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CHILDREN

"Our first challenge is to cherish our children and to strengthen America's families. Family is the foundation of American life. If we have stronger families, we will have a stronger America."

President Bill Clinton
January 23, 1996

Quality child care is critical to the millions of working families struggling to make ends meet. The Clinton Administration, which has increased funding for child care in every budget proposal, has been committed to expanding child care assistance through Head Start and other successful child care programs - and to improving the quality of child care. President Clinton is also committed to ensuring the safety of children in foster care, reuniting families where it is possible and encouraging adoption where it is not, reducing the unnecessary amount of time children spend in foster care, and strengthening the capacity of parents to nurture healthy children. The Clinton Administration is also committed to protecting children and improving the nutritional quality of school meals, reaching full participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and opposing block grants for child nutrition programs.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT IN CHILD CARE:

- **Head Start:** President Clinton has made expanding and improving Head Start a priority of his Administration. With bipartisan support, the President appointed the Head Start Advisory Commission to examine and recommend improvements to the program. These recommendations formed the basis of the reauthorization of Head Start with major quality improvements in 1994. Since taking office, the President has increased funding for Head Start by almost \$800 million to serve tens of thousands of additional children.
- **Increased Funding for Child Care:** Every budget submitted by President Clinton has included increases to improve and expand child care services.
- **Improved Coordination:** The Clinton Administration has worked to make child care programs more consistent and coordinated. By streamlining the management of four major child care programs into a single Child Care Bureau, the Administration has linked services and programs, reduced red tape, improved quality and given states more flexibility.
- **Promoted Quality:** The Clinton Administration has revamped and strengthened technical assistance to states, territories and tribes to ensure they have access to the best available information on child care quality issues, particularly health and safety. In addition, the Administration has launched a National Child Care Information Center for policymakers and the public and highlighted solutions for including children with disabilities in child care through technical assistance to states.
- **Launched New Partnerships for Quality Services:** The Clinton Administration launched the Healthy Child Care Campaign to create partnerships between the health care and child care communities to ensure safe and healthy environments for children.

- **Helped Families Move From Welfare to Work:** Since 1993, the Clinton Administration has granted waivers to more than 20 states to extend transitional child care and improve access to child care for families moving from welfare to work.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT IN CHILD PROTECTION:

- **Removing Barriers to Adoption:** The Clinton Administration is working to encourage adoption, including adoption of children with special needs, and to reduce the amount of time children spend in foster care. President Clinton strongly supports the adoption tax credit in the Adoption Promotion and Stability Act of 1996. The tax credit is a step towards meeting the challenge of removing barriers to adoption by making it easier for families for whom adoption may be prohibitively expensive.

In October 1994, President Clinton signed the Multi-ethnic Placement Act, which will help increase the number of adoptions by prohibiting discrimination based on race or ethnicity, while allowing a narrow consideration for certain factors such as race.

- **Increasing Special Needs Adoptions:** During this Administration, the number of children with special needs who have been adopted with federal adoption assistance has increased by about 60%.
- **Improving Court Operations:** The Administration is working with 48 state court systems to improve operations so that children spend less time in foster care unnecessarily.
- **Focusing on Outcomes and Accountability:** The Administration is shifting the federal government's role from a focus on how well forms are filled out to a focus on how well children are doing. The Administration is providing states with flexibility and technical assistance so that they can reform their child welfare systems and working with 48 states to automate their child welfare systems and reduce the paperwork burden on caseworkers.
- **Strengthening Families:** The Family Preservation and Support Act, passed in 1993, provided almost \$1 billion over five years for the development of preventive and supportive services.
- **Preserving Critical Programs:** The President has stood firm throughout the budget debate to protect funds for adoption, foster care, child abuse and neglect, Medicaid, and Social Security -- programs that are critical for many adoptive families and children.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT IN CHILD NUTRITION:

The Clinton Administration is standing up for America's children by supporting and improving child nutrition programs and protecting the national nutrition safety net.

- **Increased Funding for Nutrition:** The President's FY97 Budget requests about \$41 billion for nutrition assistance, up from \$39 billion allotted in FY96. In FY96, the President increased funding for nutrition to \$39 billion, up from \$38 billion in FY95.

- **Reaching Full Participation in WIC:** The Clinton Administration will achieve its commitment to full participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) by reaching 7.5 million participants by the end of FY97. This program works: Every dollar invested in WIC has proven to save up to \$4.25 in preventive health-care costs.
- **Reforming the School Lunch Program:** This Administration's School Meals Initiative for Healthy Children is a comprehensive plan to ensure healthy school meals. USDA's Team Nutrition -- a network of public-private partnerships -- improves the health of children by promoting food choices for a healthy diet through schools, families, communities and the media. There are now more than 6,000 Team Nutrition Schools across the nation, building local coalitions to improve meals and providing nutrition information to children and their families.
- **Protecting the National Nutrition Safety Net in Welfare Reform:** The President believes it is possible to enact real welfare reform that is tough on work and responsibility -- not tough on children -- while protecting the national nutrition safety net.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Child Care

The President is committed to expanding the accessibility of child care information and services to parents, expanding child care funding available to low-income working families and to working with states to improve the quality of services.

Child Protection

President Clinton will continue to champion programs that break down barriers to adoption through recruitment of adoptive and foster care parents; support the placement of special needs children and reduce the amount of time children spend in foster care; and shift the federal focus from paperwork to a focus on outcomes for children by increasing flexibility for states and communities.

The President will also work to ensure that children are protected in any legislative proposals affecting child safety. The Work and Responsibility Act, introduced by the President in 1994, continued the guarantee for families moving toward self sufficiency and expanded child care assistance for working families - part of the effort to "make work pay." The President has made increasing funding for child care one of his bottom lines in the present welfare reform debate. He has consistently said that true welfare reform must help parents go to work and expanding child care assistance is critical to that goal. The President's plan included a \$1.5 billion increase in child care funding over five years for working poor families "at-risk" of welfare dependency. The welfare reform conference report that the President vetoed would have undermined the ability of states to protect children's safety, prevent child abuse and neglect and recruit safe and loving foster and adoptive homes.

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CRIME

"At last we have begun to find a way to reduce crime, forming community partnerships with local police forces to catch criminals and prevent crime. This strategy, called community policing, is clearly working. Violent crime is coming down all across America....Let's stick with a strategy that is working, and keep the crime rate coming down."

President Bill Clinton
January 23, 1996

Over the past three years, the Clinton Administration has made tremendous progress in bringing crime and drug abuse under control. The violent crime and murder rates across the country are falling, thousands of criminals have been prevented from buying guns, and more police are on the street. We must continue to move forward. For while overall crime rates are decreasing, we are witnessing more crime committed by juveniles. President Clinton is committed to stopping any attempts to roll back the progress we have made in reducing crime and will continue in his efforts to put more cops on the street and take guns, drugs and gangs off the streets.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- Broke six years of Congressional gridlock by signing the toughest and smartest Crime Bill ever with bipartisan support and endorsements from every major law enforcement organization. This historic legislation:
 - Created the COPS program, which is putting 100,000 more community police officers in cities, towns, and rural areas -- more than 43,000 officers have already been funded.
 - Banned 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies, but specifically protected more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons.
 - Provided the death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent felons.
 - Increased penalties for sex offenders and imposed a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.
 - Included the Violence Against Women Act; the first national effort to reduce violence against women ever. The Act tripled funding for battered women's shelters, and has already provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services.
 - Created a nationwide 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline that provides immediate crisis intervention, counseling and referrals.
 - Targeted career violent offenders with a "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" policy that keeps them behind bars for life.
 - Provided \$7.9 billion in funding for more prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences.
 - Created the Community Schools Program which promotes constructive alternatives for young people after school, in the evening, on weekends and during the summer to prevent involvement in and the victimization by crime.

- Fought for and signed the Brady Bill which has prevented over 60,000 convicted felons, fugitives, stalkers and other criminals from buying handguns.
- Granted awards totalling \$88 million to assist states in automating and updating their criminal history record systems to prevent the sale of firearms to prohibited purchasers.
- Launched the Anti-Violent Crime Initiative that has led to the arrest and conviction of many of our most violent criminals.
- Provided grants to fight gang activity and youth violence through the HHS Youth Gang Initiative Program, COPS/Gangs grants and the National Gang Database.
- Provided up to \$1 million to each of 10 urban police departments, through the COPS Youth Firearms Violence Initiative, to expand or enhance community policing and enforcement efforts to comprehensively address the rise of youth firearms violence.
- Initiated Operation Safe Home in which federal law enforcement agencies are working with public housing residents and managers to increase the arrest and conviction of violent and drug-related suspects so that public housing can be a safer place to live.
- Issued a Presidential Directive to enforce the "zero tolerance" measures outlined in the Gun-Free Schools Act.
- Supported school athlete drug testing before the Supreme Court, sending the message to parents and students that drug use will not be tolerated in our schools.
- Encouraged schools to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual for schools to assist them in establishing these policies. The manual will be distributed to 16,000 school districts.
- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest declines in more than three decades. The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

While overall crime rates have been dropping, young people today are increasingly the perpetrators -- and the victims -- of some of society's most violent crimes. That is why reducing juvenile crime and violence are key components of President Clinton's continuing crime-fighting agenda: The President is challenging Congress and our communities to get tough with juvenile criminals by:

- Urging Congress to pass legislation providing tougher sentences for gun-wielding drug dealers and gang members and that will restore our ability to prosecute people who bring guns into schools. (Armed Dangerous Felons Act).
- Submitting to Congress legislation that gives prosecutors the discretion to prosecute juvenile offenders as adults.

In addition, the President is challenging:

- Congress to ban the manufacture of "cop-killer" bullets. These bullets serve no other purpose than to kill and maim police officers. We owe it to the men and women of law enforcement to get these bullets off the streets.
- States to ensure that violent criminals serve at least 85% of their sentences.
- Local housing authorities to implement a One-Strike-And-You're-Out program for public housing for those who commit crime and sell drugs.

While President Clinton is moving forward with additional initiatives to rid our streets and neighborhoods of crime and drugs, he will fight any misguided attempts by Congress to erode our progress -- such as any effort to repeal the Assault Weapons Ban or reduce the number of police in our communities.

Last Update: May 10, 1996

EDUCATION

" America has to be serious about education. We have to be serious about education if we want to have a strong economy, if we want these young people to live up to fullest of their God-given abilities. If we really believe that our obligation to our children is to give them the ability to make the most of their own lives in this world we are living in, that means education, education, education. We must face it, embrace it, and be glad about it."

President Bill Clinton
September 22, 1995

The Clinton Administration has made an unprecedented commitment to providing Americans with the educational opportunities children and adults will need to improve their skills and maximize their potential. President Clinton has fought hard to help equip students with the training and know-how necessary to keep America competitive and families strong.

The President has compiled an impressive record of achievement in improving the nation's education system with a series of new reform proposals. While bringing the deficit down by historic amounts and proposing a balanced budget within seven years, President Clinton has still made investing in education a top priority. Between 1992 and 1996, the dollar amount of aid to college and post-secondary students -- including loans, grants and work-study -- increased from \$22.5 billion to \$38.3 billion.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- **National Service:** President Clinton created the AmeriCorps program -- signed into law in September of 1993 -- to enable young people to earn money for college by serving their communities and their country. In the past two years, 45,000 volunteers have worked in schools, hospitals, neighborhoods and parks.
- **Head Start:** President Clinton has made expanding and improving pre-schooling the starting point for helping families give their children a good start on the right course. The President has increased Head Start funding to provide early education to 43,000 additional children in need. Based on recommendations made by the Head Start Advisory Commission, Head Start was reauthorized in 1994 with major quality improvements.
- **Direct Lending for College:** President Clinton reformed the student loan program, making college more affordable this year for 5.5 million students and saving taxpayers billions of dollars by cutting red tape and providing loans with flexible repayment options, including pay-as-you-earn plans. Over 1,300 schools, representing approximately 30% of the total amount of loans, are participating in the Direct Lending Program.

- **GOALS 2000: Raising Education Standards:** In 1994, President Clinton signed into law Goals 2000 which supports the development of standards of excellence for students and encourages grassroots reforms to improve our schools. Goals 2000 affirms the President's belief in the critical role of education in building America's future and the federal government's role as a partner in that effort. More than 45 states participate in Goals 2000 and have developed their own strategic plans for educational reform based on raising academic and occupational standards, improving teaching, increasing parental involvement and expanding the use of technology.
- **Improving America's Schools Act:** By enacting the Improving America's Schools Act, President Clinton has given schools greater flexibility to use federal aid and develop effective teaching innovations to help students achieve their full potential. This law focuses on improvements in teaching the basics in more than 50,000 schools and has a direct impact on 7 million children in low-income areas.
- **School-to-Work Opportunities Act:** Signed by President Clinton in May of 1994, this Act broadens educational, career and economic opportunities for students not immediately bound for four-year colleges through local partnerships among businesses, schools, community organizations and state and local governments. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue work or post-secondary training, this law helps ensure that America will be capable of performing and prospering in a competitive global economy.
- **Access to Advanced Telecommunications:** President Clinton enacted the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to help ensure that schools, libraries, hospitals and clinics will have affordable access to advanced telecommunications services. The Telecommunications Act can help connect each child in every classroom throughout America to the Information Superhighway -- opening up worlds of knowledge and opportunities to all students.
- **Technology Learning Challenge:** Initiated this grant program to challenge communities to form local partnerships between schools and private businesses to develop creative new ways to use technology for learning. Federal funds leverage local resources -- each federal dollar is matched by more than three dollars of local and private funds.
- **Religious Freedom:** President Clinton ended 30 years of confusion over school prayer and the religious rights of students by directing U.S. Attorney General Reno and U.S. Secretary of Education Riley to release guidelines outlining the many religious rights of students in our nation's public schools. According to the National Association of Schools Boards, there has been a marked decline in confusion over religious expression in our public schools as a result.

