtual postcard to a friend; or calculate a batting average on-line. The site was developed by 17 federal agencies supported by Vice President Gore's National Partnership for Reinventing Government and the General Services Administration.

The President also directed federal agencies to expand educational material for youth on their own websites and to assure that all federally-supported websites for youth comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act and relevant federal regulations.

White House Youth Advisory Council. In an historic effort to ensure that the voices of teenagers are heard at the Federal level, the President announced today that he has established a White House Youth Advisory Council. The Council will be sponsored by the Domestic Policy Council and the Office of Public Liaison and will meet several times a year in order to advise the President and his senior advisors on matters of importance to young people. The Council will be comprised of ??- (NEED TO GET PARAGRAPH AND SIGN OFF BY OPL).

Communications Tips for Teens. As part of this conference, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will release a guide to help teenagers better communicate with one and other and with their parents called *Express Yourself*. It will be distributed through community-based organizations and schools.

Youth Summit – (Should we include?)

POSSIBLE INTERVIEWEES FOR WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS

On the topic of the importance of families spending time with their teenagers –

Secretary Herman or Janice LaChance (head of OPM, which is working on a campaign to encourage federal workers to have family mealtime and also an executive order prohibiting discrimination against parents)

Expert: Ellen Galinsky, founder of Families and Work Institute, a leading authority on family and work issues

Poll results: Ken Gladish, Executive Director of the YMCA of the USA

Family: The Silcox Family (white single mother of two boys) or the Malone Family (African American two working parent family with two girls)

On the topic of active parenting as a strategy to prevent risk-behavior –

Secretary Shalala or Barry McCaffrey (need to confirm)

Experts: Jeff Bleich, Director of the Campaign to End Youth Violence, and Sarah Brown, Director of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Youth: Justin Newland (Kansas, age 18, on youth advisory council for the Campaign to End Youth Violence) and Brandi Chapple (DC, age 18, an advisor to the Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and co-host of BET's Teen Summit)

On the topic of breakthrough research on adolescent development –

Secretary Shalala

Experts: Jay Giedd (brain research at the National Institute of Mental Health), Jacqueline Eccles (Institute for Social Research, contributor to *Managing to Make It : Urban Families and Adolescent Success* (John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Series on Mental Health and Development, associate editor of *Child Development*), Robert Blum (author of *Reducing the Risk: Connections that make a difference in the life of youth*, reporting findings of the Add Health project, a seminal longitudinal study of adolescent health)

On the topic of the new media and its affects on youth –

Chairman Kennard

Experts: Kathryn Montgomery (Center for Media Education), Zoe Baird (head of the Markle Foundation which focuses on public policy and the internet), Jim Browne (with GetNetWise.com, providing tools for parents re: the internet), Judith McHale (Discovery Communications)

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS

Program Draft 4/25/00 am

- 9:58 **Melanne Verveer** welcomes audience and explains how the program will work, introduces video
- 10:00 **Opening Video:** Montage of a diverse group of parents and teens speaking about their lives.

POTUS and HRC announced into room **Edd and Edwin Speaker, Cabinet members, and members of Congress**. All take seats in the audience except POTUS and HRC. HRC proceeds to lectern. POTUS sits next to lectern. Panel I is already seated on stage.

HRC speaks. HRC introduces POTUS and then sits with panel.

POTUS speaks. Introduces Ed and Edwin Speaker.

Edd Speaker: Talks about his own struggles and how important it has been for him to be there for Eric, also his efforts to get Eric into a good school.

Edwin Speaker: Talks about his life as an African American teenager growing up in LA and his relationship with his father and a local club they belong to.

POTUS makes closing remark and departs.

- 10:30 **HRC** introduces topic of panel (who are today's teens and what do they need) and introduces panel members Jacqueline Eccles, Jay Giedd, and Karen Pittman. She calls on Jacqueline Eccles to speak first.

Jacqueline Eccles discusses adolescent development, including the stages, peer cues, behavioral pressures, and the need for independence.

HRC comments and introduces Dr. Jay Giedd, a scientist at the National Institute of Mental Health.

Jay Giedd presents his recent research that suggests that an important phase of brain development occurs around puberty and what happens at that time matters and can set the stage for later successes or failures.

HRC comments and introduces Dr. Susan Bales, President of the Frameworks Institute, who will speak from the audience.

Susan Bales discusses research on the media's treatment of teens and how it differs from reality.

HRC comments and introduces Dr. Karen Pittman, of the International Youth Foundation.

Karen Pittman lays out the assets that all teenagers need – a caring adult, healthy habits, safe places, a good education, and the opportunity to give back.

HRC comments and introduces Dr. Angela Diaz, a doctor with the Mt. Sinai Center on Adolescence, who will speak from the audience.

Angela Diaz discusses the health care needs of teens she sees in her work and the challenges serving them.

11:00 **HRC** comments, thanks panel, and invites panel II to take the stage. Panel I leaves the stage and panel II, consisting of Laura Sessions Stepp, Robert Blum, Geoff Canada, and Gabriella Contreras are seated.

HRC introduces the topic of the second panel – what parents can do to help teens and what communities can do to help teens and parents – and introduces first panelist, Laura Sessions Stepp, author of *Our Last Best Shot* and Washington Post families reporter.

Laura Sessions Stepp outlines what we know about good parenting of teenagers.

HRC comments and introduces Ellen Galinsky, President of the Work and Family Institute, who will speak from the audience.

Ellen Galinsky speaks about the need for employers to think creatively about ways to help parents of teens connect with their children.

HRC comments and introduces Dr. Robert Blum, University of Minnesota and Add Health study.

Robert Blum discusses research that underscores the importance of teens being connected to their families and the community.

HRC comments and introduces Emily McDonald, age 17, who is involved in community service in her hometown in Appalachia. She will speak from the audience.

Emily McDonald describes her community, her classmates, her involvement in service, her relationship with her parents and grandmother.

11:30 **HRC** comments and introduces Geoff Canada, author of *Fist, Stick, Knife, Gun* and founder of the Rheedlan Centers for Children and Families.

Geoff Canada speaks about the role of community in the life of a teenager, particularly in the inner city.

HRC comments, then, *if time permits*, calls on several additional members of the audience to speak, beginning with Rev. Jeff Brown, with the Ten Points Coalition in Boston.

Jeff Brown speaks about the importance of religion and values in raising teens and the program he works on with the Boston Police Department.

HRC comments and *if time permits*, introduces Bob Davis, CEO of Lycos, who will speak from the audience.

Bob Davis discusses the new media and the need for tools for parents to help safeguard their children.

HRC comments and introduces Jay Engelin, Principal of the Year, *if time permits*.

Jay Engelin discusses the importance of parent involvement in middle and high school, high school reform, and afterschool programs.

HRC comments and introduces Ben Casey, director of the Metropolitan Dallas YMCA, *if time permits*.

Ben Casey speaks about his innovative efforts to involve parents with their teens through the YMCA.

HRC comments and introduces Harvard anthropologist Dr. Katherine Newman, author of *No Shame in My Game: The Working Poor in the Inner City*, *if time permits*.

Katherine Newman speaks about the responsibility of employers of youth to do more to help them succeed.

12:00 **HRC** comments and introduces Gabriella Contreras, age 14.

Gabriella Contreras speaks about her own experience with youth violence in her community and ways youth can be resources for other youth.

HRC comments and provides closing comments. Mentions breakouts and lunch,

invites satellite downlinks to continue talking and let us know what they conclude.

Break for lunch.

TEEN CONFERENCE

MSNBC
Home Page

Live + Real interviews

Poll compare + contrast teen + parent views
- communication
- time together

Deliverables

Poll

CEA report

Line w/ teens campaign

guidebook for parents

Task Force - resources for teens + parents
via Internet incl how to use
rating - uniformity

Non discrimination Exec. Order - vs.
parents in workplace

HRC - highlight CEA report, poll results
Ann. Time of teens campaign

PONs - announce task force -
talks w/ HRC leadership



● June Shih

04/27/2000 12:31:35 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Lissa Muscatine/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: latest draft

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● June Shih

04/27/2000 12:30:51 PM

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To: "McDaniel, Ann" <amcdan@newsweek.com>

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Subject: latest draft 

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

COLUMN FOR NEWSWEEK

APRIL 26, 2000

A few months ago, Bill and I graduated from being the parents of a teenager to being the parents of a young adult. Chelsea turned 20 in February. We look at this life passage with mixed emotions – pride at our daughter's accomplishments; wistfulness about how quickly it has all happened; and most of all, gratitude for Chelsea's safe transition to adulthood. We know we are very fortunate.

This week, the President and I will host a White House Conference on Teenagers to discuss how we, as a society, can work together to help young people and their parents navigate through this critical period.

Why a Conference on Teenagers? And why now?

Ask any teen: Growing up today is tougher than ever. For all the progress and benefits of the Information Age, today's world presents new stresses and more demands on all children – especially teenagers. Parental lectures on good behavior or Sunday morning sermons promoting a world of love must compete with a popular culture depicting a world of gratuitous sex, drug abuse and violence. A teacher's encouragement about the possibilities of the future must compete with newspaper headlines reporting on teenagers shooting teenagers. The tragedies at Columbine High School last Spring – and just recently at the National Zoo – are chilling reminders of the alienation and violence that can envelop a troubled or confused teen.

And if it's tougher to be a teen these days – it's also tougher to be a parent.

More and more parents work outside the home – and know the daily challenge of trying to meet their responsibilities to their families and their jobs.

One theme we will be discussing at the Conference is the critical role parents can – and should -- play in their teenagers' lives. I know that it's often hard for parents to remember that their teenagers still want their attention. After all, what parent of a teenager hasn't felt that pang when a child who once couldn't be pried out of his mother's lap is now embarrassed to be in the same room with her? But studies are showing that for all their protest and swagger, teenagers, like kids of all ages, need – and want -- the everyday love, involvement and discipline of their parents.

Sometimes, even modest efforts to reach out to a teenager can make a tremendous difference. I believe that one of the biggest casualties of modern life – of fast food, TV and more stressful days at work for parents -- has been family time, the time during meals for instance, when parents and children can check out of their busy schedules and check in with each other, to talk, and simply be together.

Before Chelsea left for college, she, Bill and I made it a priority to share at least one meal together every day. Like many families with hectic schedules, it wasn't always easy -- or possible. But we felt strongly that family time should be part of our daily routines. That half-hour in the small kitchen of our private quarters of the White House was always my favorite part of the day.

Now -- with two thousand miles between us and our daughter -- Bill and I try talking to Chelsea on the phone as often as possible. Of course, it isn't the same. First of all, as millions of our fellow-empty nesters know firsthand, a parent can't always count on a busy college junior to return calls promptly. And of course, chatting across a continent is nothing like chatting across a dinner table. You can't watch your daughter's eyes light up as she describes an exciting class or a fun activity. And you certainly can't check up on whether her dorm room has fallen into the path of a tornado.

But the one constant we have tried to provide our daughter is the understanding that we are always available -- whenever she needs to talk, to ask for advice, or just wants to say hello.

Sometimes, Chelsea will tell you, we're too involved. When she became a vegetarian, Bill and I bought vegetarian cookbooks – and reminded her, gently of course, to eat more protein. When she had to stay up all night adding footnotes to a research paper in high school, we stayed up with her, though we were useless in helping to figure out the word processing program. When she was packing for college, I made dozens of checklists and lent a hand packing the suitcases, too often with things she never used.

We hope that the White House Conference will help more parents understand how to remain involved in their teenagers' lives – and to open new lines of communication with their children. Three years ago, we held the first-ever White House Conference on Early Learning to raise awareness about the new research on the brain and the critical development that takes place during the first three years of life. Now scientists are beginning to learn that the brain goes through another – equally crucial -- growth spurt during the early teenage years. We hope to help more parents use this still-evolving research to make the most of their relationships with their teens.

Most of all, we hope the Conference will inspire all Americans to take

concrete steps to give working parents the tools they need to stay active and involved in their teenagers' lives. Congress should make it illegal for employers to discriminate against parents. And I hope lawmakers will extend the Family and Medical Leave Act so that parents can take the time they need to take their children to the doctor, or to attend parent teacher conferences and other activities at school. Businesses can do their part by allowing flexible work schedules for parents. The entertainment industry can develop a voluntary uniform ratings system and technology companies can devise programs to help parents better supervise what their teens are seeing on TV, at the movies and on the Internet.

The time between childhood and adulthood is pivotal. This is when teenagers hone the skills and build the intellectual and emotional capacities that will serve them throughout their lives. The choices they make, the values they adopt now can determine whether they become happy and productive citizens. Let's help them to make responsible choices that are good for them as well as for the rest of us.



June Shih

04/26/2000 07:02:22 PM

716-854-4836
Rm 617

Record Type: Record

To: amcdan@newsweek.com @ inet, Shirley S. Sagawa/WHO/EOP@EOP, Ann O'Leary/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc: lissam@ix.netcom.com @ inet, Lissa Muscatine/WHO/EOP@EOP
Subject: Latest HRC draft for newsweek

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
COLUMN FOR NEWSWEEK
APRIL 24, 2000**

A few months ago, Bill and I graduated from being the parents of a teenager to being the parents of a young adult. Chelsea turned 20 in February. We look at this life passage with mixed emotions – pride at our daughter's accomplishments; wistfulness about how quickly it has all happened; and most of all, gratitude for Chelsea's safe transition to adulthood. We know we are very lucky.

This week, the President and I will host a White House Conference on Teenagers to discuss how we, as a society, can work together to help young people and their parents through this critical period.

Why a Conference on Teenagers? And why now?

Ask any teen: Growing up today is tougher than ever. For all the progress and benefits of the Information Age, today's world presents new stresses and more demands on all children – especially teenagers. Sunday morning sermons promoting a world of love and peace must compete with a popular culture depicting a world of gratuitous sex, drug abuse and violence. A parent's promise about the possibilities of the future must compete with despairing newspaper headlines about

teenagers shooting teenagers. The tragedies at Columbine High School last Spring – and just recently at the National Zoo – are chilling reminders of the alienation that can envelop a troubled or confused teen.

And if it's tougher to be a teen these days – it's also tougher to be a parent. More and more parents work outside the home – and know the daily challenge of trying to meet their responsibilities at work and at home.

One of the major themes we will be discussing at this week's Conference is the role active, involved parents can play in their teenagers' lives. It's not always easy for parents to remember that their teenagers want their attention. After all, what parent of a teenager hasn't felt that pang when a child who once couldn't be pried out of his mother's lap, is now embarrassed to be in the same room with her? For all their protest and swagger, teenagers, like kids of all ages, need and want the everyday love, involvement and discipline of their parents.

I believe that one of the biggest casualties of modern life – of fast food, TV and more stressful days at work for parents -- has been the family dinner and the opportunity it gives parents and children to spend time together.

Before Chelsea left for college, she, Bill and I made it a priority to share at least one meal together every day. Like many families with hectic schedules, it wasn't always easy. But we felt strongly that family time – especially the dinner hour -- should be part of our daily routines. That half-hour in the small kitchen of our private quarters of the White House was my favorite part of the day.

Now – with two thousand miles between us and our daughter –

Bill and I try talking to Chelsea on the phone as often as possible. Of course, it isn't the same. First of all, as millions of our fellow-empty nesters know firsthand, a parent can't always count on a busy, 20-year old college junior to return calls promptly. And of course, chatting across a continent is nothing like chatting across a dinner table. You can't watch your daughters' eyes light up as she describes an exciting class or fun activity. And you certainly can't check up on what she's eating at the cafeteria.

But the one constant we have tried to provide our daughter is the understanding that we are always available – whenever she needs to talk, to ask for advice, or just wants to check in.

Sometimes, Chelsea will tell you, we're too involved. When she became a vegetarian, Bill and I bought vegetarian cookbooks – and reminded her, gently of course, to eat more protein. When she had to stay up all night adding footnotes to a research paper in high school, I stayed up with her, though I was useless in helping to figure out the word processing program. When she was packing for college, I made dozens of checklists and lent a hand packing the suitcases, which she promptly repacked.

It is our hope that the White House Conference will help more parents take a more active role in their teenagers' lives – and to open new lines of communication with their children. Three years ago, we held the first-ever White House Conference on Early Learning to raise awareness about the new research on the brain and the critical development that takes place during the first three years of life. Now scientists are learning that the brain goes through another – equally crucial -- growth spurt during the early teenage years. We hope to help more parents understand the significance of this new research so that they can make the most of their relationships with their teens.

The time between childhood and adulthood is pivotal. This is when our teenagers develop the skills, the intellectual and emotional capacities that will serve them throughout their lives. The choices they make, the values they learn and honor can determine whether they become happy and productive citizens.

Their fate is our fate. Let's not fail them.

June Shih

04/26/2000 05:52:27 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Lissa Muscatine/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject:

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
COLUMN FOR NEWSWEEK
APRIL 24, 2000**

(life's) *of time* *it has all happened.* *g*
A few months ago, Bill and I graduated from being the parents of a teenager to being the parents of a young adult. Chelsea turned 20 in February. ~~Like so many parents,~~ We look at this passage with mixed emotions – pride at our daughter's growth and accomplishments; wistfulness about the quick ~~passage of time;~~ and most of all, tremendous gratitude for Chelsea's ~~relatively~~ safe transition to adulthood. We know we are very lucky.

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Why a Conference on Teenagers? And why now?

growing into adulthood like most kids grow up - no, parents
Well, ask any teen: Growing up today is tougher and more complicated than ever. When I was a ~~teen~~, my world was defined tightly – by my family, my church and my school. They were the sources of my values and my ambitions. Now our parents and ministers and teachers ~~are~~ *are* finding themselves competing for their kids' attention with a host of other influences. Sunday morning sermons about a world of love must compete with video games depicting a world of violence. A teacher's lectures about the possibilities of the future must compete with despairing newspaper headlines about teenagers shooting teenagers. The tragedies at Columbine last Spring – and just the other day at the National Zoo – are chilling reminders of the violence and alienation that ~~are~~ *are* defining the lives of too many *of our* teenagers.

mess day *also*
And if it's tougher to be a teen – it's ~~even~~ *even* tougher to be a parent. More and more parents ~~are~~ *are* working outside the home – and they are working harder than ever to make ends meet. At the same time, never before have our teens needed the guidance of strong, loving parents more.

find it a challenge every day to meet their responsibilities at work, enough to support their L.
One of the major themes we will be discussing at this week's Conference is the role active, involved parents can play in their teenagers' lives. Too often, parents fail to understand that while their teenagers need some space, they also need their parents. So many

specifics - we all

teens have told me that at the end of the day, parents are still the most important people in their lives. For all their protest and swagger, teenagers, like kids of all ages, need and want the everyday love, attention, involvement and discipline of their parents.