- **Character Education:** President Clinton has been and remains a vigorous proponent of teaching basic American values and citizenship in our nation's public schools. The President has hosted two White House Conferences on Character Education and has encouraged the development of character education through the Improving America's School's Act.
- **School Uniforms:** President Clinton has encouraged schools to consider school uniform policies to help reduce violence while promoting discipline and respect.
- **Keeping Children Safe in School:** In response to the growing problem of violence in and around our nation's public schools, President Clinton enacted the Gun-Free Schools Act, which requires the immediate expulsion for one year for any student who brings a gun to school, and provided funding for enhanced school security, drug prevention programs and counseling through the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

President Clinton remains committed to improving education and has vowed to continue helping Americans invest in their children's future. The President has made the following proposals:

- **Technological Literacy For The 21st Century:** President Clinton proposed the creation of a \$2 billion, five-year Technology Literacy Challenge to get technology and computers into all classrooms. The Challenge will stimulate state, local and private sector efforts to provide all our children with greater opportunity to learn the skills they need to thrive in the next century. The Technology Literacy Challenge will ensure that local innovation keeps U.S. schools on the leading edge of learning technologies.
- **Higher Education Standards For Students And Teachers:** In order to ensure America's competitive strength, President Clinton wants to see both public school students and teachers challenged by meaningful, rigorous standards and rewarded when they perform.
- **Public School Choice:** President Clinton believes that information, competition and choice among public schools should be the rule, not the exception. Any parent who is dissatisfied with either their child's performance or the school's performance should have the opportunity to choose a public school that will do better.
- **Charter Schools:** To ensure that parents has the opportunity to choose a school for their children, the President called on all 50 states to enact charter school laws. Twenty-one states currently have laws providing for the creation of charter schools -- public schools, created and managed by parents, teachers and administrators. Charter schools have greater flexibility, but they are held accountable for their results through a performance-based contract with a local school board, state or other public institution.

- **Parent Involvement:** President Clinton believes strongly that parents are and should continue to be their children's first and most important teacher. Parents must take an active role in their children's education and the President has also challenged businesses and schools to be supportive and family-friendly.
- **National Service Scholarships:** President Clinton has challenged every high school student in the country to make a commitment to community service. As part of this commitment, the President is asking all high schools to make service part of their basic ethic and to raise \$500 to reward a high school student who has done significant work to help his or her community. The federal government will then match the \$500 to help that student go on to college.
- **Merit Scholarships:** The President called for the creation of the largest-ever merit-based scholarship program, rewarding the top 5% of high school graduates in every school with \$1,000 grants toward the cost of college. If this proposal is enacted this year, 128,500 graduating high school seniors will receive a scholarship to help finance their college education.
- **Expand and Transform Work Study:** The President proposed a dramatic expansion of the College Work Study program. Increasing the number of students involved in work study from 700,000 students to over 1 million over the next five years will significantly expand a program that reaffirms the American ethic, rewarding hard work and helping ensure that all who want a higher education are able to afford it. The President has challenged colleges to use additional work study funds to promote public service by putting students to work in the community.
- **Tuition Tax Deduction:** The President has called for a deduction of up to \$10,000 per year for the cost of college tuition and training. Families could deduct up to \$10,000 in tuition and fees for post-secondary education. Over 17 million students and over 14 million families stand to benefit from this proposal for tax relief to working families.

Last Update: May 10, 1996

ENVIRONMENT

"We must ask more of ourselves, we must expect more of each other, and we must face our challenges together. . . . Our fifth challenge: to leave our environment safe and clean for the next generation. . . . People do have a right to know that their air and their water are safe."

President Clinton
January 23, 1996

During the last generation, we have made great progress in protecting the environment. We now have cleaner, safer air and water. Lead levels in children's blood have been cut 70%, and toxic emissions from factories have been cut in half. We must continue to move forward. A third of us still breathe air that endangers our health, and in too many communities, the water is not safe to drink. President Clinton is committed to making common sense reforms to environmental programs and is determined to block attempts to roll back safeguards for our families' food, water and air.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- **Community Right to Know:** Issued a "Pollution Disclosure" Executive Order requiring industry to disclose information about toxic releases to their neighbors and nearly doubling the number of chemicals that industry must report.
- **Safe Drinking Water:** Required drinking water systems to test for and eliminate dangerous contaminants and introduced comprehensive Safe Drinking Water reforms.
- **Clean Air:** Made the air we breathe cleaner by issuing new standards to cut toxic pollution from chemical plants by 90% and dangerous incinerator emissions by 98%.
- **Clean Water:** Vowed to veto the lobbyist-written bill to roll back the Clean Water Act that keeps billions of pounds of toxic pollutants and sewage out of our rivers, lakes and streams.
- **Brownfields Initiative:** Launched an initiative to return land to productive use by providing a \$2 billion tax incentive to clean-up old industrial waste sites.
- **Toxic Waste Clean-ups:** Completed nearly as many toxic waste site clean ups in each of the past two years as were completed in the previous 10 years. Fought Republican Congressional attempts to gut the Superfund law that makes polluters -- rather than taxpayers -- pay to clean up toxic dumps. Vetoed Republican Congressional bill that cut Superfund clean-ups by 25%.
- **Enforcement:** Ensured compliance with environmental safeguards by toughening EPA's enforcement programs and fought to protect enforcement programs from drastic budget cuts.

- **Reinventing Environmental Regulation:** Changed EPA rules and procedures to reduce paperwork requirements for businesses by 10 million hours and allowing businesses to write their own rules if they can do it cleaner and cheaper. Issued an Executive Order to make health, safety and environmental programs more fair, efficient and effective.
- **Meat Safety:** Issued new policy to protect us from *E. coli* contamination in meat.
- **Everglades Restoration:** Committed \$1.5 billion over seven years to help restore the unique Florida Everglades and ensure safe, clean drinking water.
- **National Parks:** Withdrew land from new mining claims to protect Yellowstone, while fighting attempts to close national parks. Developed a "Parks for Tomorrow" program to restore our national parks.
- **California Water:** Broke through decades of conflict and negotiated a consensus plan to protect and allocate California Bay-Delta water.
- **Arctic Refuge:** Vetoed a Republican Congressional bill that would have opened the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling.
- **Recycling:** Issued executive order to jump start the market for recycled goods, which are now more valuable than ever.
- **Global Phaseout of Persistent Pollutants:** Led the way to an agreement to phase out the use of 12 dangerous, persistent organic pollutants worldwide, such as PCBs and DDT.
- **Pesticides and Food Safety:** Canceled some of the most dangerous pesticides while moving safer substitutes into the market more quickly.
- **Wetlands and Endangered Species Reform:** Reformed Wetlands and Endangered Species programs to better protect the environment while lessening regulatory hurdles for homeowners.
- **Environmental Technology:** Implementing technology programs to help American business compete more effectively in the fast growing global market while creating jobs for American workers.
- **Eliminating Unnecessary Regulations:** Eliminating 16,000 pages of unnecessary regulations.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

President Clinton will continue to support policies that protect our health and natural resources while making common sense reforms to environmental programs by:

- Expanding community right-to-know laws and challenging communities to use the information to work with business to cut pollution.
- Challenging Congress to provide true reform of the Superfund program and to drop proposals to force taxpayers to pickup the tab to clean-up toxic waste. The President strongly believes the polluters must pay.
- Dramatically reducing paperwork and replacing one-size-fits-all regulations with result focused programs.
- Challenging American businesses to take more initiative in protecting the environment.
- Challenging Congress to re-examine and reverse those policies that would endanger our health and safety by weakening health and safety programs such as safe drinking water and clean air.
- Continuing to work with state and community leaders and businesses to find better ways to protect our natural resources and provide economic opportunities.

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ILLEGAL DRUGS

"To reduce crime and violence we have to reduce the drug problem. The challenge begins in our homes, with parents talking to their children openly and firmly. It embraces our churches and synagogues, our youth groups and our schools."

President Clinton
January 23, 1996

Over the last three years, tremendous progress has been made in reducing overall drug use and related crime in our country. The Clinton Administration has dealt serious blows to international criminal networks, such as the notorious Cali Cartel of Colombia, that import drugs into our country. We have targeted hardcore users who consume the majority of drugs in this country, expanded drug treatment and provided prevention programs that work.

Despite the significant headway in many areas of drug control, including a 50% decrease in the number of illicit drug users from the 1979 level of 24 million, national attention must now focus on the alarming trend of adolescent drug use. President Clinton is committed to continuing the progress in reducing drug use and reversing the trend among youth through a national effort to target youth gangs that deal in illicit drugs, expanded drug treatment and prevention programs that work.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- Elevated the Office of National Drug Control Policy to full Cabinet-level status and appointed General Barry McCaffrey as Director.
- Developed a comprehensive National Drug Control Strategy that will reduce illegal drug use through law enforcement, prevention, treatment and interdiction.
- Issued a Presidential Directive to break the cycle of drugs and crime through universal drug testing in the criminal justice system.
- Proposed the largest budget ever to combat drugs in FY 1996.
- Refused full certification to South American/Andean source countries.
- Pressed Columbia to improve its drug fighting efforts, leading to the arrest of six of the top leaders of the Cali Cartel.
- Developed a comprehensive strategy to combat the trafficking and abuse of methamphetamine, one of the country's most dangerous drugs.
- Strengthened and expanded the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act which enables schools and school districts to develop and implement violence and drug programs. Over 97% of school districts in the country utilize these funds to keep violence and drugs and alcohol away from students and out of schools.

- Issued a Presidential Directive to enforce the "zero tolerance" measures outlined in the Gun-Free Schools Act.
- Proposed targeted measures to cut off children's access to tobacco products and to ban advertising directed at children.
- Supported school athlete drug testing before the Supreme Court, sending the message to parents and students that drug use will not be tolerated in our schools.
- Convened first White House Conference ever that exclusively addressed the issues of adolescent drug use and violence.
- Expanded drug treatment for hard-core users to help end the cycle of violence and drug abuse.
- Initiated a National Drug Media Literacy Campaign for parents, youth and communities.
- Provided states and localities the resources to make treatment and prevention available with expanded drug courts, boot camps and treatment in our criminal justice system.
- First President to decertify Colombia for failure to make progress in halting international drug trafficking.
- Issued first heroin strategy to develop international cooperation against heroin.
- Strengthened U.S. borders by increasing the number of Border Patrol agents and by initiating the Custom Service's "Operation Hard Line" to stop drug smugglers from funneling drugs into the country.
- Ordered the blocking of assets in the U.S. and barred U.S. persons and corporations from engaging in trade on transactions with "front companies" operated by members of the Cali drug cartel and called for worldwide cooperation in stopping money laundering and narcotics flow.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

Under the leadership of General Barry McCaffrey, the Clinton Administration will continue to implement its action-oriented approach to the drug problem -- (1) motivating America's youth to reject illegal drugs and substance abuse; (2) increasing the safety of America's citizens by substantially reducing drug-related crime and violence; (3) reducing health, welfare and crime costs resulting from illegal drug use; (4) shielding the country's air, land and sea frontiers from the drug threat; and (5) working to eliminate foreign and domestic drug trafficking at the source.

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TEEN PREGNANCY

"Ultimately, what is needed to stop teen pregnancy is a revolution of the heart. We must all work to instill in every young man and woman a sense of personal responsibility. Having a child is the greatest responsibility any person can assume. It is not the right choice for a teen to make."

President Bill Clinton
January 29, 1996

Each year, approximately 1 million American teenagers become pregnant -- approximately 11% of all women ages 15-19. To address this serious problem, the Clinton Administration has pursued policies which recognize the fundamental obligation of all Americans to exercise personal responsibility, while expanding opportunities for at-risk young people to make positive life choices. In addition, the President has stated clearly that government alone cannot solve the complex problem of teen pregnancy. He has called upon leaders in the private sector to join together to take action in their own communities.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- **Private-Sector Initiative:** President Clinton has challenged leaders across the nation to come together to address the serious problem of teen pregnancy. In response, an independent, bipartisan organization has been formed. The new National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy has been established as a private, not-for-profit entity under the direction of Thomas Kean, former Governor of New Jersey and now President of Drew University, and Dr. Isabel Sawhill of the Urban Institute. The Campaign's board of directors includes prominent individuals from business, the media, entertainment, medicine and the philanthropic community.
- **Promoting Personal Responsibility:** President Clinton has advocated welfare reform proposals that promote work, demand parental responsibility and toughen child support requirements:
 - The Administration has approved state welfare reform waivers to a record 37 states that include various provisions affecting minor parents. These waivers are allowing states to bypass existing welfare rules and set time limits on benefits, require recipients to work or stay in school, provide child care and give employers incentives to hire welfare recipients.
 - The Administration has pursued aggressive enforcement of child support laws. In 1995, a record \$11 billion was collected in child support from non-custodial parents, an increase of 40% since 1992. Over that same period, paternity establishments rose by over 40%.
 - The Administration took executive action in May 1996 to require teenage mothers to stay in school and sign personal responsibility contracts or lose their welfare benefits.

- **Comprehensive Approach to Youth:** The Administration has worked to address the complex economic and social factors which often underlie high rates of teen pregnancy and to support communities in offering young people positive alternatives to early sexual behavior and parenting:
 - Under the Clinton Administration, the Department of Education has launched a number of initiatives that address teen pregnancy prevention through improved schooling for disadvantaged students, coordination of health and social services and school-to-work opportunities to increase economic self-sufficiency. Specific initiatives started or expanded include: Goals 2000; 1994 School -To-Work Opportunities Act; and Head Start.
 - In 1995, the Department of Justice created the SafeFutures Program, a five-year initiative which will provide approximately \$8 million per year to six jurisdictions for a comprehensive and coordinated delinquency prevention and intervention program for at-risk and delinquent youth.
 - The Administration is implementing the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act, passed in 1994, by supporting local school districts in high-need areas in their efforts to coordinate violence and drug prevention programs with comprehensive school health education programs.
- **Appointed Senior Advisor on Teen Pregnancy Prevention:** In January 1996, President Clinton appointed Dr. Henry Foster. (Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Meharry Medical College and founder of the "I Have A Future" teen pregnancy prevention program in Nashville) to serve as Senior Advisor to the President on teen pregnancy and related youth issues. Dr. Foster will work in partnership with community-based organizations across the country to give young people the tools they need to build responsible and productive lives.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

President Clinton will continue to direct and encourage government policies that promote responsible behavior on the part of America's teens and increase positive opportunities for young people. In his FY97 budget, the President proposed a \$30 million teen pregnancy prevention initiative. These funds will be used to implement and evaluate promising prevention strategies in communities that have demonstrated a commitment to community problem solving.