I believe that one of the biggest casualties of modern life -- of fast food, TV and longer work hours for parents -- has been the family dinner and the opportunity it gave parents and children to spend regular periods of time with each other.

When Chelsea lived at home, ~~the three of us~~ *me + Bill + I* made it a priority to share at least one meal together, every day. Like so many families with hectic schedules, it wasn't always easy. But ~~Bill and I~~ *me + Bill + I* felt very strongly that family time -- especially the dinner hour -- should be a daily event. After grace, which we took turns saying, we would catch each other up on the events of the day. In many ways, that hour or half-hour in the small kitchen of our private quarters of the White House was my favorite part of the day.

Now -- with two thousand miles between us and our daughter -- Bill and I try talking to Chelsea on the phone as often as possible. Of course, it isn't the same. First of all, as millions of our fellow-empty nesters know firsthand, a parent can't always count on having a busy, 20-year old college junior return your calls promptly. And of course, chatting across a continent is nothing like chatting across a dinner table. You can't watch your daughters' eyes light up as she describes an exciting day on campus. And you certainly can't check up on what she's eating at the campus cafeteria.

As parents, Bill + I did what we could to let C
What we can only hope is that Chelsea knows that ~~Bill and I~~ -- just as we did for family dinners throughout her childhood and teen years -- will make time for her whenever she needs to talk or just wants to check in, whenever she needs advice on a problem or with a paper.

It is our hope that the White House Conference on Teenagers will help more parents take a more active role in their teenagers' lives -- and to open new lines of communication with their children. Three years ago, we held the first-ever White House Conference on Early Learning to raise awareness about the new research on the brain and the critical development that takes place during those years. Now scientists are learning that the brain goes through a second -- equally crucial -- growth spurt during the teenage years. ~~And just as we did three years ago~~, we hope to help more parents understand the significance of this new research -- and to find ways to make the most of it in their relationships with their teens.

The time between childhood and adulthood is pivotal. This is the time when our teenagers develop the skills, the intellectual and emotional capacities that will serve them throughout their lives. The choices they make, the values they learn and choose to honor can determine whether they become our presidents or our prisoners of the future. Let's not fail them.

nothing like chatting across a dinner table. You can't watch your daughters' eyes light up as she describes an exciting day on campus. And you certainly can't check up on what she's eating at the campus cafeteria.

What we can only hope is that Chelsea knows that Bill and I -- just as we did for family dinners throughout her childhood and teen years -- will make time for her whenever she needs to talk or just wants to check in, whenever she needs advice on a problem or with a paper -- we will be there for her.

Sometimes, Chelsea will tell you, we're there for her too much. When she became a vegetarian, Bill and I devoured books and research about vegetarianism. We bought vegetarian cookbooks -- and reminded her, gently of course, to eat more protein. When she was packing for college, I made dozens of checklists and "lent a hand" with packing the suitcases, which she promptly re-packed. When she had to stay up all night adding footnotes for a research paper in high school, I stayed up with her, though I was useless in helping figure out the word processing program.

This week, the President and I hope to bring together experts and educators, parents and teenagers themselves to address some of the concerns and challenges of teenagers -- to find ways to we can all work together to help parents become more involved in their children's lives. Three years ago, we held the first-ever White House Conference on Early Learning to raise awareness about the new research on the brain and the critical development that takes place during those years. Now scientists are learning that the brain goes through a second -- equally crucial -- growth spurt during the teenage years.

We will explore some of the ways we can ensure that use the new technologies to help improve our relationships with our children. give families the tools they need to raise happy, healthy and hopeful teens.

WH CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS DRAFT ON BREAKOUTS

BREAKOUT #1

Family time: What can we do to make it easier for parents and teenagers to spend time together?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Parents and Families Matter in the Lives of Teenagers
 - ✓ Dr. Larry Steinberg, Temple University (parenting styles)
 - ✓ Ken Canfield, President, National Center for Fathering
- Work-family issues and spending time together – business perspective
 - Stanley Dotts* Jackie Gates, Bell Atlantic does work with parents/teens on character education
 - Hal Morgan, Ceridian Corporation works with over 8,000 companies to offer practical help for parents of teenagers
- Parent perspective
 - Donnie & Fonda Malone (parents in the video)
- Highlight policies to support parent leave for educational activities
 - Amy Swisher, First Day Foundation (works with businesses, schools, and parents to allow parents to take the first day of school off from work and go to school with their children – emphasizes continued parent involvement in middle school and high school)

Moderators: Janice LaChance, OPM Director
Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)

BREAKOUT #2

The New Media: How is the information age shaping youth today?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Positive and Negatives of Media Use by Teens
 - ✓ Kathryn Montgomery, Center for Media Education
- Providing parents with tools to better understand and monitor the media used by their teenagers
 - ✓ Jim Brown, GetNetWise.com
- Providing Tools for Teens on Media Literacy
 - ✓ Judith McHale, COO of Discovery
- Civic Values in the Media Age
 - ✓ Zoe Baird, Markel Foundation
- Youth perspective on media and youth violence
 - Justin Newland (age 18) from Kansas, member of the Youth Advisory Council of the National Campaign Against Youth Violence.

Moderators: William Kennard, FCC Chairman
Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA)

BREAKOUT #3

School: How can we build school climates that work for teenagers?

- Reforming the American High School to Meet the Needs of 21st Century Teens
Gene Bottoms, Vice President, Southern Regional Education Board
- Importance of Teacher-Student Connections in High School
Larry Hurt, 1999 Indiana Teacher of the Year
- Young person who can talk about staying in school
- Community Schools – importance of school as learning environment that support social, academic, and emotional growth
Susan Greene, Dance Teacher at I.S. 218
- ✓ • Supporting students in their pathway to the future
Robert Rivera, Director, Project GRAD, Houston, Texas

Moderator: Secretary Richard Riley
Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA)

BREAKOUT #4

The Village: How can the community better support parents and teenagers?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Importance of community based organizations for Youth Development, including importance of involving parents in community organizations
✓ Dr. Milbrey McLaughlin, Stanford University professor and author of recently released report *Community Counts*
- Expanding Opportunities for Teenagers in the Non-School Hours
✓ Ken Gladish, YMCA of the USA, Executive Director
- Young person active in community
LaToya Gardner, Nashville's Citywide Teen Leadership Council
- Work places that help young people grow
✓ Dr. Katherine Newman, Harvard University, recent book on teens and work

Moderators: Deputy AG Eric Holder
Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-CA)

BREAKOUT #5

Closing the Gap: How can we provide positive opportunities for ALL teenagers?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Basic Assets Needed to Help All Teens Grow into Responsible & Resourceful Youth
Peter Benson Search Institute, Minnesota
- What works and what does not for our most vulnerable youth
Kate Sylvester, Second Chance Homes expert
Talmyra Hill, Annie E. Casey Foundation

- Youth perspective
Lan-Ahn Phan, refugee youth
- Engaging at-risk youth in community service
Dorothy Stoneman, Executive Director of YouthBuild

Moderator: Secretary Alexis Herman
Rep. Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX)

BREAKOUT #6

Youth as Resources:

Can teenagers be resources in their own development and for their peers?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Youth serving other youth/youth social entrepreneur/philanthropist
✓ Andrew Shue, Do Something
- Expert on peer to peer learning/development or research on positive developmental effects of youth service
Gary Walker, Public/Private Ventures
- Service-learning in the schools
Kathleen Lee, Turner Middle School teacher in Philadelphia
- Using the arts to help youth find their own solutions to problems
- ✓ • The importance of civic engagement for youth
Bob Putnam

Moderators: ✓ Harris Wofford
Rep. Chris Shays (R-CT) or Jennifer Dunn (R-WA)

Policy Deliverables:

- Highlight youth service budget

BREAKOUT #7

A Healthy Start: How Can We Help Teenagers Stay Healthy?

Sub-themes and discussion leaders:

- What is the state of the health of teens? (Access to care, suicide, risky behaviors: drugs, alcohol, sex. Importance of health promotion and prevention: nutrition and exercise. Also, mention Administration's initiatives on teen smoking and refer to Matt Myers.)