The President will also continue to urge leaders from all sectors of society to marshal their resources on behalf of America's youth. The Administration will work in partnership with the newly formed National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, which has set the goal of reducing teen pregnancy in the United States by one-third by the year 2005.

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WELFARE REFORM

"For too long our welfare system has undermined the values of family and work, instead of supporting them....I challenge this Congress to send me a bipartisan welfare reform bill that will really move people from welfare to work and do the right thing by our children. I will sign it immediately."

President Clinton
January 23, 1996

President Clinton is committed to welfare reform that reinforces the basic American values of work, responsibility and family. We must reward work over welfare; require people to take responsibility for supporting themselves and their families; and ensure that children are protected. There is bipartisan consensus around the country on the fundamental elements of real welfare reform. Congress should not waste this opportunity to enact national legislation. In the meantime, the Clinton Administration will continue to work with states to move families from welfare to work.

A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- **Reforming Welfare through Waivers:** By granting 60 waivers to 37 states, the Clinton Administration is giving states the freedom to reform the welfare system at the local level. These waivers are making work and responsibility a way of life for more than 10 million people -- about 75% of all welfare recipients. Welfare caseloads have declined by 1.3 million since January 1993 -- a decrease of nearly 10%. The New York Times called it a "quiet revolution" in welfare reform. Welfare rolls are down in 42 states, some by as much as 30%.
- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency:** The Clinton Administration took executive action in May 1996 to require teenage mothers to stay in school and sign personal responsibility contracts or lose their welfare benefits. Having a baby should not be the ticket to leaving home and dropping out of school.
- **Requiring Parents to Take Responsibility for their Children:** Through partnerships with states, tougher enforcement, waivers and executive order, the Clinton Administration has led an unprecedented crackdown on child support enforcement. Child support collections have grown nearly 40% since 1992, to a record \$11 billion, while paternity establishments have risen by more than 40%. The Administration proposed the toughest child support enforcement measures ever, including suspending drivers' licenses and tracking delinquent parents across state lines. President Clinton signed an executive order in February 1995 to make sure federal employees pay their child support.
- **Tough New Sanctions for Refusing to Work:** President Clinton is changing federal regulations so states can impose tougher sanctions on welfare recipients who refuse to work.

- **Rewarding Work Over Welfare:** The President provided tax relief for 15 million working families by increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit to allow more families to qualify for tax rebates.
- **Preventing Teen Pregnancy:** President Clinton worked with community, business and religious leaders to form the National Campaign to Reduce Teen Pregnancy which will marshal private resources across the country to reduce teen pregnancy rates.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD:

The President will continue to work with Congress and the nation's governors to craft a bipartisan bill that is tough on work and fair to children. Until then, the Administration will continue to work to reform welfare.

- The President has proposed a sweeping welfare reform plan that would impose time limits and require work; provide adequate funding for child care to move people from welfare to work; strengthen child support enforcement; protect children; and save taxpayers \$40 billion.
- The National Governors' Association's welfare reform proposal this winter represents an important bipartisan step forward. The NGA's statement confirmed that the President was right to veto the flawed legislation passed by Congress -- legislation that did very little to encourage work and too much that could harm children. The Administration is working with governors and members of Congress to pass a bipartisan welfare reform bill that will move people from welfare to work, protect children and make responsibility a way of life.

Last Update: May 10, 1996

June 13, 1996

YOUTH TALK: A CITY LISTENS TO CHILDREN

DATE: June 14, 1996
TIME: 9:30 am - 11:55 am
LOCATION: Kansas City Convention Center
Kansas City, Missouri
FROM: Brenda Costello

I. PURPOSE

To bring together children from Kansas City with adults from every sector of the Kansas City community for a conversation on how Kansas City responds to the needs of its children.

II. BACKGROUND

Co-sponsored by the Mayor's Office and United Way, this conference will bring together children from Kansas City with adults from government, business, media, education, health care, religion, civic leaders, etc. for a conversation on how Kansas City responds to the needs of its children and will highlight programs that are working and identify challenges to be met. Following the Conference you will address a Luncheon of Community Leaders.

The nine youth participants, who were identified through the Mayor's office and United Way, are between the ages of 13-18. They will discuss what it's like to be a child growing up in Kansas City, what programs work for them, and what more needs to be done. These children have been active in community programs. The nine adult participants will be in the first row of the audience with hand-held mics, ready to discuss, from their own perspectives, how Kansas City responds to the needs of children. The moderator, Carl Boyd, will welcome the audience and introduce you and Mayor Cleaver, as well as the other participants.

See attached background on Mayor Cleaver's initiatives and other Kansas City area programs for children and youth.

Format

You will be seated with Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II and the nine youth participants. Nine adult participants will be seated in the first row and the audience at large. The youth will talk about their experiences and programs in Kansas City. Adults and experts seated in the front row will open the discussion with the audience. Approximately 350 parents and their children, child advocates, service providers, community leaders, and local government workers will be in the audience. Prior to the conference, you will meet briefly with participants.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Meet and Greet

HRC

Mayor Cleaver

Al Sassone, President of Heart of America United Way

Carl Boyd, Producer and Host, "Both" Television talk show

-Approximately 9 Youths (see attached list)

-Approximately 9 Adults (see attached list)

Conference

HRC

Mayor Emanuel Cleaver II, Mayor of Kansas

Al Sassone, President of Heart of America United Way

Carl Boyd, Producer and Host, "Both" Television talk show

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- Meet and Greet with Conference Youth Participants
- Meet and Greet with Conference Adult Respondents
- HRC proceeds with Mayor Cleaver to Conference site
- Kansas City Children's Choir will perform
- Al Sassone delivers welcoming remarks and intros Mayor Cleaver and HRC into room
- HRC and Mayor Cleaver proceed to seats on stage
- Mr. Sassone intros Carl Boyd, moderator
- Mr. Boyd explains conference format and intros Mayor Cleaver
- Mayor Cleaver proceeds to podium, delivers brief remarks and intros HRC
- HRC proceeds to podium and delivers remarks
- HRC returns to seat on stage (HRC puts on hard wire lav at this time)
- Mr. Boyd intros each youth and turns the program over to HRC and Mayor Cleaver
- Open discussion with approximately 9 youths ages 13-18
- Mr. Boyd opens discussion with 9 adult participants
- Mr. Boyd closes discussion and intros Mayor Cleaver
- Mayor Cleaver delivers closing remarks from his seat and intros HRC
- HRC delivers closing remarks from her seat
- HRC departs

V. PRESS

Open press.

VI. REMARKS

Provided by June Shih.



Mayor Cleaver

BIOGRAPHICAL INFO

The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver II is the 51st Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, the first African American elected to the City's highest office. Mayor Cleaver also serves as Pastor of St. James United Methodist Church.

He has a long history of civic and community activism, and brings that activist approach to his role as Mayor of Kansas City.

Among Mayor Cleaver's accomplishments:

Economic Development — Businesses such as Gateway 2000, TransAmerica, Sommer Allibert, and others have announced relocation or expansion into Kansas City, translating to thousands of new jobs.

Public Safety — Mayor Cleaver has made this a priority, lobbying in Washington for federal dollars for law enforcement, spearheading the "community policing" concept, and coming up with innovative programs like the Mayor's Night Hoops (evening basketball), the PIN (Police In Neighborhoods) Program (a low-cost home-financing program encouraging police officers to

move into selected neighborhoods), and Hot Summer Nights (evening youth centers).

Capital Improvements — Kansas Citians can point with pride to the opening of the expanded Bartle Hall Convention Center, the new American Royal (both components of the "Cleaver Plan"), the Brush Creek flood control project, the new Zoo, and the promise of the new Science City, made possible by the settlement of the Union Station lawsuit.

Racial Harmony — Diversity and Inclusion have been an important component of his administration. Mayor Cleaver has appointed more women and minorities to boards and commissions than any of his predecessors. He continues to support the work of the organization he founded "Harmony in a World of Difference." And he was credited with "keeping the peace" in Kansas City following the 1992 Los Angeles disturbances. Prior to serving as Mayor, Reverend Cleaver served three terms on the City Council (1979-1991), and as Mayor Pro-Tem of the Council (1987-1991). He was elected Mayor on March 26, 1991.

Honors since becoming Mayor include:

All-America City Award — 1994

Governor's Award — "Local Elected Official of the Year" — 1994

National Democratic Institute

National Historic Preservation Board (Presidential appointment)

Tree of Life Award — Jewish National Fund

At-Large Member of the Democratic National Committee

1993 National Conference of Christians & Jews "Distinguished Citizen of the Midwest Award"

1993 James C. Kirkpatrick Excellence for Government Award

Mayor Cleaver was born in Waxahachie, Texas. He and his wife Dianne have four children.

AL SASSONE

President of the Heart of America United Way in Kansas City, Missouri, Al Sassone has more than 20 years experience in the United Way movement. He has served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and the United Way of Greater Rochester.

Prior to joining the United Way, he worked in finance and retailing with Price Waterhouse & Co. and Neisner Brothers, Inc.

Al holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from St. John Fisher College and has completed the Human Services Executive Management Program at Harvard University. He is a member of the National Society of Fund-Raising Executives, the United Way of America National Advisory Council, and chaired the National Management Round Table of the United Way of America.

Al is currently on the boards of Trinity Lutheran Hospital, Community Resource Network, Human Services Trust, the Chamber of Commerce and Charities Fund Transfer.

Post-It® Fax Note 7671		Date 6/12/96	# of pages 1
To Jennifer Kline	From Gina P. [unclear]		
Co./Dept. [unclear]	Co. Heart of Am. [unclear]		
Phone #	Phone # 816/472-4289		
Fax # 202-456-2878	Fax # 816/472-5812		

ABOUT CARL BOYD

MR. CARL BOYD IS THE PRODUCER AND HOST FOR, BOTH, A TELEVISION TALK SHOW AND A RADIO TALK SHOW. THE TV TALK SHOW FOR TRENS IS A MONTHLY PROGRAM, AND THE RADIO SHOW - THE GENERATION RAP ON KPRS-FM, HOT 103 JAMZ- AIRS WEEKLY ON SATURDAY MORNINGS.

MR. BOYD IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER OF THE ^{Ten}EIGHT YEAR OLD COMPANY, THE ART OF POSITIVE TEACHING, AN EDUCATIONAL CONSULTING FIRM LOCATED IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

AS AN EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT, MR. BOYD TRAVELS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA HELPING TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF WORKING WITH STUDENTS WHO ARE AT RISK, AND ISSUES DEALING WITH CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

A GRADUATE FROM CHICAGO TEACHERS' COLLEGE IN 1964, CARL BOYD HAS WON AWARDS FOR TEACHING IN CHICAGO'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS, KANSAS CITY'S J.S. CHICK ELEMENTARY AND FROM EDUCATIONAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN FLORIDA, TENNESSEE, TOPEKA, KANSAS, MARYLAND, CALIFORNIA, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH AMONG OTHERS.

BOYD IS ALSO THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK, PLAIN TEACHING, A 362 PAGE MANUAL ON POSITIVE TEACHING, NOW IN ITS SIXTH PRINTING. HE IS A LIFE MEMBER OF THE KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, SPONSOR OF THE GENERATION RAP YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL, A BOARD MEMBER OF ARE YOU COMMITTED, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, AND THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT AT FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, A CONGREGATION OF JESUS CHRIST.

Here are a few of Mr. Boyd's many accomplishments:

Directed Chicago's "PUSH for Excellence" Student Motivation Project for Operation PUSH 1977-1979

Received Brown Foundation's (Brown vs. Topeka Bd.) First National Excellence in Education Award 1989

Received Chicago Citizen's Schools Committee, 'Dedicated Teacher of The Year Award 1973

On Air Auctioneer for local PBS affiliate - KCPT, Channel 19, Fundraising Effort, 1994 and 1995

IDEA Fellows Summer Conferences - 25 years: "Best of The Best"

One of Kansas City's 100 Most Influential Men - KC Globe

Featured in Ebony Men Magazine - "Ten Things African American Men Can Do To Help Children Succeed - June 1995

Author: The Book "Plain Teaching"

Host/Producer: Generation Rap and Teens Talking To Teens

Composer: National Association of Black School Educators
Song

Sponsor: Generation Rap Youth Advisory Council - High
School Level

**Educational Management Group, Phoenix, AZ - Lecturer and
Instructor**

**Founder of NACEPS (National Association of Christians,
Educators, Parents and Students)**

5TH STORY of Focus printed in FULL format.

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THE KANSAS CITY STAR

June 8, 1996 Saturday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL/WORLD; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 892 words

HEADLINE: Cleaver speaks out on conflict;
Tensions were heightened in Benton clash, he says, by those thriving on chaos.

BYLINE: MATT CAMPBELL, Staff writer

BODY:

Kansas City was perilously close to a race riot last week, Mayor Emanuel Cleaver says, but only because certain elements used a drug bust to fan ever-present embers of discontent.

In an interview with The Kansas City Star, Cleaver blamed drug dealers who cry racism when threatened by police; opportunists who thrive on chaos; and some who encourage racial explanations for what happened last Saturday at 27th Street and Benton Boulevard.

"There is always racial tension," Cleaver said Friday, after nearly a week of public reflection and debate over the clash.

"By a razor-thin margin, we barely missed the ulcerous experience of a race riot. At first, it was an issue of a drug dealer. And then people started coming in asking the kids about whether this was related to the need for more summer jobs better housing, whether this was a response to white racism."

That shift, Cleaver contended, spawned rumors of police goading that could easily have exploded into violence in the days following.

"When we have an incident like the one last weekend, it is extremely important for all of us in key positions in this city to turn up our antennas of sensitivity a lot higher," Cleaver said.

"For the drug dealers, this was the best thing that has happened since the syringe, because they can operate now under the guise of social, political and economic racism."

The disturbance began after a black police officer wounded a black drug suspect. It grew into a standoff between about 60 officers and more than 100 young black adults and children.

The crowd members were mainly suspected drug dealers and loiterers from outside the immediate area. They threw stones, broke windows, burned a car and beat an Asian man who happened upon the scene.

Police have since reduced their presence in the neighborhood, which has prompted complaints from residents who feel less protected.