Secretary Donna Shalala

- Add Health Study: the home environment and school can positively influence the health behavior of youth.
- ✓ Dr. Michael Resnick, University of Minnesota
- How to get kids to avoid risk behavior. Talk about collaborative guide.
- ✓ Sarah Brown, Director of Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy
Brandi Chapple, Anchor on BET Teen Show who has worked with Sarah Brown and the Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy (youth voice)
- What works? A community based care example: care that is confidential, non-judgmental, relevant to teen life-styles and behavior, at minimal cost, with appointments after hours, and with a focus on health (prevention), rather than disease.
Carole Morris, Mt. Vernon Neighborhood Health Center
- Mental Health in Adolescence: adolescence is a critical time – their brains are growing and they are more at risk for depression and other mental and behavioral problems.
Harold Koplewicz, M.D., NYU Child Study Center, Dept. of Psychiatry

Moderator: Secretary Donna Shalala
Rep. Shiela Jackson Lee (D-TX)

POSSIBLE INTERVIEWEES FOR WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS

On the topic of the importance of families spending time with their teenagers –

Secretary Herman or Janice LaChance (head of OPM, which is working on a campaign to encourage federal workers to have family mealtime and also an executive order prohibiting discrimination against parents)

Expert: Ellen Galinsky, founder of Families and Work Institute, a leading authority on family and work issues

Poll results: Ken Gladish, Executive Director of the YMCA of the USA

Family: The Silcox Family (white single mother of two boys) or the Malone Family (African American two working parent family with two girls)

On the topic of active parenting as a strategy to prevent risk-behavior –

Secretary Shalala or Barry McCaffrey (need to confirm)

Experts: Jeff Bleich, Director of the Campaign to End Youth Violence, and Sarah Brown, Director of the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Youth: Justin Newland (Kansas, age 18, on youth advisory council for the Campaign to End Youth Violence) and Brandi Chapple (DC, age 18, an advisor to the Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy and co-host of BET's Teen Summit)

On the topic of breakthrough research on adolescent development –

Secretary Shalala

Experts: Jay Giedd (brain research at the National Institute of Mental Health), Jacqueline Eccles (Institute for Social Research, contributor to *Managing to Make It : Urban Families and Adolescent Success* (John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Series on Mental Health and Development, associate editor of *Child Development*), Robert Blum (author of *Reducing the Risk: Connections that make a difference in the life of youth*, reporting findings of the Add Health project, a seminal longitudinal study of adolescent health)

On the topic of the new media and its affects on youth –

Chairman Kennard

Experts: Kathryn Montgomery (Center for Media Education), Zoe Baird (head of the Markle Foundation which focuses on public policy and the internet), Jim Browne (with GetNetWise.com, providing tools for parents re: the internet), Judith McHale (Discovery Communications)

LISA —

HERE ARE SHIRLEY'S
ANN'S IDEAS FOR
SURROGATES FOR THE
A.M. SITUATIONS... ANY
THOUGHTS?

THX,

ERIKA —

April 21, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

**FROM: ANN O'LEARY
SHIRLEY SAGAWA**

**CC: MELANNE VERVEER
LISSA MUSCATINE
TOM FREEDMAN
HEATHER HOWARD
SONIA CHESSEN
MARYELLEN MCGUIRE**

SUBJECT: POLICY DELIVERABLES FOR WH CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS

Below you will find a compilation of the policy deliverables that we have developed and secured for the White House Conference on Teenagers. In addition, we first wanted to provide you with an update on our work on the issue of the voluntary uniform rating system and possible ways to highlight it at the conference.

VOLUNTARY UNIFORM RATING SYSTEM

- **Participation of Steve Case in the Conference.** As you know, we would have liked Steve Case to be able to join the conference and announce his support for a voluntary uniform rating system. Unfortunately, despite our efforts, his senior staff at America On-Line does not believe that he is ready to make this announcement. We are still trying to secure his participation in the conference in order to have him send a strong message to the industry – that as the different modes of media converge and as the industry continues to innovate, they need to take responsibility to simultaneously develop tools for parents that are easy to understand and easy to use.
- **Providing Better Information for Parents on How to Use the Current Rating Systems.** We believe that it would be helpful for you to highlight the work the various industries have done to implement rating systems and to educate parents on how to use them. At the same time, you could call for them to work together and do more to provide one place where parents could learn about how to best use the current rating systems. As part of a new task force (see below), you would announce that the industries have come together to provide comprehensive information for parents on understanding and monitoring the usage of media by their teenagers. Currently, there is no one place that parents can find information on the various media rating systems or how to use them. The industry would come together to

develop one web-site on media ratings systems with good information on how to use each system – it would be a message of universal information on current rating systems.

- **More Federal Research dollars for Understanding the Usage of New Media by Teenagers.**

One of the issues that has been raised as we have explored this issue is that before we develop a uniform rating system or a proposal on how parents can better monitor that children's usage of media, we need to better understand how children use various modes of media. There is very little research on the issue of teenagers and their use of media (particularly the Internet). The National Institute of Mental Health has agreed to gear one of their research competitions to better understand how the new media influences children and teenagers on such issues as academic learning, cognition and behavior.

We believe that you can use the conference as a platform to continue your call for a voluntary uniform rating system as a long-term goal. And, at the same time, you can set short term goals of doing more to educate parents about the current rating systems, investing more research into the issue, and challenging the industry to take responsibility for teenagers and parents as they move forward in their development of new media.

OVERALL POLICY DELIVERABLES

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns on any of these deliverables:

I. BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMERICAN TEENAGERS

Snapshot of the American Teenager

This report—prepared by the Council of Economic Advisors for the White House Conference on Teenagers—focuses on the opportunities and challenges facing American young people. The report highlights demographic changes in the population of teens and their families occurring over the past century. Many trends have been positive; teens generally face fewer health risks and greater economic opportunities than ever before. Teens today are far better educated than were their predecessors. Other trends are cause for concern to teens and their families. Many of the greatest risks facing teens are the consequence of their own behavior and the behavior of those around them. High rates of teen pregnancy and teen smoking are among trends that present serious risks to the current and future welfare of American teens.

An important focus of this paper is the potential for parents to have a positive role in influencing constructive behavior and protecting teens from serious danger. Data described in this report indicate that teens who have a strong relationship with their parents—built on spending time together—are more likely to do well in school and to refrain from smoking or taking drugs, and are less likely to become pregnant or be involved in violent incidents. Parents make a good investment when they take time to retain a strong connection with their children.

YMCA Poll

The YMCA is conducting a poll of teenagers and parents of teenagers that will get at the issue of how parents and teens spend their time, how much they communicate, and what issues are most important to them. The results of this poll will be shared with us on Tuesday.

The Clinton Administration Working on Behalf of America's Teenagers: Administration Youth Accomplishments and FY 2001 Youth Budget Proposal

At the conference, we will be able to release documents that outline the investment the Administration has made in young people from education to health to community service to family-leave policies. We will also produce a document that will outline the President's FY 2001 Youth budget.

II. TOOLS FOR PARENTS & TEENS

New Task Force on Tools for Parents and Teens in the Media Age

This task force will be a private-public effort that could be announced at the conference, but tasked with producing results in six months. The purpose of the task force would be to:

- (1) Establish a portal for teenagers that would connect-up non-commercial teenager-friendly resources on the Internet (the Federal contribution would be to update the afterschool.gov site and add a connection called teens.gov);
- (2) Provide guidance to local communities on how to set up one-stop information centers to provide information on services, hotlines, and community opportunities to teenagers and parents of teenagers through 1-800#s and local web sites;
- (3) Establish a portal for parents that would connect up helpful information on parenting teenagers on the Internet. A Federal parenting website that will connect all of the parenting resources in the Federal government through OJJDP will be ready to announce at the conference; and,
- (4) Provide comprehensive information for parents on understanding and monitoring the usage of media by their teenagers. Currently, there is no one place that parents can find information on the various media rating systems or how to use them. The industry would come together to develop one web-site on media ratings systems with good information on how to use each system – it would be a message of universal information on current rating systems.

The following partners have agreed to be a part of this task force: Center for Media Education, American Psychological Association, America's Promise, Children's Defense Fund, National Network for Youth, United Way of America, and GetNetWise. In addition, we expect this task force to include media industry representatives (Tony Podesta is helping us to secure the industry partnerships): broadcasters, cable networks, Motion Picture Association of America, Recording Association of America, Interactive Digital Software Association (ISDA), and the major internet providers.

III. TOOLS FOR PARENTS

National Campaigns' Tips for Parents of Teens

The various National Campaigns that deal with preventing risky behaviors in teenagers – the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the National Campaign Against Youth Violence, and Tobacco Free Kids – are working together with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, HHS, and Education to produce a comprehensive guide for parents. This guide will include the strengths and assets teenagers need and tips for parents on how to best support their teenagers.

Time with your Teens Campaign

Research shows that one of the most important factors in a teenager's healthy development is spending interactive time with their parents, including having family mealtime together each day.

- The National Partnership for Women and Families and the Families and Work Institute are interested in waging a campaign similar to the "Read to Your Child" campaign. This campaign would send a clear message that it is critical for parents to spend time with their teens each day – including family mealtime. Challenges would go out to businesses to support parents in leaving work to spend time with their teenagers, to parents to make time for their teenagers, to teenagers to make time for their parents, and to communities to help ensure that parents have "Time with their Teens" each day. (We are working with Ellen Galinsky and Judy Lichtman to secure this announcement.)
- In addition, the Office of Personal Management has agreed to send out a message to Federal employees that time with their teens is important and to highlight the various leave policies that are in place to support parents, including the 24 hour FMLA policy for education activities.

Supporting Parents who Work

In 1999, the President announced that he would send up legislation to Congress and put forth an Executive Order for the Federal workplace to prohibit discrimination against parents in the work place, specifically with regard to hiring and promotion. Senators Dodd and Kennedy introduced the "Ending Discrimination Against Parents Act of 1999" in November 1999 and the President released a statement of support at the time of introduction.

The Executive Order on non-discrimination in the Federal workplace has not yet been released, but could be rolled-out at the conference as part of the message that we need workplaces that do not discriminate against parents. This EO would send a basic message that individuals should not be discriminated against based on their status and role as parents. The release of the EO would also allow us to highlight the Dodd-Kennedy bill once again.

Parent Action Kits on How to Start an After-School Program

The U.S Department of Education with the Mott Foundation has developed an action kit for parents on how to start an after-school program. The guide book helps parents work with schools and community organizations to start after-school programs that provide safe and enriching places for teenagers in the non-school hours.

IV. TOOLS FOR TEENS

White House Youth Advisory Council

The Office of Public Liaison and the Domestic Policy Council have established a White House Youth Advisory Council that has not yet been announced. This Council would meet two to three times a year to advise the President and his senior staff on policies and issues important to youth. Various youth advisory councils would be represented on this panel.

Express Yourself Guide

HHS has developed this guide to help teenagers better communicate with one and other and with their parents. It can be distributed through community-based organizations and schools. It has not yet been released.

April 21, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

**FROM: ANN O'LEARY
SHIRLEY SAGAWA**

**CC: MELANNE VERVEER
LISSA MUSCATINE
TOM FREEDMAN
HEATHER HOWARD
SONIA CHESSEN
MARYELLEN MCGUIRE**

SUBJECT: POLICY DELIVERABLES FOR WH CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS

Below you will find a compilation of the policy deliverables that we have developed and secured for the White House Conference on Teenagers. In addition, we first wanted to provide you with an update on our work on the issue of the voluntary uniform rating system and possible ways to highlight it at the conference.

VOLUNTARY UNIFORM RATING SYSTEM

- **Participation of Steve Case in the Conference.** As you know, we would have liked Steve Case to be able to join the conference and announce his support for a voluntary uniform rating system. Unfortunately, despite our efforts, his senior staff at America On-Line does not believe that he is ready to make this announcement. We are still trying to secure his participation in the conference in order to have him send a strong message to the industry – that as the different modes of media converge and as the industry continues to innovate, they need to take responsibility to simultaneously develop tools for parents that are easy to understand and easy to use.
- **Providing Better Information for Parents on How to Use the Current Rating Systems.** We believe that it would be helpful for you to highlight the work the various industries have done to implement rating systems and to educate parents on how to use them. At the same time, you could call for them to work together and do more to provide one place where parents could learn about how to best use the current rating systems. As part of a new task force (see below), you would announce that the industries have come together to provide comprehensive information for parents on understanding and monitoring the usage of media by their teenagers. Currently, there is no one place that parents can find information on the various media rating systems or how to use them. The industry would come together to

develop one web-site on media ratings systems with good information on how to use each system – it would be a message of universal information on current rating systems.

- **More Federal Research dollars for Understanding the Usage of New Media by Teenagers.**

One of the issues that has been raised as we have explored this issue is that before we develop a uniform rating system or a proposal on how parents can better monitor that children's usage of media, we need to better understand how children use various modes of media. There is very little research on the issue of teenagers and their use of media (particularly the Internet). The National Institute of Mental Health has agreed to gear one of their research competitions to better understand how the new media influences children and teenagers on such issues as academic learning, cognition and behavior.

We believe that you can use the conference as a platform to continue your call for a voluntary uniform rating system as a long-term goal. And, at the same time, you can set short term goals of doing more to educate parents about the current rating systems, investing more research into the issue, and challenging the industry to take responsibility for teenagers and parents as they move forward in their development of new media.

OVERALL POLICY DELIVERABLES

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns on any of these deliverables:

I. BETTER UNDERSTANDING AMERICAN TEENAGERS

Snapshot of the American Teenager

This report—prepared by the Council of Economic Advisors for the White House Conference on Teenagers—focuses on the opportunities and challenges facing American young people. The report highlights demographic changes in the population of teens and their families occurring over the past century. Many trends have been positive; teens generally face fewer health risks and greater economic opportunities than ever before. Teens today are far better educated than were their predecessors. Other trends are cause for concern to teens and their families. Many of the greatest risks facing teens are the consequence of their own behavior and the behavior of those around them. High rates of teen pregnancy and teen smoking are among trends that present serious risks to the current and future welfare of American teens.

An important focus of this paper is the potential for parents to have a positive role in influencing constructive behavior and protecting teens from serious danger. Data described in this report indicate that teens who have a strong relationship with their parents—built on spending time together—are more likely to do well in school and to refrain from smoking or taking drugs, and are less likely to become pregnant or be involved in violent incidents. Parents make a good investment when they take time to retain a strong connection with their children.

YMCA Poll

The YMCA is conducting a poll of teenagers and parents of teenagers that will get at the issue of how parents and teens spend their time, how much they communicate, and what issues are most important to them. The results of this poll will be shared with us on Tuesday.

The Clinton Administration Working on Behalf of America's Teenagers: Administration Youth Accomplishments and FY 2001 Youth Budget Proposal

At the conference, we will be able to release documents that outline the investment the Administration has made in young people from education to health to community service to family-leave policies. We will also produce a document that will outline the President's FY 2001 Youth budget.

II. TOOLS FOR PARENTS & TEENS

New Task Force on Tools for Parents and Teens in the Media Age

This task force will be a private-public effort that could be announced at the conference, but tasked with producing results in six months. The purpose of the task force would be to:

- (1) Establish a portal for teenagers that would connect-up non-commercial teenager-friendly resources on the Internet (the Federal contribution would be to update the afterschool.gov site and add a connection called teens.gov);
- (2) Provide guidance to local communities on how to set up one-stop information centers to provide information on services, hotlines, and community opportunities to teenagers and parents of teenagers through 1-800#s and local web sites;
- (3) Establish a portal for parents that would connect up helpful information on parenting teenagers on the Internet. A Federal parenting website that will connect all of the parenting resources in the Federal government through OJJDP will be ready to announce at the conference; and,
- (4) Provide comprehensive information for parents on understanding and monitoring the usage of media by their teenagers. Currently, there is no one place that parents can find information on the various media rating systems or how to use them. The industry would come together to develop one web-site on media ratings systems with good information on how to use each system – it would be a message of universal information on current rating systems.

The following partners have agreed to be a part of this task force: Center for Media Education, American Psychological Association, America's Promise, Children's Defense Fund, National Network for Youth, United Way of America, and GetNetWise. In addition, we expect this task force to include media industry representatives (Tony Podesta is helping us to secure the industry partnerships): broadcasters, cable networks, Motion Picture Association of America, Recording Association of America, Interactive Digital Software Association (ISDA), and the major internet providers.

III. TOOLS FOR PARENTS

National Campaigns' Tips for Parents of Teens

The various National Campaigns that deal with preventing risky behaviors in teenagers – the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, the National Campaign Against Youth Violence, and Tobacco Free Kids – are working together with the Office of National Drug Control Policy, HHS, and Education to produce a comprehensive guide for parents. This guide will include the strengths and assets teenagers need and tips for parents on how to best support their teenagers.

Time with your Teens Campaign

Research shows that one of the most important factors in a teenager's healthy development is spending interactive time with their parents, including having family mealtime together each day.

- The National Partnership for Women and Families and the Families and Work Institute are interested in waging a campaign similar to the "Read to Your Child" campaign. This campaign would send a clear message that it is critical for parents to spend time with their teens each day – including family mealtime. Challenges would go out to businesses to support parents in leaving work to spend time with their teenagers, to parents to make time for their teenagers, to teenagers to make time for their parents, and to communities to help ensure that parents have "Time with their Teens" each day. (We are working with Ellen Galinsky and Judy Lichtman to secure this announcement.)
- In addition, the Office of Personal Management has agreed to send out a message to Federal employees that time with their teens is important and to highlight the various leave policies that are in place to support parents, including the 24 hour FMLA policy for education activities.

Supporting Parents who Work

In 1999, the President announced that he would send up legislation to Congress and put forth an Executive Order for the Federal workplace to prohibit discrimination against parents in the work place, specifically with regard to hiring and promotion. Senators Dodd and Kennedy introduced the "Ending Discrimination Against Parents Act of 1999" in November 1999 and the President released a statement of support at the time of introduction.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: HRC
FROM: Lissa, Erika
RE: Press plan for White House Conference on Teens
DATE: April 14, 2000

We anticipate a good deal of media interest leading up to the conference. Following are our thoughts on a press strategy.

Conference Roll Out

Newsweek - Newsweek has agreed to publish their special issue on teens the week of the conference, rather than at the end of May as originally planned. They've requested a guest op-ed from you on the issues that will be explored at the conference.

Yes []
No []

New York Times - There's been some discussion of leaking conference news (e.g. poll data) a day prior to the conference for a day-of story. We plan to wait on this until we see the results of the poll or have details on the more newsworthy policy deliverables. In any case, we think the Times is the best outlet for this type of story.

Just for your information, the initial details of the conference were leaked to Kathy Kiely of USA Today on April 11. A copy of her story is attached. In addition, a media advisory announcing the conference was released April 12. The President also plans to mention the event in his April 15 radio address.

Day-of Press

We think the following likely will be the biggest news of the conference:

- 1) YMCA poll data on teens and their parents
- 4 2) New demographic information on today's teen population - HHS/CEA snapshot
- 2 3) Possible AOL/Steve Case announcement on formation of task force to study voluntary uniform rating system
- 3 4) Release of Executive Order on non-discrimination of parents in the workplace
- 5) A series of policy deliverables, including the Family Meal Time campaign, prevention guide for parents of teens, teen hotline task force and new parenting website.

Possible interviews include:

Morning shows - The subject of the conference is a natural fit for the morning shows. We'd like to approach the three major network shows as well as ~~as Fox~~ and CNN about interviews with you the morning of the conference.

Yes []
No []

USA Today – As a follow up to her April 12 piece, Kathy Kiely would like to interview you about the conference for a more involved story on the issues facing today's teens and their parents. The majority of the interview would cover the conference but she may ask a couple of questions about your campaign. We recommend doing the interview – she is very good ~~and will write a fair story.~~ We could set this up to run the day of the conference or the day after.