"We must be very deliberate in everything we do so as to avoid inciting something," Cleaver said. "We've gotten a large number of false calls from people wanting to lure police back into the area so that we can have a real riot. The restraint has been necessary and appropriate."

Cleaver said police will respond to legitimate calls for help and make arrests. But the Community Action Team that augmented regular police coverage with foot and bicycle patrols has been pulled back.

Not only are law-abiding residents in the neighborhood of 27th and Benton besieged by drug dealers, they are further stigmatized by the attention to last week's confrontation.

That is why Cleaver strenuously objects to use of the term "riot" to describe what happened.

"Words are not just aimless, ineffective utterances," he said.

"They mean things, they change things, they incite things and when the term 'riot at 27th and Benton' is used, it's not going to be real easy to sell your home if you're interested in relocating."

Cleaver defended his use of the oxymoron "mini-crisis" to describe the disturbance. "An oxymoron is almost required to describe the events of last weekend," he said.

News reports of the standoff also did not help Kansas City's image, Cleaver said. And the timing of the incident is bad, he said, because the city currently is planning a presentation to persuade the Future Farmers of America to continue meeting here well into the future.

Cleaver said he received calls from as far as Los Angeles from people wanting to know if Kansas City was in flames. Locally, suburbanites leery of the central core only had their sentiments reinforced.

"This can't help but cause some in the suburbs who were marginal about the bistate effort (for a cultural tax district) to conclude that it's OK to retreat from the kind of cooperation that many of us have been working for," Cleaver said.

The mayor was in St. Louis last Saturday, attending a nephew's high school graduation. He learned of the situation at 27th and Benton after 9 p.m. in a call from his chief of staff, Denise Phillips.

About 10 p.m. - after officers had withdrawn and tensions were subsiding - Police Chief Floyd Bartch called the mayor.

"He was very calm," Cleaver said. "He gave me all the facts that were available at that time and described the incident as a reaction after the shooting of someone who had drugs on his person.

"I asked him if he thought it was necessary for me to try to get a plane back to Kansas City, and he said, 'No, things are right now quiet. And if the situation changes I'll call you and you can make the decision whether you want to come back. ' "

Cleaver acknowledged that the same factors that contributed to the disturbance have the potential to repeat themselves if racial flames are fanned.

"The thing that I am trying to say, as often as I can to as many people as I can, is that if we really work at it and make a strong commitment we can create a riot," Cleaver said. "And some of us have been out trying to avert that .

"That's why I've been going out and saying to people, 'It's over. Let's move on with our lives. ' "

LOAD-DATE: June 08, 1996

52ND STORY of Focus printed in FULL format.

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THE KANSAS CITY STAR

February 21, 1996 Wednesday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: METROPOLITAN; Pg. C1

LENGTH: 743 words

HEADLINE: Growth or services? Both It can't be either/or, Cleaver says in State of the City address.

BYLINE: MARK MORRIS, Staff Writer

BODY:

Kansas City must reframe debate on the role of government as the city nears the next century, Mayor Emanuel Cleaver said Tuesday night in his fifth State of the City address.

Eyeing a possibly contentious budget season ahead, Cleaver said the city must figure a way to promote economic development and provide better basic services.

"We may not agree on every issue, but we cannot degenerate in an 'either/or' dialogue," Cleaver said. "Our response must be 'both/and.'"

"It's not the needs of the central city or the needs of the Northland. It's not economic development or curbs and sidewalks. It's not an immunization clinic or a recreation program. It is all of these."

Cleaver offered few new initiatives in his address, which was greeted warmly by a packed City Council chamber. Instead, he chose to defend his economic development agency of choice and rally support for proposals already on the table.

Picking up his best applause line from last year's address, Cleaver noted, "the most basic service we can offer our citizens is a job."

To illustrate how, he pointed to the city's Economic Development Corp., now under fire from council newcomers who think it has been too free with tax incentives and abatements. The city contributes about \$ 1.8 million a year to the agency's budget.

The agency, Cleaver said, will have stimulated the creation of 56,000 permanent jobs and 32,000 construction jobs between the years 1994 and 2000.

"We must acknowledge the great benefits of economic development, and we must recognize that every aspect of Kansas City life will

regress if it does not advance," he said.

Cleaver offered only cool comfort for those expecting the city to make quick work of its deferred maintenance concerns and deteriorating infrastructure. City Manager Larry Brown has estimated those costs at more than \$ 1 billion.

He applauded the council for asking Brown to set aside \$ 10 million to take care of delayed work on the city's streets, sewers and bridges, and offered some hope that the federal government soon will announce a program to replace the crumbling Chouteau Bridge.

But he again warned that widespread repairs cannot be made within the existing budget.

"We will do what we can, but sometime, some mayor and some City Council will have to go to the voters with a revenue increase to deal with this aging infrastructure," he said.

Councilman Paul Danaher, however, would add a test to new economic development incentives. "Do these things take away from our ability to provide basic services?" he said.

While Cleaver has spoken often of building a sports arena Downtown, the proposal was nowhere in his address. Instead, he concentrated on two building projects already in the works - the museums at 18th and Vine and the Ilus W. Davis Civic Mall - and plans for two federally funded industrial parks. He again pledged to work for a Downtown parking authority, a priority of his 1994 speech.

"These projects, along with our success in growing new jobs and attracting new business, are the factors that have created our 'moment in the sun,'" he said. "This municipality is on the move."

Crime, a hot-button topic in previous speeches, received almost passing mention near the end of this address.

Cleaver attributed recent drops in the homicide, burglary and assault rates to improved community policing, greater neighborhood involvement, and initiatives such as evening basketball and youth club programs.

"We have provided our children with safe, wholesome evening activities," he said. "Our young people have responded."

Cleaver also urged the council to continue funding all 10 divisions of the Municipal Court despite considerable sentiment to drop one division by not filling a current judicial vacancy.

While the potential of city government to serve its citizens is constrained by money, the services it offers must strike a balance that serves the entire community, Cleaver said.

"With moderation we can provide for economic development and for curbs and sidewalks," he said.

"When we engage in an either/or dialogue, we begin to limit the options available to our community. Our view must be expansive, not limited."

GRAPHIC: Photo (color), Mayor Emanuel Cleaver; Graphic, Setting goals; The Star

LOAD-DATE: February 21, 1996

33RD STORY of Focus printed in FULL format.

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Nation's Cities Weekly

April 15, 1996

SECTION: Vol. 19 ; No. 15 ; Pg. 8; ISSN: 0164-5935

LENGTH: 742 words

HEADLINE: Kansas City issues race relations report. Kansas City, Missouri;
includes related information on report findings

BODY:

On the anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Mayor's Task Force on Race Relations gave its first--and interim--report to Kansas City Mayor Emanuel Cleaver. Cleaver organized the task force last fall in response to the national and local debate over the O.J. Simpson verdict, the Million Man March, and concern that race relations in the community were deteriorating.

"We must deal with the toxic issue of race today," Cleaver said, "or it will be with us tomorrow."

The report, which represents the work of 450 volunteers, examined the status of Kansas City race relations in a variety of areas: commerce and industry, religion, media, government, housing, accommodations, banking, education, law enforcement, and criminal justice. The task force was co-chaired by a senior executive of Kansas City Power & Light and a senior rabbi from a local synagogue. Four vice-chairs oversaw the work of 13 committees.

The task force effort included focus groups, surveys, the results of a Youth Summit and several community forums, Star-Touch data (non-scientific, call-in polling through The Kansas City Star), and work by the committees. The Urban League of Greater Kansas City served as the coordinating agency for the group, with funding and assistance from local foundations.

"The process was exciting, participatory, democratic, chaotic, exhilarating, frustrating, difficult, fun, and eminently worthwhile," said Dr. William Clark, Urban League President.

Cleaver congratulated the volunteers for engaging in a candid discussion of race. "I know that at times it has been difficult. In your committee sessions, you've had to break past the niceties' of

this issue and deal with it straight on. You have begun the dialogue and given me much to digest. I pledge to you: this report will not be left to languish on some shelf."

Cleaver added, "We think our process can be a model for other cities. I've

already been contacted by other mayors interested in spearheading such efforts in their own cities."

City personnel are now moving to implement many of the Task Force recommendations (see "Findings and Recommendations"), and Cleaver will begin a "Monthly Forum on Race Relations" dealing with the specific areas covered by the Task Force report.

Details: Pam Whiting, Communications Director, (816) 274-1284; fax, (816) 274-1991.

Findings and Recommendations

Lending discrimination, especially mortgage lending, continues to be a major problem. The city may want to consider implementing a municipal "best practices" agreement.

Insurance red-lining persists. The city should regularly monitor the availability of insurance and refuse to do business with companies that appear to be redlining any portion of Kansas City.

It is hard for minorities to start and sustain businesses. A capital fund is needed to provide start-up money for minority entrepreneurs.

Housing discrimination is a problem and the quality of neighborhoods must be improved. More code enforcement and dangerous building demolition is needed, and the Kansas City Civil Rights Consortium should monitor housing patterns and practices.

Minorities and women still feel they are victims of glass ceilings or outright discrimination. While employment opportunities have improved, employers should re-commit to affirmative action. The city should reward businesses that practice equal opportunity and affirmative action.

There are too few minorities in decision-making positions in the media. Overall, the number of minorities in the media has improved.

Young people must be educated to live and value working in a multicultural world. Area school districts should establish an inter-district committee to coordinate efforts in that regard.

People perceive that sentencing disparities exist. A monitoring organization should review sentences to see whether the race of the victim or of the defendant affects the severity of punishment. The number of minority judges and commissioners should be increased.

Relations between the Kansas City Police Department and minority youth are strained and deteriorating. The department should develop an action plan to improve the positive interaction between police and young people.

Greater minority representation on suburban school boards and other governing bodies is needed. Overall, the number of minority elected officials has increased dramatically.

MAYOR CLEAVER'S INITIATIVES

"Night Hoops": This midnight basketball program began two years ago, and this past year the Mayor's office organized the first ever nationwide Midnight Basketball Tournament called MUST (Mayor's Urban Symposium and Tournament), with twelve teams from around the country. Working with the Urban League and ministerial organizations, the Mayor recruited college coaches from local and community colleges to watch games. According to the Mayor's office, there has been a 25% drop in crime in the areas where these programs take place. Overall, the number of reported crimes in Kansas City dropped 5 percent between 1994 and 1995.

"Hot Summer Nights": Program providing social opportunities for young people in alcohol and drug-free environments, targeting different neighborhood throughout the Kansas City area.

Cadet program: This new program which is just beginning, is designed to recruit more minority officers. African- American high school students will work with the police department and receive a stipend for tuition in order to continue volunteering during college in an effort to prepare them for life after college.

Youth Ambassador program: Now in its second year, 35-40 kids are selected as Good Will Ambassadors in Kansas City, usually seniors in high school or college freshman. They receive a small stipend for summer work and then funding to them and their colleges toward tuition in the fall

As you know, you referenced a Kansas City initiative in which employees are granted leave to participate in children's school activities..

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN IN KANSAS CITY

Most of these are newer programs, while the audience will be comprised of representatives of numerous service providers involved in children's programs in the community for many years.

Greater Kansas City Community Foundation: Established in 1978, GKCCF is a public foundation comprised of more than 350 charitable funds serving the five-county Kansas City metro area. Its mission is to make a positive difference in the lives and futures of the community through grant-making, advocacy, and support of the not-for-profit sector, as well as promotion of philanthropy.

Partnership for Children: Formed in 1991, this joint initiative of the United Way and the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and Affiliated Trusts is a metro-wide children's advocacy effort. This ten year initiative is dedicated to improving conditions for children in the greater Kansas City area. Partnership for Children (PC) emphasizes a preventative approach designed to build partnerships among service providers, policy makers, volunteers, and the media. The organization issues an annual Report Card with an overall grade and grades in four areas: safety and security; health; child care; and education. (Kansas City received a 'C' on the most recent Report Card, up from a 'D-' last year.)

PC is currently sponsoring "The #1 Question Campaign," a metro-wide effort to engage the Kansas City community in efforts that advance the well being of children and youth. The #1 Question-- Is it good for the children?-- is displayed on billboards in Greater Kansas City.

'Squash it': A campaign of the Partnership for Children that seeks to stem the levels of teen violence in the Greater KC area by making it "cool and smart" to walk to away from a violent confrontation. Efforts include: "Squash It" teams being established in schools, conflict resolution training sessions for youth groups, and public awareness efforts.

YouthNet: Program Goal: that every young person in KC will have access within walking distance to a safe place to connect with caring adults and positive activities. A non-profit agency, YouthNet works with Partnership for Children in a collaboration of youth service organizations. Service providers collectively provide more comprehensive services and alternatives for young people. the program originally came together to provide an alternative to gang activity.

KCMC Child Development Corp.: This multi-faceted child development agency administers Head Start, as well as the *Child and Adult Care Food Program*. The Food program is a nutrition program which provides food and nutrition education for children in family day care homes and centers. This is a USDA program administered by the State. KCMC is one of the sponsors for the program in the Kansas City area.

'COMBAT': A Jackson County program which has been in effect for 3-4 years and recently renewed. This program is supported by the Jackson County Drug Tax, and focusses on anti-drug programming including prevention, treatment, and community action. A broad range of neighborhood, family, and youth service organizations receive funds to carry out programs. This is a well supported program of Clare McCaskell, the Jackson County Prosecutor, who will be in the audience.

Promise Project: A collaboration between Kansas City Consensus and Junior League, a program to encourage leadership and engage youth in civic life, putting them on boards of directors, community service projects, etc. KC Consensus is a nonprofit, grassroots organization made up of citizen-based task forces, ie., crime, neighborhood safety.

Kansas City Star

The Kansas City Star launched an investigative series called "Raising Kansas City-Democracy and the Next Generation," and will publish stories about the top ten issues facing area high school juniors and seniors. Topics were identified by opinion polls taken in high schools earlier this year. (see articles attached)

THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

WEDNESDAY, June 2, 1996

METROPOLITAN EDITION ★★★

\$1.50

In the grip of impulse

When four teen-agers in Grandview found trouble instead of a place to play, many people felt the pain of a slaying.

By KAREN UHLBNHUTH
Staff Writer

It takes just a moment — a rash and thoughtless moment — to wrench human lives out of one orbit and hurl them into another.