Yes []
No []

National Public Radio is another good outlet for the subject of teens and parenting. We may want to approach Joanne Silberner -- who often covers these types of issues -- about an interview with you. Or, we could connect her with panel participants and/or Cabinet members to act as surrogates. Any thoughts?

Finally, we plan to encourage participating Cabinet members to conduct radio and print interviews in conjunction with the conference. We'll also check into having the President's press shop to set up regional and other specialty press interviews for conference panel participants.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS: RAISING RESPONSIBLE AND RESOURCEFUL YOUTH

May 2, 2000

TALKING POINTS

Q: Why did the President and Mrs. Clinton plan this conference?

Despite a lot of good news about today's youth – declining rates of teen pregnancy, decreases in crimes against youth and increases in student achievement – parents are worried about their teenagers. In many cases, teens themselves feel alienated from their communities and insecure about the future. The conference has been designed to respond to these concerns by engaging parents, teens and experts in a discussion about what we can do to raise successful teenagers.

Q: What is the First Lady's record on teen issues? Has she worked with this age group before?

Mrs. Clinton has a long history of working on behalf of children. (need details on record)

Q: Is this event related to the anniversary of the Columbine tragedy?

Concern over youth violence is just one of several reasons the Clinton's decided to host the conference. The President and Mrs. Clinton hope the conference will serve as a forum for discussion of both the positive and negative trends affecting America's teens and their parents.

Q: How many teens are there in the United States?

According to the latest Census Bureau information, there were 35.5 million Americans ages 10-18 as of September 1999. Data also shows that today's teen population is the most diverse in history.

Q: Is this conference intended to help the First Lady's Senate campaign?

The conference on raising teenagers is a bookend to a White House conference on early childhood held in December 1997. Mrs. Clinton has worked on behalf of children for more than 30 years. This conference is a reflection of her – as well as the President's – long standing interest in children's issues.

TO: Lissa
FROM: Erika

Lissa, here's a draft of the press plan we discussed for the conference. Loretta has called a meeting of senior staff to discuss the communications strategy in more detail, which may necessitate some changes. You should have an email message about the meeting (I think it's at 3:15 on Friday).

I've also attached the talking points we discussed. There are still some holes to fill on her record.

Thanks!

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TEENS Conference Press Plan

News

- 1) Poll
- 2) Exec. order - non discrimination vs parents
in federal workforce
- 3) Demographics
- 4) Steve Case to form task force on uniform ratings
- 5) local hotlines
- 6) Collaborative guide for parents

Roll-out

Newsweek piece by HRC

Possible poll data leaked

" Steve Case

Day of

A.M. shows

CNN, Fox?

Prospective interviews

Kathy Kiehl

NPR

NYTIMES / NY Media plan

Specialty press

Invited guests and/or covering

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS
Program Draft 4/13/2000

- 10:30 **Opening Video:** Montage of a diverse group of parents and teens speaking about their lives. Gets out key messages: how they use their time, kids don't feel listened to, parents don't think their kids listen, kids are stressed, parents are worried, hopes and aspirations. The overall message is that whatever their background, families have similar hopes and concerns.
- 10:35 **POTUS and HRC announced into room together with keynote speaker(s), Cabinet members attending**
- 10:35 **HRC Speaks:** Provides interesting statistics and trends about today's teens and their families, explains that this conference is the bookend to the Early Childhood Conference, puts it in the context of post Littleton. Underlying message: While there is much to be happy about in terms of trends over the last seven years, there remain serious challenges. Parents are key, but need support from the community.
- 10:43 **POTUS Speaks:** Talks about the Administration's accomplishments, budget, and deliverables. Acknowledges all cabinet members attending. Underlying message: Youth are resources in their own development, but we need to support them and their families in order to maximize their potential.
- 9:53 **KEYNOTE:**
Our first choice would be a *joint keynote by a parent/teen combination* – we have a good lead on an African American father and son who would be perfect for this role. They would talk about their own lives, illustrate the themes of the day with real stories, and give credibility to the researchers and experts who will follow. Alternatives for the keynote address are a *celebrity* (see attached list) or *Geoff Canada*, Harlem Rheedlen Centers, who would bring some urgency to the issue (although he might also take us a little off of our “universal” as opposed to “at-risk” message).
- 11:00 **PANEL I takes the stage. HRC to moderate.**
- 11:05 **Who are today's teens? What do they need? [4 min/adults, 3 min/teen]**
- **Brain Research/Physical development-** recent research suggests that an important phase of brain development occurs around puberty and that what happens now matters and can set the stage for later successes, *Dr. Giedd* or *Dr. Melvin Grumbach*
 - **Adolescent Development-** present stages of development, peer cues, behavioral pressures, need for independence, *Jacqueline Eccles* or *Richard Lerner*
 - **Assets-** all teenagers need a caring adult, healthy habits, safe places, good education, opportunity to serve, *Karen Pittman* or *Peter Benson*
 - **Media Images of Teens** –*Susan Bailes*
 - **Teen Girl-** offers personal perspective on challenges of adolescence

11:40 Panel I leaves stage/Panel II seated. HRC to moderate.

11:43 What can parents do to help teens? What can communities do to help parents get teens what they need? [4 min/panel, 3min/speakers from the audience]

- **Parent Expert-** someone to synthesize what we know about good parenting of teenagers, *Laura Sessions Stepp*, author of *Our Last Best Shot*, which David Hamburg calls the best book ever written on parenting teens
- **Avoiding risk behaviors** – *Michael Resnick* or *Robert Blum*
- **Parenting & the New Media** - *Steve Case*
- **The role of the community in a teen's life** - *Geoff Canada*

Speakers from the audience - expressing specific ways that the communities can help/support parents in raising responsible and resourceful teens

- **Youth as resources-** how young people themselves can make difference, *Youth from the DOJ National Youth Network*
- **Religious Community-** importance of religion/values in raising teens, *Representative of The Ten Point Coalition in Boston*
- **School-** importance of parent involvement in middle and high school, high school reform, afterschool programming, *Jay Engelin- Principal of the Year*
- **The Family Friendly Workplace-** how does the work world need to change to support our raising families, *Ellen Galinsky*
- **CBO-** ways youth organizations can involve families, *Ben Casey, YMCA Dallas*
- **Health-** *Dr. Angela Diaz, Mt. Sinai/Children's Aid Society*

12:43 Reflections/Closing: HRC Thank you and good bye, mentions breakouts later in day, invites people to lunch, invites satellite downlinks to continue talking into the day within their local communities.

12:45 End

WH CONFERENCE ON TEENAGERS DRAFT ON BREAKOUTS

BREAKOUT #1

How Do We Make Time for Parents and Teenagers to spend time together?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Parents and Families Matter in the Lives of Teenagers
Dr. Larry Steinberg, Temple University (expert on parenting styles)
Dr. Michael Resnick, Minnesota (research on importance of parental and family involvement in adolescent development, including research on family meal time)
- Parents and teens thoughts on work-family issues and spending time together
Ellen Galinsky, Families and Work Institute, author of *Ask the Children: What America's Children Really Think about Working Parents*
(Arlie Hochschild (author of 2nd shift) also was recommended)
- Businesses can make a difference in supporting parents of teenagers
(CEO from model Corporation, such as Discovery)
- Highlight FMLA 24 hour policy to support parent leave for educational activities
State policymaker who could highlight such policies and discuss importance of policy on parents of teens (FYI – 8 states require leave for participation in children's educational activities)

Moderators: Secretary Herman
Senator Murray (D-WA)
Senator Jeffords (R-VT)

Policy Deliverables:

- Family Meal Time that would include a non-government campaign to promote families having meals together
- Continuing push for FMLA expansion to 24 hours
- Release of EO on non-discrimination of parents in the Federal work place
- Federal Campaign to urge Federal Workers to use flexi-time and family-friendly policies to have meals with their children (OPM would take lead)

BREAKOUT #2

How is the Information Age Shaping Youth Today?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Positive and Negatives of Technology Use by Teens
Katherine Montgomery, Center for Media and Education
- Providing parents with tools to better understand and monitor the media used by their teenagers
Representative from AOL

Director of the Kaiser Family Foundation (funded parents guide to the television ratings)

- Civic Values in the Media Age
Dr. Bill Dammon, Director of the Stanford University Center on Adolescence
(In June 1999, Dr. Dammon conducted a conference on "Creating Citizenship: Youth Development for Free and Democratic Society" – he could focus on using media and information for the purpose of civic engagement and encouraging parents to support young people in using media for this purpose)
(Zoe Baird, Markel Foundation also recommended)
- Media Portrayal of Youth and Family
Susan Bales, President, FrameWorks Institute

Moderators: William Kennard, FCC Chairman
Senator Lieberman (D-CT)
Rep. Jennifer Dunn (R-WA)

Policy Deliverables:

- Uniform rating system (We are in negotiation with AOL, but would like to be able to announce the support of Steve Case and ask him to form a task force on this issue as part of his role as Board Member of the National Campaign Against Youth Violence. In addition, we would like to push industry to do more to inform parents of current rating system and we would like to dedicate some Federal research dollars to studying kids and their media consumption.)

BREAKOUT #3

Parents Cannot Raise Teens Alone – Where do We Find Spaces and Places for Teenagers to Grow?