That's what happened one May evening a year ago.

About 5:30 p.m., Nathaniel Hack and three teen-age friends were strolling through a Grandview neighborhood looking to shoot hoops — or maybe stir up trouble.

They came upon an opportunity for trouble before they found a basketball court. An ice cream truck drove up behind them as they walked along Southview Drive.

The incident was over within minutes. Three spent shells, an ice cream truck driver slumped over his seat and four frightened boys racing for home,

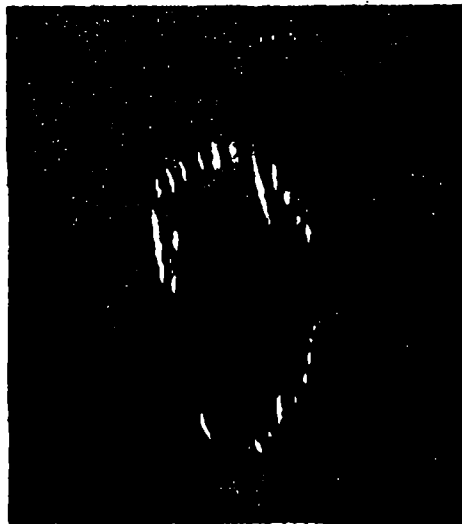
one holding a gun against his leg.

A few minutes later, Codozie W. Anderson Jr., 41, was declared dead by the Grandview Fire Department. Two days later, Nathaniel Hack, then 16 and a sophomore at Ruskin High School, was in custody.

The reverberations began instantly, not unlike many crimes in America today.

The criminal justice system shifted into gear. The residents along Southview Drive wondered what had burst into their midst — and whether it would be back. Anthony Broom, who saw a friend commit murder, relived the ugly scene in his dreams.

Anderson's parents and 15-year-old son and Hack's mother and father were left to ponder two lives thrown away in an impulsive moment.



TOM DOLPHIN/The Star

For graphic presentations of the rest of the violent story and its ripple effect in the community, see A-18.

"Raising Kansas City — Democracy and the Next Generation" is the successor to last year's "Raising Kansas City — Values and the Next Generation" series. The Kansas City Star is publishing stories about the top 10 issues facing area high school juniors and seniors. These topics were identified by opinion polls taken in high schools earlier this year.

Today's topics: Reducing violence. Next Sunday: Legalizing marijuana.



POLL RESULTS

Results from a March 1996 unscientific survey of 7,092 high school juniors and seniors in the region.

In recent years crime has been increasing in the United States. In order to reduce crime, I would:

- 1.) Have tougher and longer sentences for criminals: 58.9% (4,033)
- 2.) Place more emphasis on treatment and education than on penalties and prison time: 28.7% (1,992)
- 3.) Raise taxes in order to put more police officers on the street: 4.2% (293)
- 4.) All other and no answer: 12.9% (888)

INSIDE: Students' voices, crime statistics

JUN 10 '96 09:23

FROM US ATTORNEY KCMO

TO 82024566208

PAGE.002

Democracy and the next generation

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

More than 60 area schools and 6 area teachers are contributing to Raising Kansas City — Democracy and the Next Generation. This project is the successor to last year's award-winning "Raising Kansas City — Values and the Next Generation" series.

Lead by Legislating ourselves

TOP TEN CONCERNS

Through a survey of more than 18,700 high school juniors and seniors, The Kansas City Star asked students to rank the top 10 issues they were most concerned about from a list of 42 items. Here are the top 10.

1. Making college affordable
2. Abortion issues
3. Reducing violence
4. Legalizing marijuana
5. Lowering drinking age
6. Balanced budget
7. Pollution/environment
8. Gun control
9. Drug abuse
10. Raising the minimum wage

Source: The Kansas City Star

TUESDAY'S STAR

A TeenStar panel favors reducing crime but appears stumped on how to do it. See article in Tuesday's Star.

TS

Minutes to a murder

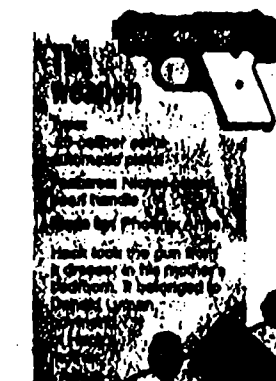
Reported by KAREN UNLKHURTV Staff Writer

When 16-year-old Nathaniel Hack pulled a .25-caliber pistol from his pocket and fired a bullet to the chest of Codozia W. Anderson Jr., 41, one spring evening a year ago, he

triggered a series of ripple effects, large and small, on a wide range of people and institutions. Below is a graphic representation of events, according to police records, court documents and interviews.

At the scene

On May 13, 1995, an ice cream truck driver, four teen-agers and one gun came together to break the peace of a neighborhood in Grandview.



1 About 5:30 p.m., Nathaniel Hack and three friends are walking east on Southview Drive, looking for a pickup basketball game or some other distraction. They notice an ice cream truck driving up from behind them. They discuss the possibility of robbing the driver.

2 The boys flag the driver, Codozia W. Anderson Jr. He stops. The boys stand on either side of the truck, telling the driver they want free ice cream. He refuses.

3 The driver continues on and Hack runs up to the truck, which again stops. Standing on the passenger side, Hack demands free ice cream and cigarettes. Again Anderson refuses. Hack draws a pistol and fires three bullets. One of them strikes Anderson in the torso, the main artery of his heart.

4 Anderson throws his pack of Kools and his Bic lighter out the window and steps on the gas. His truck crashes into a couple of vehicles in the driveway of a nearby house.

5 After the shooting, Hack and his friends are seen running north on 86th Avenue. The fire department arrives about 6 p.m. and finds no sign of life in Anderson. Hack is arrested two days later.



Graphic: Police reports.

Graphic: LAMAR, The Star

Reverberations of a crime

Below are a few of the lives touched by Nathaniel Hack's violence.



**CODOZIA
ANDERSON SR.**

Father of victim
Anderson saw his son weekly but says nothing much passed between them. "I miss my son. But I don't see where this makes any change in my life. I just accept it. Life goes on."

ROSIE CARNEY

Mother of victim
"It's bad to lose a child" under any circumstances, Carney said. "But the way it happened, that's what made it so hard. If he had been sick, I could have accepted it better. I could have had time to say something to him."

KEVIN ANDERSON

Son of victim

Kevin Anderson, 15, who lives with his mother, didn't know his birth father well. Yet, "I think if I have a son, I'll name him after him."



**CRIME SCENE
NEIGHBORS**

"The way I look at it, it's kids. It happens everywhere," said Trisha Doyle, who lives in the area.



CODOZIA W. ANDERSON JR.
Killed in shooting



NATHANIEL HACK
Convicted of murder



THE JUDGE

"It makes me almost sick when I have these cases," said Jackson County Circuit Court Judge Jack E. Gant. "He looks like a little choir boy. I think, 'Here's a boy who should be enjoying life.'"

But he won't be. In April, in accordance with Missouri law, Hack was sentenced to the minimum punishment for first-degree murder: life in prison. There will be no early release.

"Rather than send (young convicts) to a state prison, where they'll become someone's 'wife' or become an animal, I give them

probation, give 'em a chance to make something of themselves."

And yet, he has a duty.

"Some of them have to go (to the state prison). I'm responsible for society. I can't just let people say, 'I'm sorry, and thanks for putting me on probation.'"

"No matter what I do to the boy, the family suffers.... I'm not only sentencing him but also his parents and siblings. They have to endure the shame and humiliation. I'm breaking their hearts.

"Today's not a happy day. Everyone has suffered."

LAVETA HACK

Nathaniel Hack's mother

Neither of Nathaniel Hack's parents could be reached for this report, although his mother, Laveta Hack, and several other relatives attended Nathaniel's sentencing hearing in April.



**THE DEFENSE
ATTORNEY**

"It was like playing cowboys and Indians and — 'Oops, that cap pistol is real,'" said Robert Duncan, who defended Hack. "It happened so fast... I think he's still in shock. He doesn't know what the hell happened."

THE ICE CREAM COMPANY

After Anderson's murder, fellow ice cream truck drivers felt as if "all of a sudden the outside world had come in and touched them. It was an atmosphere of 'What else can happen?'" said Bill Foley, general manager of the Kansas City Ice Cream Co.

NATHANIEL BROWN

Nathaniel Hack's father

Brown asked the prosecutor to go easy on his son.

Prosecutor Jeff Stigall told him he could not.

"When you shoot someone in the middle of the street and run off laughing... it just wouldn't look good."



THE PROSECUTOR

"It's such a waste of two lives," said Jackson County Assistant Prosecutor Jeff Stigall. "Here's a kid who, in a matter of five minutes, took his life and flushed it down the toilet."

STUDENTS' VOICES

Society must strive for solutions to teen violence, crime

By JENNIFER KOERPER
Shawnee Mission North High School

Adolescents, between the ages of 10 and 19, are killed with a gun at a rate of one every three hours.

And, although the teen crime rate grows rapidly, it is still being pushed aside.

What is the United States to do? Twenty states have now come up with a minor solu-

tion: They have made restrictions on the juvenile possession of firearms. But this just isn't enough.

Society needs to realize this problem won't go away on its own. New programs need to get teens off the streets and more involved with their communities. Adults need to show teen-agers that they are willing to work with the teens to find positive solutions.

Society must understand that in order to receive some, you must first give some. If people want the teens to work with them, then the people must show that they not just looking out for their own best interest.

Parents need to become more aware of the issues and face them head-on. If necessary, the parents must be willing to enforce "tough love."

The U.S. government needs to create stricter laws to show the teen-agers that they are not going to let up until the problem is solved. Some possible solutions could be required violence education classes for those kids who have committed crimes, free counseling, trying kids as adults, recruiting better role models, weekly community teen game nights and more

curfew laws to keep kids off the streets.

Teen-age crime will continue to rise unless something is done about it. Society needs to wake up and realize this is not just an inner-city problem anymore. If the United States does not find a solution, then the teen-agers of today will be left with a grim future.

The Star.

KANSAS CITY

For detailed results from each school participating in *The Star's* polls, point your Web browser to <http://www.kansascity.com>. Click on *The Star*, then local news and then the "Democracy and the Next Generation" logo. This site also contains previously published stories from the "Raising Kansas City — Democracy and the Next Generation" series.

kansascity.com

OTHER RESOURCES

On the Internet:

<http://www.inetwave.com/stv/stv.html>

Stop the Violence ... Face the Music Society shares positive, non-violent messages through music, videos, literature and public awareness.

<http://examiner.org/~uskidstv/>
Join the Piece Project of the US Kids Television and Anti-Violence Campaign.

<http://www.slip.net/~cometro/forabout.htm>

About and For Kids and Teens is going to be one of National Children's Coalition's central places to find the latest and most complete information about kids and teens.

STAT SHEET

U.S. crime statistics involving people younger than 18.

Arrests

1985

[REDACTED]

1994

[REDACTED] 2 million

A 28.3 percent increase from 1985.

Arrests for violent crimes

1985

[REDACTED]

1994

[REDACTED] 117,200

A 75 percent increase from 1985.

Arrests for specific categories of violent crime

	1985	1994
Murder	1,193	2,982
Rape	4,286	4,524
Aggravated assault	32,809	64,648
Robbery	28,688	45,046

Arrests in 1994 of people younger than 18 for violent crimes by race

	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian
Murder	1,194	1,882	16	48
Rape	2,082	2,442	85	45
Aggravated assault	32,559	29,025	634	905
Robbery	17,185	22,983	729	728

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports for the United States
DAVE EAMES/ The Star

10TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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THE KANSAS CITY STAR

April 7, 1996 Sunday Correction Appended
METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL/WORLD; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 2082 words

HEADLINE: The 'open-minded' generation;
Teen-agers today say they listen to all sides before deciding on issues. Their
views - conservative, liberal and in between - are reflected in a new Star poll

BYLINE: MATT CAMPBELL; DONNA MCGUIRE, Staff Writers

BODY:

Parents can predict one thing about their teen-agers: They will
be unpredictable.

And high school teen-agers in the Kansas City area are no
exceptions.

A Kansas City Star poll of thousands of juniors and seniors at 33
schools found, for instance, that: most want abortions restricted and
marijuana illegal. Yet most also favor gun control and lower drinking
ages.

The ideological compass swings back and forth in The Star's
survey of 17- and 18-year-olds in the heartland.

Nearly 7,100 of them responded to the poll last month as part of
"Raising Kansas City - Democracy and the Next Generation," a
project to encourage teen-agers' participation in the democratic
process.

The poll sought student opinion on 10 key issues, selected by the
students in an earlier poll.

The latest results reveal some seeming inconsistencies.

Students are liberal on the environment, for example, but
conservative on abortion and tough on crime.

All that is to be expected from this particular generation,
according to its members and those who work with them.

"I think my generation is more open-minded, willing to listen to
both sides," said Dana Claus, a junior at North Kansas City High
School.

Classmate Japa Pallikkathayi says there is a rift in her

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generation that widens as high schoolers progress from freshmen to seniors.

"The people who are more conservative are probably those more interested in success and are the high achievers in life," said Pallikkathayi. "And then there are people who simply don't care.

They have lost all hope and don't try anymore."

However, some of the more liberal views on abortion were held by students at Pembroke Hill and Shawnee Mission East - schools whose enrollments come from well-educated, affluent families.

"I think this represents the inevitable idealism of youth," said Sam Brewster, who teaches honors government at Shawnee Mission East. "This is the time to be passionate about your ideals, before the practical needs of life have closed in."

Some survey highlights:
Abortion

About six in 10 students want to severely restrict or outlaw abortion.

Of that group, most want to allow abortion only in cases of rape and incest and when the mother's life is in danger - reasons that account for few abortions today.

"That's probably 2 percent of the abortions we know about," said a surprised Patty Brous, president of Planned Parenthood of Mid-Missouri and Eastern Kansas. "More people come to Planned Parenthood because this is not the time for them, for whatever reason, to bring a child into the world."

Mary Kay Culp, president of Missouri Right to Life, said she believes the students' views reflected mainstream public opinion.

National polls over the last five years have shown that most Americans don't want abortion outlawed. For example, a 1995 CBS News national poll showed that about 20 percent of the adults polled wanted abortion outlawed. In the student poll 14 percent believed any type of abortion should be illegal.