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Reforming the American High School to meet the needs of 21st Century Teens
Dr. Gene Bottoms, education researcher and advocate for reforming the American High School to better serve students through personal attention, high standards, technological innovation, and parental involvement
(principal of New American high school who has done a good job with parent involvement)
- Expanding Opportunities for Teenagers in the Non-School Hours
(Virtual Y – NYC) – YMCA After-School program director
(Ken Gladish, YMCA of the USA, Executive Director)
- Importance of community based organizations for Youth Development, including importance of involving parents in community organizations
Dr. Milbrey McLaughlin, Stanford University professor and author of recently released report *Community Counts*
- Work places that help young people grow
Dr. Katherine Newman, Harvard University, recent book on teens and work
(David Hamburg recommended Dr. Newman)

Model employer that support youth development, e.g. CEO of Burger King

Moderators: Secretary Riley
Senator Kit Bond (R-MO)
Congresswoman Woolsey

Policy Deliverables:

- Challenges to Sectors (we hope to get commitments from various sectors, e.g. Dept. of ED with education organizations on push for parental involvement in middle school and high school, etc.)

BREAKOUT #4

Fulfilling America's Promise for ALL Teenagers

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Basic Assets Needed to Help All Teens Grow into Responsible & Resourceful Youth
Peter Benson, Search Institute – famous for spelling out 40 assets needed by young people, which were used by America's Promise to create the 5 promises
- What works and what does not for our most vulnerable youth
Debra Delgado, Annie E. Casey Foundation – focus on children in foster care
David Domenici, Principal of the Maya Angelou Public Charter School that has been nationally recognized for its work with kids in the juvenile justice system
(need Speaker who has worked with Immigrants/Refugees)

Moderator: Attorney General
Senator Dodd (D-CT)

Policy Deliverables:

- Collaborative guide to prevention for parents that includes assets, prevention of risk behaviors, etc. produced by National Campaigns (e.g. Teen Pregnancy, Youth Violence, Tobacco-Free Kids, ONDCP) in partnership with HHS
- Parenting Website – OJJDP parenting website geared towards parents of teenagers that would include principles and concrete guidelines for parents, also promote parenting information geared to parents of teens on private internet sites such as ivillage, oxygen.com, and parents.com

BREAKOUT #5

Teenagers as their Own Best Resources

Sub-Themes and Discussion Leaders:

- Youth serving other youth/youth social entrepreneur/philanthropist
youth, Community Impact or youth, AmeriCorps member
- Service-learning in the schools
Kathleen Lee, Turner Middle School teacher in Philadelphia, accompanied by youth

- Using the arts to help youth find their own solutions to problems
Latoya Gardner (16) from Nashville's Citywide Teen Leadership Council and the Y's Positive Theory Awareness Program that does plays for teens with positive messages or youth, tbd, Urban Improv
- Civic engagement
Bob Putnam
- Building local networks for teens
Kansas City Youth Net or United Way Atlanta 211

Moderators: Harris Wofford
Rep. Chris Shays (R-CT)

Policy Deliverables:

- Announce a Task Force to help local communities develop "211" or "1-800" line that would connect resources for teens to get information on local services, hotlines, volunteer opportunities. In addition, set up national public-private web site with local links to do same thing. Also, announce a major public relations campaign to push for local hotlines and www.teens.gov for available resources
- Highlight youth service budget

BREAKOUT #6

Supporting the Health of America's Teenagers: Helping Teens Make Healthy Decision?

Sub-themes and discussion leaders:

- What is the state of health of teens? (% of kids who have no access to care. Suicide, Risky behaviors: drugs, alcohol, sex.) Importance of health promotion and prevention. (Nutrition and exercise).
- Add Health, study found that the home environment and school can positively influence the health behavior of youth
Robert Blum
- How to get kids to avoid risk behavior.
Sarah Brown, Director of Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy
- The role school-based clinics can play
Julia Graham Lear, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- What works? Community based care example: care that is confidential, non-judgmental, relevant to teen life-styles and behavior, at minimal cost, with appointments after hours, with a focus on health (prevention), rather than disease
Dr. Angela Diaz, Mt. Sinai Adolescent Health Clinic.
- Mental Health in Adolescence
Dr. Bernie Arons, director of the Center for Mental Health Services

Moderator: Secretary Shalala
Senator Dodd (D-CT)
Senator Kennedy (D-CT)
Cong. Woolsey?

Policy Deliverables:

Collaborative Guide from the National Campaigns fits in well here.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 12, 2000

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**PRESIDENT AND MRS. CLINTON TO CONVENE "WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
ON TEENAGERS: RAISING RESPONSIBLE AND RESOURCEFUL YOUTH"
May 2, 2000**

Washington, D.C. – On Tuesday, May 2, 2000, the President and Mrs. Clinton will host the "White House Conference on Teenagers: Raising Responsible and Resourceful Youth." The conference will feature some of the nation's leading experts on raising teenagers and will cover issues such as:

- New scientific research that the teen years are as important as the first three years of life and set patterns for adult behavior and success;
- The changing demographics of today's youth, the most diverse group of teenagers in history;
- Perceptions and realities about the role parents play in the lives of their teenage children;
- The risks, challenges and anxieties faced by today's teens;
- The impact of new media on youth and parenting;
- What parents, communities, and young people themselves can do to avoid risk behaviors to build a safe and successful path to adulthood.

The opening session of the one-day conference will take place in the East Room with an audience comprised of parents and teens, educators, youth workers, foundation leaders, researchers, and policymakers. This session will be broadcast via satellite to locations around the country for those interested in participating. The opening session will be followed by lunch, breakout sessions hosted by Administration officials and members of Congress, and a closing reception.

###

Further details concerning the satellite downlink, program and scheduling information will be released as available. If interested in hosting a satellite downlink site for this conference, please contact _____.

Conference / Teenagers 4/6/00

Video - concerns of teens + parents
universality of issues

FLORUS - opening POTUS → deliverables 3rd speaker?

Panel #1 Demographics, research, Snapshot of teens

Panel #2 Experts
Parents
Audience } moderated by HRC

Deliverables

CEA/HHS → report on teens
demographics
family dynamics / interactions

YMCA → poll
dinner / meals question - news for day of?

Bring back family meal time

Website for parents
teens } locally based

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. CLINTON

FROM: Shirley Sagawa
Ann O'Leary
MaryEllen McGuire
Heather Howard
Ruby Shamir

RE: White House Conference on Teenagers

DATE: March 30, 2000

Doc:

1) look to get out the idea

*New poll w/ Ymca
Grant + Calum Hill?*

*Demographics - more teenagers than ever
Biology - brain - pruning
Dypl. research - parents do have a role*

We wanted to bring you up to date on the planning for our conference, now scheduled for May 2. We have tentatively entitled the event "The White House Conference on Teenagers: Raising Responsible and Resourceful Youth." In addition to the group on this memo, Sonia Chessen, director of the White House Council on Youth Violence, has been working hard on the conference. Sonia is on detail from HHS where she was a senior advisor to Peggy Hamburg responsible for the youth development portfolio.

Deliverables
1) media
2) workplace
3) tools

We have held focus groups with researchers, youth-serving organizations, experts on youth development, education organizations, foundations, work and family experts, and youth. In addition, we have asked youth-serving organizations to hold their own focus groups with youth and to report back their ideas. We are finding strong support for the following messages:

Why WH
1) bookend to early years
2) govt sponsored research
3) legacy piece

- The early teen years are as important as the zero to three years in terms of healthy and meaningful development (there is even preliminary research that suggests the brain goes through an important "pruning and weeding" phase around puberty, raising the stakes for these years).
- Contrary to their own perceptions, parents do play an important role in the development of their teenage children; research and reports from teenagers themselves confirm that youth look to their parents for guidance and want more interaction with them.
- Parent and teen fears about violence and other dangers are disproportionate to actual risks; we must shatter the stereotypes people hold in regard to youth and at the same time explore why some risks/negative behaviors perpetuate, we need to acknowledge that there is a crisis of community and values in our society that must be addressed in order to be restored.
- While there is significant consensus regarding what young people need, and about what parents, adults in the community, and youth themselves can do to meet these needs, this information is not well known.

The opening session will be held in the East Room in the morning, to be followed by a lunch,

breakout sessions, and possibly a closing off-site. We expect to invite about 150 people including youth experts, foundations, corporations, federal, state and local policymakers, educators, and pairs of youth and parents. Please let us know if there is anyone in particular you want to invite. We will have a draft invitation list for you to look at next week.

We are working on several possible deliverables. They include:

- **Portrait of American Teenagers:** A "snapshot" report on teenagers and the American Family, to be prepared by the Council of Economic Advisors, will be used as a base for the conference and will provide the public with an accurate image of teens, their families, positive and negative behavior trends of young people, and why parents matter in the lives of teens. This report will include information on the diversity of teens (race, ethnicity, immigrant status), health status, life expectancy, education and will put this information in an historical perspective -- looking at teens over the past one hundred years.
- **Tools for teenagers:** A one-stop center for information pertaining to teens will be rolled out in a new www.teenagers.gov site that will link together government websites with information on everything from health care to education to programs and opportunities for teenagers. In addition, we would like to be able to announce possible plans to develop a national youth hotline like the UK's "Childline" so that America's youth could have one hotline to call that would link them to local service providers for help in crisis or times of trouble.
- **Tools for parents:** We would like to provide a number of tools for parents: (1) a joint statement/pamphlet by the Campaign for the Prevention of Teen Pregnancy, ONDCP, Tobacco Free Kids, and Youth Violence campaign on what parents can do to help their children avoid risky behavior; (2) a new parenting website being developed by OJJDP that would have information specifically for parents of teenagers (most parenting websites provide little or no information to parents of teenagers) ; and (3) steps to move forward on developing a uniformed rating system that would be easy for parents to use.
- **Challenges to the community:** to employers to make it easier for parents of teenagers to spend time with them; to youth organizations to involve parents in their programs, not just youth; to schools to involve not just elementary school parents, but middle school and high school parents as well; to the media to take responsibility in how they portray young people, how they market to young people, and what messages they send to young people, etc.
- **Challenges to youth themselves to take responsibility for their futures.** We are also considering initiating a national challenge to "make family meal time a priority" as a proxy for the overall important message of parents and teenagers spending time together. Research suggests the importance of this simple step,

but in a practical sense, it is not easy to achieve even by the best parents. In order to acknowledge how hard it is for many families to come together for meals, and to make the challenge credible, we would seek a few lead commitments by employers and others (7-11s, cereal companies, etc.) both to spread the word and take steps to help their own employees participate in family meals. Do you think this is a good idea?