In the CBS poll 38 percent of the adults polled believe abortion should be generally available. The student poll showed 34 percent believe that.

Thirty-seven percent of adults said abortion should be available but with stricter limits. Almost 46 percent of the students would only allow abortion in cases of rape or incest or if the mother's life were in jeopardy.

Brous had expected most students to favor keeping all abortions

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legal through the first two trimesters.

Only two schools - Shawnee Mission East and Pembroke Hill, a private school - chose as the top choice legal abortion until the third trimester.

Kyle Harris, a Pembroke senior, gasped when he heard the overall poll results. At Pembroke, two of three students surveyed favored legal abortion - either under all circumstances or through the second trimester.

"I'm surprised that people aren't more conscious about their own rights and situations they might be put in," he said.

Rural schools were among the most conservative. At Eldorado Springs High School east of Nevada, Mo., more than a quarter of the 97 polled students wanted to ban abortions.

That sentiment was even more pronounced at Kansas City's Teen-age Parent Center, where 42 percent of students favored making abortions illegal.

Alcohol

Eighteen-year-olds can vote and fight for their country. But they can't drink.

So, it might not be surprising that nearly 55 percent of students want the minimum drinking age lowered to 18, at least for beer. And 35 percent of those advocate lowering it for all types of alcohol.

Nearly 8 percent would abolish all age restrictions.

However, nearly 26 percent would retain the national norm of 21 as the legal drinking age. And more than 16 percent would stiffen penalties for minors who drink.

All but eight schools - North Kansas City, Northeast, Piper, Shawnee Mission Center for International Studies, Center, Eldorado Springs, Teenage Parent Center and Winnetonka - favored allowing 18-year-olds to drink any type of alcohol. At Piper, that tied with keeping the present laws.

Claus of North Kansas City was a little surprised that her school bucked the trend. But she was not shocked by the overall survey results on the issue.

"I think around 18 most people think they're adults," she said.

"If kids want to drink, they're going to drink."

A 1994 CBS/New York Times poll reported 56 percent of teens nationally said they get drunk at least once a month. Locally, a 1994 Foundation survey reported 62 percent of area 12th-graders

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use alcohol monthly, down 10 percentage points from 1984.

"For many people, reaching the age to legally drink is a rite of passage," said Atha Webster-Gay, drug and alcohol program manager for Shawnee Mission schools.

Jackson County Prosecutor Claire McCaskill was encouraged that more than 42 percent of students were holding out against more permissive drinking laws.

"I think back to my high school years and some of the people in my generation, and there was not any stigma really attached to drinking underage," said McCaskill, who's in her 40s. "It was kind of an all-American thing."

Marijuana

Area students are more restrained when it comes to marijuana.

Although 40 percent would decriminalize it, nearly 55 percent would keep it outlawed.

And more than 25 percent of those actually favor stiffer penalties for possessing or using the weed.

But the numbers still are ominous, said Doug Hall, vice president of the Parents' Resource Institute for Drug Education, which annually surveys hundreds of thousands of students nationwide about drug use.

"It's very scary that 40 percent would say, in a sense, legalize marijuana," he said. "Those numbers are much higher than we would anticipate."

Students at six schools favored legalizing marijuana for persons over 18: Center, Pleasant Hill, Turner, Van Horn, Grandview and Northeast.

Two schools, Eldorado Springs and the Andrew Drumm Institute, an alternative school in Independence, opted for complete legalization.

Piper, Truman, Warrensburg, William Chrisman, Cass-Midway, Cameron and Winnetonka voted to stiffen penalties. Truman students by far held the strictest view, with more than 56 percent favoring stiffer penalties.

National figures show the percentage of 18- to 20-year-olds who think marijuana should be legalized has fluctuated greatly since the 1970s - from a low in 1988 of 16 percent to 50 percent in 1994, according to the Higher Education Research Institute.

Support for decriminalization is accompanied by increased usage, according to most studies.

Locally, the Kauffman Foundation reports that marijuana use last

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year among 12th graders rose from 21 percent to 24 percent since the 1993-94 school year.

The Kansas City numbers don't surprise the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, or NORML, which lobbies to legalize the substance.

"I'd say that survey sounds awesomely consistent to the national scale," said Allen St. Pierre, deputy national director of the organization. "It might be a little less liberal than Boston or San Francisco and might be a little better than Oklahoma City or Montgomery, Ala."

The marijuana organization contends usage remains constant but the number of people admitting it fluctuates. But if usage has increased, the reasons are unclear to many students.

"I don't know why it would have gone up except to say that our society has become a lot more cynical and teen-agers today have a lot less hope," said Pallikkathayi.

Pollution

Remember that old slogan? "Give a hoot. Don't pollute."

Kids of the '90s apparently agree.

Nearly three of four students surveyed support stiffer fines for polluters and more aggressive enforcement of pollution laws.

"I think it's because a lot of teen-agers realize our environment is not replaceable," said Kelly Daniels, a North Kansas City junior. "You can't just spend \$ 50 million to buy a new one."

When our government doesn't spend money on it, it affects us. We're going to be the generation that has to fix it."

The poll results impressed environmentalist Craig Wolfe, a Wyandotte County resident and chairman of a Kansas Sierra Club group.

"I guess that's good news for the future," Wolfe said, attributing the students' interest to the growth of environmental clubs and related classes at many schools. "It's gotten installed in the curriculum. I guess this is the first big evidence that it's taken hold."

Students at Notre Dame de Sion and Shawnee Mission East were the most adamant about fighting pollution, with more than 80 percent at each school favoring stiffer fines and aggressive enforcement of laws.

Their opinions contradict Republican efforts to reduce environmental regulations, cut the Environmental Protection Agency's budget and scale back the Endangered Species Act.

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Gun control

From 68 percent to 83 percent of Americans favor a ban on assault weapons, depending on which national poll one reads.

Area students view weapons apprehensively, too.

More than 82 percent favor some gun restrictions, at least a ban on assault weapons.

"There's no need for assault weapons," said Joe Kelly, a senior at Shawnee Mission East. "They look cool, maybe, but they have no function. You can't hunt with them."

About 45 percent said Americans should not have handguns. And about 15 percent favor banning all guns, even those used for hunting.

"Clearly your students are ahead of many policy-makers in their thinking," said Nancy Gannon, director of the education division at the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence in Washington.

One student wrote on the survey that Americans "should be able to rent guns for a period of four days for hunting, but in no cases should (people) own guns."

But another wrote, "If we're gonna ban guns, we should change the name of our country to the United States of Communism."

Brad Alpert, editor of the Western Missouri Shooters Alliance newsletter, was upset but not surprised by the overall poll results.

He blames "revisionist" textbook writers, whom Alpert says fail to properly explain the Second Amendment, which spells out "the right of the people to keep and bear arms."

Crime

Nearly 57 percent want "tougher and longer" sentences for criminals, and just over 4 percent advocate higher taxes to put more police on the streets.

But nearly 27 percent said they would place more emphasis on treatment and education than on penalties.

Generally, the farther from the urban core the more likely students were to favor stiffer punishment. Sixty-four percent of those polled at Cass-Midway endorsed tough penalties, as did 62 percent of participants at Blue Valley North.

But there were some surprises. At the Shawnee Mission Center for International Studies, the treatment and education option ranked first with nearly 45 percent.

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CORRECTION:

An article Sunday about high school students' views on 10 topics may have given the impression that the results were based on a scientific poll. The survey was not scientific but was based on responses from more than 7,000 juniors and seniors at 33 area schools.

GRAPHIC: Graphics (3, color and b/w)

, Polling the students; The environment; Abortion

LOAD-DATE: April 12, 1996

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THE KANSAS CITY STAR

May 21, 1996 Tuesday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: FYI; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 1357 words

HEADLINE: It costs too much;
The price of education unfairly holds some back

BODY:

High school students surveyed in The Star's Democracy Project voted that making college affordable is their No. 1 priority issue this election year. One afternoon in April, five TeenStar board members got together to talk about college and whether its costs will affect their choice of schools.

BILL NORTON: Does college cost too much?

CHRIS ELDERS: Yep.

LIZ BOWER: It definitely costs too much.

HEATHER LONG: I don't think that it's fair that if a kid is really smart and has a good grade point that they shouldn't be allowed to go to the best school in the country because they don't have enough money.

ANGELA LAMPTON: I think if you have a will to succeed and make something of yourself, you should be able to go college. I mean, not everybody is good at everything but everybody should have an equal chance to try to make something of themselves.

BILL: How much is too much for college?

CHRIS: If you can't afford it.

ANGELA: Yeah, like the Kansas City Art Institute. I want to go there but it's \$ 20,000 a year. (Tuition, fees and room and board equal \$ 20,290. Tuition and fees alone cost \$ 15,820.) Get real! That's like a buying a nice car every year my parents don't have that kind of money. Do regular, normal people have that kind of money? No.

I go to school with a lot of kids who are unmotivated

Once you get them motivated, they have nothing to look forward to because their parents don't have enough money to send them to college

How are you going to break the poverty cycle (if) you have all these people who do not have the necessary education to survive in this world because no one handed them money? I mean, it's like you

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have to pay for knowledge. Why should we have to do that?

BILL: It says here that a student headed for college this year can expect to spend, on average, \$ 12,432 just for tuition at a private school. And if you are going to public schools, \$ 2,860.

LIZ B.: That's not bad at all.

LIZ CIRCO: Isn't that like at KU? Someone told me KU cost less than (St. Thomas) Aquinas.

(A year's tuition at St. Thomas Aquinas, a private Catholic high school, is \$ 3,200 for a child from a supporting member of a Johnson County parish. A year's tuition at KU for a Kansas resident, not counting room and board, is \$ 2,604. With room and board, the cost goes to \$ 6,164.)

ANGELA: A lot of the private high schools cost more than Missouri-Columbia costs for tuition - \$ 3,500, roughly around that range, and then you figure about that same amount for boarding.

(Tuition at a private high school like Pembroke Hill costs about \$ 10,000 per year. For Missouri residents, tuition for 14 hours at MU is \$ 3,868. With room and board, the price goes to \$ 8,040.)

LIZ C: Which is extremely good compared to a lot of colleges.

ANGELA: It's extremely good compared to other schools but it's still too much.

HEATHER: Yeah, and also you get all these student loans and stuff like that and once you get this education, you're going to spend your first few years actually making money to pay off your education.

CHRIS: The worst thing about the college system and paying a lot of money is when it's used to filter people socially and economically and not just in terms of the educational ability.

And so a higher-priced school becomes necessary, not just to show how intelligent you are or not even just how much you wish to achieve or how much you wish to learn, but where you want to fit socially and economically. We shouldn't filter based on who you are.

HEATHER: I do want to say if they have a desire to do something, I don't think they should be filtered just because of (money)

LIZ B: A really hard-working person can go to a state school and really achieve a lot and use every resource there that's available.

HEATHER: A lot of it's the name for the high school. Also: How many of our students went to Harvard? I read this article about the National Honor Society myth that if you graduate No. 1 in your class at KU you still get the same job as if you go to Harvard and graduate from there.

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The road to college starts a long time before you actually get there. Some people may have the ability and the power and the drive, but they are not in the right school system. A lot of times, though, once they get to college, because they haven't been given the chance before then, they are not as able to succeed

LIZ B: I think that there are a lot of different loans and different scholarships out there that I don't even know about and that you guys don't even know about. And if (school counselors) would make them known, and if they would make need-based financial aid known, then I think a lot more people would provide us the places they wanted to go.

HEATHER: All the counselors at the high school should have the information on the different scholarships and if the kids are interested they should know so they can go there and investigate it.

BILL: Is there anything the government can do to make college more affordable?

CHRIS: I think it wouldn't be too far a step to regulate the price of higher education. I mean, not necessarily tight regulation, but eventually, if this is continual progress and it's raising a lot higher than the rate of inflation

BILL: So your suggestion to make it more affordable is to put, like, price controls on college tuition?

CHRIS: That would be a suggestion but I don't think that it necessarily has to be that far. Colleges know that they all charge that much and that they can all get away with it. I mean, if big businesses all set their prices that high - that pencil at \$ 5 apiece - then they all did it, then people would have to pay that much. I don't think higher education really requires that amount of money but if they all charge it then people expect it and it's just the way things are.

LIZ C: I think you can get just as good an education at a school that costs half as much as Harvard

LIZ B: I think you should have to work for your education. I'm going to have to work for the next, you know, four years. I'm going to have to work every summer and I'm going to have to work during school but I know that I'm getting the best education that I possibly can.

BILL: Of the six of you, how many will be able to pay for four full years of college without having to get any work study, scholarships, grants or loans?

(Only one said college might be free, but then only if she attended the local college where her mother works.)

HEATHER: What my parents are telling me now is keep your grades

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up and look for scholarships. I mean, we're thinking about it now - I'm a freshman. There's already pressure on me that I need to keep a high grade-point average and to do things like TeenStar

BILL (to Liz Circo, who has seven siblings): And what are your parents telling you about college?

LIZ C: You have to get a scholarship or can't go. Well, they didn't say I can't go. It's a very tight budget because my brother is already in college and my sister is going to college this year, so they are already paying two college tuitions. So I have a job and everything, but it's going to be tough.

HEATHER: I think when you're little, I think you think your parents have some sort of magical college fund set away for you

But when you actually get to high school you figure out exactly what the situation is and how much you're going to have to work for it.

I really think a lot of people get frustrated about the cost so they don't reach as high as they could, they don't really try for Harvard, because they think, "I'll never be able to pay for it anyway."

NOTES:

Occasional series

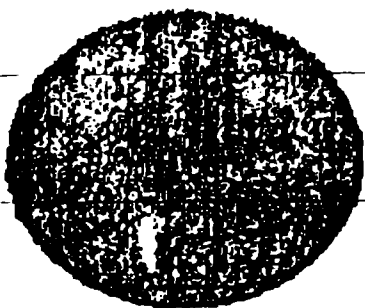
GRAPHIC: Photos (5, color), Liz Bower; Chris Elders; Heather Long; Liz Circo; Angela Lampton

LOAD-DATE: May 21, 1996

J.S. CHICK AFRICAN CENTERED SHULE

(School)

A Celebration of Global
Knowledge, Cultural History and
Academic Excellence.



"To All Our Children, May They
Find In Their Past, The Strength
To Shape Their Future"

"JAMBO"

(Hello)

J.S. Chick African Shule has developed a unique and innovative style for educating children that infuses a cultural-based learning paradigm as our model for educational excellence.

Located in the heart of Kansas City Missouri's urban community, we consider our school as a community-based institution that is concerned with the holistic development of our community.

Our learning model is based on the Afro-centric methodology, that is conducive to teaching, learning and the total human development (cognitive, physical and emotional aspect) of the child.

The staff at J.S. Chick African Shule, along with the students, parents and community members believe that hard work and success has established us as a model of academic excellence. Our culturally inclusive theme has contributed to Chick's students having among the best achievement test scores in the district and Chick being recognized both locally and nationally as a model for progressive education and academic excellence.

Our approach to curriculum development is to enable the learner to excel through a holistic model that is centered in:

1. Holistic Development using an African centered philosophical base of whole development.
2. Academic Performance Areas.
3. Values Internalization, with emphasis in decision making skills, conflict resolution and life management.
4. Psycho-social competency, social functioning and identity formation using the Nguni Zulu Value System:

Umoja - unity.
Kujichagulia - self determination.
Ujima - collective work/responsibility.
Ujuzi - cooperative economics.
Nia - purpose.
Kwana - creativity
Imani - faith.

J.S. Chick African Shule believes in maintaining the standards of education that our ancestors set before us, and we are proud and determined that our cultural heritage, academic achievements and commitment to Truth (Maut) will keep us on the path of success.

"HOTEP"

(Peace)



Youth TALK: A CITY LISTENS TO CHILDREN

NAME**AFFILIATION**

Adkins, Lisa	Partnership For Children
Adkins, Lisa	Partnership for Children
Agron, Karen	Jewish Family & Children's Services/Manager of Dev.
Alexander, Mack	KCMC Child Devo. Corp./Staff
Andrade, Leo	Hallmark
Andrews, Brenda	Youth Initiative /Supervisor/City of KC
Ajjes, Evert III	Councilperson
Ajjes, Susan	Women's Foundation of Greater KC/Exc. Dir.
Bacchus, Ken	Councilperson
Barbar, Jacque	YMCA Board
Barchak, Tim	AFL-CIO
Barnes, Mary Jane	
Bartch, Angelynn	Kauffman Foundation
Beach, Michael	Actor, Youth Motivation Speaker
Bears, Nicole	Outreach Worker for Youth Panel Nominee
Bell, Ethel Like	Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church/Children's Worker
Bell, Henderson L.	Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church/Pastor

Bell, Johnell	Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church/12 yr. Old Youth
Belzer, Irvin V.	Jewish Family & Children Services/Board
Bestey, Ulysees Rev.	Paseo Baptist /Day Care Staff
Bey-Vaughn, Frank	KCMC Child Dev. Corp./Board
Bittaye, Lillian	Ad Hoc/Parent
Bittaye, Sarah	Ad Hoc/Child
Blackwood, George Jr.	Councilperson
Bland, Mary	State Legislator
Blom, Tim	D.A.R.E.
Bowar, Elizabeth K.	
Bowen, Michael R.	Marillac Center/Exec. Dir.
Bower, Elizabeth	
Bowling, Nona	
Boyd, Carl	Event Moderator
Boyer-Shekol, Cathy	
Brashers, Lollie	Niles Home for Children/Board
Brayer, Mark J	Boys Scouts of Amer./Director Fin.
Briner, Sue	Parris Communications
Brooks, Alvin	Ad Hoc Group Against Crime/Director
Brooks, John	Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City
Brown, Asia	Genesis School/Youth
Brown, Hillary	City Manger's Wife

Brown, J.T.	Ad Hoc/Board
Brown, Keith	Project Neighborhood/Exec. Director
Brown, Vincent	Boys Scout of Amer./Staff
Bucks, Edu	Vineyard Neighborhood. Assn. Youth
Bullard, Audrey	Principal, Chick Elementary
Bullington, Molly	
Bullinton, Stuart	
Bussanmas, Sister Corita	St. Vincent School
Bussey, LaKeisha	Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City
Caccamo, Jim	Partnership for Children
Calderon, Annette	Guadalupe Center/Parent
Caldwell, Faye	Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church/ Adult Volunteer
Campbell, Kelly	Camp Fire, Heartland Council/Office Manager
Campbell, Marsha	Community activist
Canady, Walter	DeLaSalle Education Center/Child
Cannon, Lindsey	The Promise Project
Caplin, Cami	Student
Carson, Linda	Dept. Of Health & Human Ser./Administration
Carter, May	Transitional Housing Program
Carter, Michael	Carter Broadcast Group/President
Casey, Jermaine	Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater KC/Youth
Chaffin, Kevin	The Promise Project

Cubria, Mary Ellen	Mid Continent Council of Girl Scouts, Inc
Curla, Louie	Youth
Curla, Melba	KCMC Child Dev. Corp.
Cusely, Sharon	Legal Aid/Juvenile Court
Dalberg, Ted	Salvation Army/Director Lt. Colonel
Danaher, Paul	Councilman
Daniels, Fletcher	State Legislator
Danner, Pat	Congresswoman
Day, Heidi	Young Women's Christian Assoc./Child
Dennis, Allada	Metropolitan Child Abuse Network
Dillingham, Allen	Senate Aid/Senator Bond
Dixon, Leonard	Coalitlation of Concerned People/Neighborhood Leader
Dolemba, Mary Lynne	Children's Center for Visually Impaired/E.D.
Dooley, Gene	YMCA/Exec. Director
Dougherty, Jim	De La Salle Exec Director
Downs, Pearlina	Vineyard Neighborhood Assoc./Youth
Drake, Susan	Campfire
DuBois, Alan	Gensis School, Exc. Director
Eike, Casey	Children's Cntr for the Vis. Impaired/Board Pres.
Elders, Christopher	Youth Panelist
Elders, Judy	Youth Panelist
Elders, Wesley	Parent/Youth Panelist

Ellis, Frank E.	Swope Parkway Health Center/Exe. Director
Elso, Sue	Newhouse/Exe. Director
Emerson, Jan	Campfire
Epperson, Cindy	Camp Fire, Heartland Council
Everhart Carla	United Way
Everhart, Carla	United Way of Wyandotte County
Falls-Woodson, Nina	Heart of Amer Family Services/
Farley, Sue	Pat Danner's Congressional Office
Fields, Taylor	Church Youth Leader/Attorney
Ford, Tom	Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries
Fox, Duane	Siegfried Bingham Law Firm/KCMSD Parent
Franklin, John	Assistant City Manager
Franklin, Leslie	Youth
Franklin, Tresa	Parent
Frazier, Bonnie	Subst. Abuse, Cnsl/Newhouse
Freeman, April	K.C. Housing Authority/Asst. Director
Fridkin, Louann	
Fried, Sue Ellen	United Way/Stop Violence Coalition/
Friedmann, Barbara	Coalition for Positive Family Rel/Exec Director
Furla, Jennifer	United Way/Exc. Director
Galtan, Sylvia	Principal
Garcia, David	De La Salle Ed Cntr/Child

Garney, Patty	
Gemeinhardt, Paul	Ozanam Home for Boys/Exe. Director
Gephardt, Eric	Youth Panelist
Gerrero, Gilbert	Guadalupe Cntr/Staff
Gibson, Yahna	Niles Home
Gilmore, Daryl	YouthNet
Gines, Delores	Paseo Baptist Church Day Care/Staff Counselor
Gipson, Leda	M.L.K. Center/Board
Glover, Jim	Councilman
Goodwin, Bob	Parent
Goodwin, Brett	Youth Panelist
Goodwin, Donna	Parent and youth panel
Goodwin, Natalie	Student
Grams, Dennis	Regional
Grant, Gwendolyn	Urban League/Vice President
Groves, Irma	Sycamore Groves Neighborhood
Gwynn, Jamie	Student
Haines, Cheryl	Camp Fire, Heartland Council/Parent
Haines, Mistry	Camp Fire Heartland Council/Child
Hall, Adele	Women's Public Service Network
Hall, Bill	Hallmark Corp. Foundation
Hall, Don	Hallmark

Halliburton, Dick	Legal Aid of Western Mo./Exe. Director
Hallock, Duane	Heart of Amer. United Way
Hanson, Phil	Heart of Amer. United Way
Haren, Karen	Youth Net/Exe. Director
Hart-Whitmore, Crystal	Don Bosco Center
Hartsfield, Wallace	Metropolitan Miss. Baptist Church/Rev.
Hean, Yin	Youth Participant
Hebert, Shawna	Youth Participant
Heide, Jane	Heart of Amer. United Way
Henderson, Pankisha	Student
Hernandez, Martha	
Hicks, Mona	Nurse
Hickert, Shanna	Youth Panelist
Hiebert, Shelly	Parent of Youth Panelist
Hill, LuAnne	Chldr. Cntr. For the Visually Impaired/Child
Hill, Ruth	Art of Positive Teaching/Vice President
Hill, Stephanie	Children Visually Impaired /Youth
Hill, Stephen	U.S. Depart. Of Justice
Hodges, Lindsay	AFI-CIO
Hogan, Barb	D.A.R.E.
Holliday, Gayle	K.C.A.T.A.
Hosman, Bruce	Foster Parent

Homan, Linda	Foster Parent
Howard, Ron	Heart of Amer. United Way
Hughes, Craig	Project Choice
Hughea, Mike	YMCA of Greater KC
Hughes, Moncella	Newhouse
Hull, Sarah	
Hunt, Judy	Partnership for Children
Hurst, Gayle Dr.	Primitivo Garcia/Principal
Jackson, Laurie	SYNERGY/Dir. Of Resid. Program
Jackson, Marcus	KCPL
Jacob, Kim	St. Vincents School
Jacobson, Mae	
Jaramillo, Mary Lou	Mattie Rhodes Counseling & Arts Cntr.
Jennings, Drue	KCPL
Jennings, Kathy	KCMC Child Deve. Cor/Parent
Jennings, Sue	KCPL
Johnson, A.L. Rev.	Zion Grove Baptist Church
Johnson, Fred W., Jr.	Recreation Services/City of Kansas City
Johnson, Jackie	Federal Comm. Block Grant Program
Johnson, Joe	Outreach Worker for Youth Panel Nominee
Jones, Eugene	KC Housing Authority/Director
Justvig, Mary M.	Salvation Army

Kahn, Sybil	Museum Without Walls
Kuniger, Gabrielle	Central Exchange
Kauffman, Sandy	State Legislator
Keith, Gertrude	Child Advocate
Kemp, Rose	Division of Labor, Women Bureau
Kent, Bruce	SBA
Kent, Bruce W.	Small Business Admin/Regional Manager
King, Leonard E	Brooklyn Ave Family Cntr/Exe. Director
Kitchen, Alice	Children's Mercy Hospital
Knight, Jennifer	Parrish Communications
Kreamer, Jan	Greater KC Community Foundation
Krystel, Giany	Jewish Family & Children Services/Parent
Krystel, Melissa	Jewish Family & Children Services/Child
Kuhns, Carol	Synergy/Exe. Director
Lakin, Scott	State Legislator
Larson, Wendie	Girls to Women/Exe. Director
Lee, Donald	Niles Home for Children/Exc. Director
Lee, Marcella	Foster Parent/Domestic Relations Attorney
Lever, Anne	Parent
Levi, Pete	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce
Levin, Rabbi Mark	Congregation Beth Torah
Lewis, Harriett	Genesis School/Staff

Lichtl, Theresa	Synergy/Child Residential Center
Lindenbaum, Sharon	The Kansas City Star
Loar, Teresa	Councilwoman
Lockwood, Dallas	Camp Fire/Office Manager
Lolits, Linda	SEMHS
Lowery, Nick	Ex-KC Chiefs player/Community Advocate
Lowrey, Sarah	Youth Advocate
Lucas, Richardo	Project Neighborhood
Luty, Mary Kate	Court Appt. Special Advoctes
Mack, Sheila	Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City
Maddox, Sharon	YouthNet
Maggie, Zak	AFI-CIO
Maltbia, Anita	Assistant City Manager
Mann, Pam	Gillis Center
Mann, Rev. Sam	United Inner City Services
Marchbank, Gary	State of Missouri - Div. of Family Services
Margoluis, Emily	YMCA
Marinovitch, Carol	Mayor - City of Kansas City, Kansas
Massie Julie	United Way
Mast, Kandi	United Way
Metava, Tobie	Human Rights Project
Matheny, Mary Ann	Battered Women's Shelter; Hope House

Matovu, Joseph	The Whole Person
Matt, Dick	State of Missouri - Div. of Family Services
Mauer, Judge William	Jackson City Court House - 16th Judicial
Mayer, Sandy	KC Missouri School Board member
McAfee, Michael	Greater KC Community Foundation
McCarthy, Karen	Congresswoman
McCluney, Jeremiah	Martin Luther King Urban Center/Youth
McEachen, Dr. Bill	KC Pediatric Society
McGee, Tanisha	Youth Participant
McGuigan, Karen	Girl Scouts
McQueen, Clyde	Full Employment Council
Medina, Cris	Dir - Guadalupe Center
Melgoza Pecina, Adriana	Kauffman Foundation
Melgoza, Alicia	Parent of Youth Panelist
Melgoza, Anna	Student
Melgoza, Jackie	Youth participant
Melgoza, Judy	Businesswoman
Mendez, Sally	
Merritt, Marcia	
Moore, Mike	United Way
Morgan, Annette	State Legislator
Morgan, Ray	Don Bosco Center

Morrill, Roy	Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Murguia, Alfred	
Murguia, Amalia	
Murguia, Carlos	
Murguia, Rose Mary	
Nagel, Mariene	Mid-America Regional Council
Nash, Michael	United Way
Neal, Debra	Substance abuse counselor
Neal, Morgan	10 year old daughter of Debra
Nelson, Barbara	Community Activist
Nelson, Bill	Boatmen's Bank
Nosiri, Thommie	State of Missouri - Div. of Family Services
O'Donnell, Randall	Children's Mercy Hospital
Ollinger, Laura	Parent
Ollinger, Mark	Parent
Overton, Glen "Woody"	General Services Administration
Pajor, Carolyn	Parent
Pajor, John	Parent
Parker, Henry	Boy Scouts
Parker, Henry J., Jr.	Boy Scouts of America
Parker, Lloyd	Hallmark
Parris, Stella	Roshann's Mother