To increase media attention we are looking to include a celebrity into the speaking program. So far we are considering Denzel Washington, Susan Sarandon, Sela Ward, Cal Ripkin, or Bill Cosby to take part as both child advocates and parents. As youth-oriented role models we are considering Will Smith and Grant Hill, a basketball player from the Detroit Pistons who has done PSAs for AmeriCorps, the Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, and ONDCP. Do you have any preferences or further ideas on which celebrities to invite?

Finally, we are pleased that the Annie Casey Foundation has agreed to provide funding in support of the conference; the Department of Education has agreed to organize the satellite uplink; GSA has agreed to manage the satellite uplink and downlinks; and the YMCA of the USA has agreed to do a poll and video for us, and to be our key private sector partner. The video will feature a diverse group of young people and parents talking about the issues they face. It is being produced by Sunburst (the firm that did the Philanthropy Conference video and Millennium Evening videos).

Next week, we will provide you with a draft of the agenda including proposed speakers, researchers, and model programs we hope to highlight. Over the next few days, we will be vetting ideas internally and will be brainstorming further with David Hamburg in order to further revise and hone the message. We will keep you posted as we move forward. Don't hesitate to call with any questions.

Talk to Joe

PRESS STRATEGY 3/21/00

Will Long a Kaiser ~~seedlings~~ [in the 21st c.]: Responsible,
 Pro-active Nation's top experts resourceful +
 ready for the future.

- New brain research last October -
abt second growth spurt until adolescence
- What are trouble signs?
How do you evaluate your kids

violence

teen pregnancy

drugs

6 basis



Try to get these groups together
to come up w/ 10 tips
parents should do to avoid/deal
with risk behaviors

Sleep Disorders

2 W satellite from East Km

FOCUS

FRONS

Research (main) guy

Portrait of teenager (reality check)

Parents / Audience

Break-out sessions Caples & Hill

Bookend conference (early years was v. successful)

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. CLINTON

From: Shirley Sagawa
Ann O'Leary
MaryEllen McGuire

Re: White House Conference on Youth

Date: February 23, 2000

cc: Melanne Verveer, Lissa Muscatine, Patti Solis

We are moving ahead with the proposed White House Conference on Youth, which we are tentatively calling the White House Conference on Raising Responsible Teenagers in the 21st Century.

The attached piece explains the goals and framework of the conference as we envision it. We have discussed the ideas with David Hamburg, and both Tom Freedman and Eric Liu on the DPC. We have assembled a working group including DPC, Public Liaison, and First Lady staff, and will start holding focus groups with outside groups shortly. HHS has tentatively made \$160,000 available for the conference.

Our goal is to hold the conference in late May, before the end of school and before the third anniversary conference of America's Promise. We are going to request May 22, although we understand that another date may be preferable.

Please let us know if you have any feedback on the paper. In our work on youth violence and on the conference call with the President, many voice support for your continued leadership in this area. We are moving ahead because of the short timeline.

White House Conference on Raising Responsible Teenagers in the 21st Century

Despite many positive developments in the last seven years – including declining rates of teen pregnancy, decreases in crimes against youth, and increases in student achievement and college access – parents of today's adolescents express significant anxiety about the well-being of their children. In many cases, teenagers themselves feel alienated from their communities and insecure about the future. And recent episodes have made parents and teens of all backgrounds feel helpless in the face of school violence.

The White House Conference on Raising Responsible Teenagers in the 21st Century will respond to these concerns by focusing attention on ways that families and communities can teach good values, promote healthy behavior, and support positive youth development. Against a backdrop of broader societal changes (the new technology, an increasingly diverse population, and a significant "opportunity gap" for low-income and minority youth), the Conference will bring to light research on positive youth development, emphasize the importance of substantial investments in youth, and highlight the Administration's achievements in this area.

What problems will be addressed through the Conference?

- Parents that feel disconnected from their children and lack information to respond to the challenges they face.
- Teenagers feel alienated from their families and communities, and may choose their values and behaviors based on peers and the media.
- Low-income and minority teenagers face an "opportunity gap" in many areas.
- Problems of youth require comprehensive and integrated solutions, but often are addressed through programs focused on a single issue.
- There is only limited research on "what works" for adolescents, and that research is not well known.

What do we hope to accomplish?

- To engage parents and communities in a conversation about how we can do a better job working together to raise our teenagers.
- To showcase the accomplishments of the Administration, and advance the President's budget request, in the area of youth development.
- To encourage more effective, integrated services for and by youth at all levels of government and in the private sector.

- To provide parents and communities with tools and information they can use to address the needs of adolescents.
- To enable teenagers to speak out about the challenges they face and their role in addressing these problems.
- To issue a call to action to the private sector, media, etc. to take responsibility for their effect on youth, and to use their resources to promote healthy behaviors.

Who is the audience?

- Parents
- Teenagers
- Policymakers
- Youth workers
- Media
- Business
- Foundations

When will the conference occur?

- Date to be scheduled pursuant to the President and First Lady's availability. Preferred date May 22 to take place before school lets out so we can downlink to classrooms.

How will the conference program be organized?

- The program may be organized thematically around "community, opportunity, and responsibility."
- Within this framework, the following issues may be addressed:
 - Health –teen pregnancy, HIV, smoking, drugs and alcohol, and research on obesity, sleep, etc.
 - Education –afterschool programs, smaller high schools, impact of work on education, college preparation and access
 - Enterprise –entrepreneurship programs, school-to-work, technology
 - Crime –violence by youth, youth as victims of violence, gangs
 - Values –citizenship, service, philanthropy, character education, community strengthening, "One America"
 - Integration of services

What are potential deliverables?

- Announce research agenda
- Commission and release parents' guide to recent research on adolescence

- Budget amplification (pull together all pieces of the federal budget related to this agenda)
- Announce upcoming Corporation for National Service youth summit (scheduled for late June in Florida)
- Explore possible grant announcements through agencies and foundations
- Explore possible research report releases through agencies and nonprofit organizations
- Explore possible executive order relating to use of federal facilities, interagency task force, etc.
- Announce year 2000 Leader Schools (Presidential awards for schools with best service-learning programs)

2/23/00 5:06 PM

Media Advisory

The White House has begun planning a White House conference on raising teenagers, tentatively scheduled for early May. The conference will feature advice from parents and teenagers, experts, and others about how best to raise responsible, resourceful, and resilient teenagers. It will make available the latest research on healthy youth development and provide practical tools to parents and others who interact with teenage and pre-teen youth.

The conference follows on the 1998 White House Conference on Early Brain Development {right name?} which focused on the years from zero to three.

Members of the media who wish to be kept informed about the conference as it is developed, or to arrange for special coverage, may contact [who – Lissa? Shirley? Toby/Erica?].



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Clinton to host conference on bringing up teens

By Kathy Kiely
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON -- It's a topic that parents by the millions talk about every day over kitchen tables and office fax machines. And next month, President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will give it bully pulpit treatment when they host a White House conference on raising teens.

The White House Conference on Teenagers: Raising Responsible and Resourceful Youth will take place May 2, less than two weeks after the first anniversary of the shootings April 20 at Columbine High School, where a pair of teens killed 12 classmates and a teacher before turning their guns on themselves.

A formal announcement of plans for the conference is expected from the administration today.

Concern over youth violence is only one of several reasons the Clintons have decided to host the conference, according to a senior administration official involved in planning the conference.

Among other things, the first couple want to focus attention on new research that indicates that preteen years are a key time for brain development and that -- contrary to many parents' beliefs -- kids want and need more direction from their parents.

The Clintons want to discuss the challenges and risks of raising what White House officials believe is one of the fastest-growing and most diverse groups of teens in U.S. history. There were 35.3 million Americans ages 10-18 as of September 1999, according to the latest estimates from the Census Bureau.

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The day-long conference will feature parents, teens, educators, policymakers and other experts. Among the topics expected to be discussed are drug and alcohol abuse, violent behavior, sexual activity and the effects of the news media on children and parents.

After an opening session, the conferees will break into small discussion groups, led by members of Congress and Clinton administration officials.

The conference is a reflection of Hillary Clinton's long-time interest in children's issues.

It follows up on a similar forum that she and the president hosted in 1997 on early childhood development.

It also will give the first lady a high-profile forum to appeal to women, a constituency that is expected to be key in her New York Senate race.

Her likely Republican opponent, New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, has also been wooing female voters.



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