Patterson, Cissy	Habitat House occupant
Peck, Lynn	The Children's Place
Pfeifer, Gabrielle	D.A.R.E.
Phillips, Karen	Court Services
Phillips, Michelle	College Student
Phillips, Renate	Health Care
Philpot, Carlton	Parent of Youth Panelist
Philpot, Karla	Youth Panelist
Philpot, Othello	Parent of Youth Panelist
Pierson Flint, Nelda	Jack & Jill
Powell, Carolyn	Kansas City Missouri School District
Presson, E. Wynn	Health Midwest
Price, Kendra	United Way
Prince, Jenny	AFL-CIO
Pruett, Julie	English Landing Elementary School
Pulliam, Frenchie	St. Vincent's
Pulliam, Gina	Heart of America United Way
Ralph, Reverend Jane	Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries
Ramirez, Santos	Project Choice
Reed, Josh	Youth Panelist
Rhone, Tom	Kauffman Foundation
Rice, Gerald	Coalition of Concerned People/Youth

Rice, Ruby	Coalition of Concerned People/ Convener
Richardson, Mae	St. Vincent's School
Riley, Terry	KCMO School Board
Rillinger, Palle	MOCSA/Director
Rios, Gina	Girl Scouts of Mid America/Child
Rios, Pauline	Girl Scouts of Mid America/Board Member
Rivard, Nick	Spofford Home
Rizzo, Henry	State Legislator
Roberts, Monica	Youth Panellist
Robinson, D. Jeanne	Councilwoman
Roby, Mercyne	Child/YOUTHNET
Roby, Michael	Child/YOUTHNET
Rodgers, Rosa	Vineyard Neighborhood Assoc
Rodgers-Stanley, Dr. Rita	Samuel Rodgers Community Health Center
Rogers, Charles	Attorney
Ross, Carson	State Legislator
Ross, David	Boy Scouts/Executive Director
Rotert, Father Norman	Visitation Church/Catholic Charities
Rothwell, Carol	American Cablevision
Royal, Queen Esther	Local C.D.F. Initiative
Ruiz, Richard	El Centro
Sailer, Sister Berta	St. Vincent Day Care Center

Sanchez, Victor	Guadalupe Center/Child
Sanders, Uraya	Youth Panel Nominee
Sassone, Al	United Way
Scaggs, Patricia Cowan	Teacher, Lincoln College Prep. Academy
Scott, Carol	Metropolitan Child Care Council/Director
Scott, Jewell	The Civic Council/Director
Sherman, Alyce	Center High School
Shook, Marjane	Paseo Baptist Church Day Care/Youth
Sill-Rodgers, Judge Christine	Family Court Judge
Silverman, Shelly	
Skaggs, Bill	State Legislator
Sloan, Laura Curry	
Smith, Beth	Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership
Smith, David	Boys & Girls Clubs/Executive Director
Smith, Eddie	Lives in Habitat House
Smith, Lou	Kauffman Foundation
Smith, Vickie	Lives in Habitat House
Smith, Willy	KC Marching Cobras
Snead, Donna	Guardian of Youth Panelist
Sosland-Edelman, Debbie	Sosland Foundation
Stackhaus, Aggie	Councilwoman
Stafford, Deonne	Project Choice

Stanton, Susan	Payless Cashways/President/CEO
Stark-Corn, Catherine	YouthNet
Starr, Carlos	Student/Niles Home For Children
Steele, Kathleen	Regional Director/Health & Human Services
Stelzer, Leslie	The Promise Project Program/Parent
Stern, Ann	
Strophmman, Kristina	AFL-CIO
Stubbs-Gillette, Shirley	KCMC Child Development Corporation
Sull, Doreen	Parent/Young Men's Christian Association
Sull, Jenny	Child/Young Men's Christian Association
Sutton, Ethel	President/Vineyard Neighborhood Assoc
Swoope, Gwen	Hickman Mills High School
Swope, Judy	Councilwoman
Tarpley, Linda S.	YWCA/Board Member
Tarpley-Standridge, Clair Rebecca	YWCA/Child
Taylor, Michael	Director/Pathway Transitional Living Program
Thomas, Dave	SPRINT
Thompson, Cheryl C.	Instructional Supervisor/KCMSD
Thompson, Marvia	MLK Urban Center/Adult Volunteer
Thompson, Rev. Nelson	Martin Luther King Urban Center/Director
Thurman, Andre	Break & Build/Director
Timberlake, BeJay	Youth Panelist Nominee

Tindall, Francis	Council Aide
Trammel, Millard	Parents as Teachers
Turner-Jackson, Sharon	Coordinator/Operation Break & Build
Uhlmann, Patricia	The Uhlmann Company
Vander Velde, Betsy	Heart of America Family Services
Wade, Marie	Transitional Housing Program
Walnright, Calvin	Don Bosco Center/Staff
Walker, Dennis	Instructor/Paseo Academy
Walker, Dr. Sandra V.	U.S. Department of Education
Ward, Kathy	AFL-CIO
Ward, Linda	Payless Cashways
Ward, Terry	H&R Block
Warren-Norwood, Ranita	Youth Advisory Council/Program Coordinator
Washington, Phyllis	Principal/Swinney Elementary School
Watson, Cara	Youth
Watson, Olivia	Parent/Community Advocate
Webb, Mildred	Primitivo Garcia World Language School
Wesley, Don	De La Salle/Parent
Westbrook, David	Corporate Communications Group
Whalen, David H.	Active Single Custodial Parent
Wheeler, Charles	Student
Wheeler, Marion	Walton Construction

Whitmore, Byron Cornell II	Don Busco/Child
Wideman, Amy	Gillis Center/Staff
Wilder, Harris	
Wilding, Jennifer	The Promise Project/Program Coordinator
Wilkins, Lenora	
Wilkins, Nathaniel O.	Recreation Superintendent, City of Kansas City
Williams, Adriana	TransAmerica
Williams, Bridgette	AFL-CIO
Williams, Erma (6-8 people)	Paseo Baptist Church Day Care
Williams, Jacqueline	Business Community
Williams, Jan	Holiday Montessori
Williams-Neal, Mary	Councilwoman
Wilson, Susan	Crittendon
Wilson-Simpson, Dorothy	Spofford Homes/Executive Director
Windham, Daniel	Young Audiences
Woodson, Ryan Austin	Heart of America Family Services/Child
Woodson-Falls, Nina	Heart of America Family Services/Parent
Woodworth, Bob	The Kansas City Star/President & Publisher
Wyler, Joy	Parent/adopted disabled children/health care
Yates, Jack	KCMSD
Zahner, Becky	Architect
Zedek, Rabbi & Mrs	Clergy
Zillner, Judith	Zillner Network

June 13, 1996

COMMUNITY LEADERS LUNCHEON

DATE:	June 14, 1996
TIME:	12:15 pm - 1:00 pm
LOCATION:	Kansas City Convention Center Kansas City, Missouri
FROM:	Brenda Costello

I. PURPOSE

To attend a luncheon for community leaders and children's advocates to thank them for their efforts and for making Kansas City a better place for children.

II. BACKGROUND

The luncheon is being sponsored by the Women's Public Service Network (WPSN) of Kansas City and the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City. WPSN is a nonprofit service organization, of which Roshann Paris is an active member. The purpose of the Luncheon is to engage a broader group of the Kansas City community in the issues of the children's conference.

Approximately 120 community leaders, child advocates and local elected officials will be in the audience. Adele Hall, Chair of the Women's Public Service Network, will introduce you. Following your remarks, you will participate in Q & A with the audience.

III. PARTICIPANTS

HRC

Adele Hall, Chair, Women's Public Service Network

Mike Morrissey, Chairman, Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

HRC, Ms. Hall, and Mr. Morrissey proceed onto stage

HRC proceeds to seat next to Ms. Hall

Mr. Levy welcomes and intros Ms. Hall

Ms. Hall delivers brief remarks and intros HRC

HRC delivers remarks

HRC to take Q & A

Ms. Hall closes the luncheon

HRC exits stage left, working a ropeline left to right

V. PRESS

Closed press.

VI. REMARKS

Talking points provided by Sabrina Corlette.

MRS. DONALD J. HALL

BORN: Adele Coryell, Lincoln, Nebraska

Graduated Lincoln High School
Graduated University of Nebraska, Lincoln
B.A. Degree, Elementary Education and English, 1953
Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Lambda Theta, Mortar Board
Sisterhood affiliation, Kappa Kappa Gamma,
President

*Currently: NH
Chair of American
Academy of
Pediatrics*

FAMILY: Married, 1953, to Donald J. Hall, Kansas City,
Missouri

Sons: Don, Jr. and David
Daughter: Margaret (Margi) (Mrs. William Keith Pence)
Granddaughters: Sarah, Helen, Rebecca, and Allison
Grandsons: Andrew, Michael, and William (Billy)

PREVIOUS CIVIC POSITIONS:

Past Chairman of Board
Crippled Children's Nursery School
Heart of America United Way
Trustees, Sunset Hill School
Children's Mercy Hospital
Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and
Affiliated Trusts
Co-Chairman, Steering Committee, Partnership for
Children
Partnership For Children, (affiliated with American
Academy of Pediatrics)

Past President
Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri
Pembroke Country Day School Parent's Association
Sunset Hill School Parent's Association
Heart of America United Way
Programming Corporation, Central Exchange

Past Chr. Executive Committee, United Way of America

Past Board Member
Visiting Nurse Association
Red Cross
Central Exchange
United Community Services
Family and Children's Services
Salvation Army
Vestry-St. Andrew's Church (Episcopal)
Center for Management Assistance
Trustee - Pembroke Hill School
Arts in Education Advisory Committee of the
National Endowment for the Arts
White House Fellows, St. Louis Regional Panel
White House Endowment Fund
National Commission on Children

CURRENT CIVIC POSITIONS:

Executive Committee Member:

Phi Beta Kappa, Kansas City Chapter,
(President)
United Negro College Fund (Vice-Chairman)
National Tocqueville Leadership Council
(United Way of America)
Local Investment Commission (Vice-Chairman)
Family Investment Trust (Missouri) Treasurer
Youth Volunteer Corps of America (Vice-
Chairman)
National Vice-Chr., Rockhurst College
Campaign for Excellence

Board Member:

The Menninger Foundation, Topeka
Shawnee Mission Education Foundation
George Bush Presidential Library Center
Library of Congress Trust Fund
Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and
Affiliated Trusts
Salvation Army (Emeritus)
Children's Mercy Hospital (Lifetime)

Trustee:

Children's Mercy Hospital
Skillbuilders Fund
CARE Foundation

Advisory Boards:

Rose Brooks Center
United Community Services
De La Salle School
Genesis School
Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry
University of Kansas School of Nursing
Family Matters, Points of Light Foundation

Other:

National Women's Forum, Kansas Chapter
Convenor, Women's Public Service Network,
Kansas City
Co-Chairman, William Rockhill Nelson Art
Museum Capital Campaign

HONORS/AWARDS

Matrix Award for Community Leadership, 1980
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Baker
University, 1981
"Distinguished Leadership Award" from Baker
University, 1982
Yates Medallion for Civic Service from William
Jewell College, 1984

Kappa Kappa Gamma National Achievement Award,
1984
"Spirit of Caring" Award - Heart of America
United Way, 1984
Civic Service Award - Hyman Brand Hebrew
Academy, 1985
Honorary Doctor of Humanities - Rockhurst
College, 1985
Excellence in Governance Award, Missouri
Hospital Association, 1986
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters -William
Jewell College, 1987
Chancellor's Medal - University of Missouri at
Kansas City, 1987
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters -
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1987
Achievement Award - Missouri Hospital
Association, 1987
National Award for Voluntarism - Business
and Professional Women, 1989
T.E.E.N. "Encouraging Excellence Award", 1989
Honorary Fellow - American Academy of
Pediatrics, 1989
Honorary Alumna, Sunset Hill School, 1989
Junior League Volunteer of Year Award, 1990
Spirit Award -Gillis Home, 1990
Image Award - Urban League, 1990
Kansas Citian of the Year - Chamber of
Commerce, 1990
"Kindest Kansas Citian", 1991
YWCA "Hearts of Gold" Award, 1981
Kansas City deTocqueville Award, 1991
Lifetime Trustee, Pembroke Hill School, 1992
Kansas City Philanthropist of the Year, 1993
Alpha Sigma Nu Honorary Fraternity, 1993
On Behalf of Youth Award, National Camp Fire
Boys and Girls, 1993
The Perlman Humanitarian Award, B'nai B'rith
International 1993
Lifetime Trustee, Children's Mercy Hospital -
1993
Johnson Countian of the Year - 1994
Past Chairman - Jewel Ball
Westport Garden Club
Past Volunteer teacher, Pembroke Country Day
School
Communicant - Grace and Holy Trinity
Cathedral (Episcopal)

FOUNDING MEMBER, Central Exchange
FOUNDING CHAIRMAN, Women's Public Service Network

2/13/96

COMMUNITY LEADERS LUNCHEON

WOMEN'S PUBLIC SERVICE NETWORK RESPONSES
ATTENDEES FOR HILLARY CLINTON LUNCHEON
Friday, June 14, 1996

Barbara Allen
Joan Berkley
Maureen Berkley
Diane Berkshire
Beverly Bodker
Shawna Branton
Myra Christopher
Joanne Collins
Tom Cohen
Susan Ellen Fried
Esther Giffin
Diane Graham
Adelle Hall
Carleen Hall
Myrna Holdredge
Joyce Holland
Mamie Hughes
Mary Lou Jaramillo
Jan Kremer
Audrey Langworthy
Sandra Lawrence
Bill Lucas
Cindy Lucas
Karen McCarthy
Judge Cordell Meeks
Jim Mogush
Teresa Mogush
Annette Morgan
Marcia Nana
Brenda Nolte
Maiva O'Donnell
Rand O'Donnell
Pat O'Rourke
Lillian Pardo
Roshann Parris
Stella Parris
Carol Sader
Terry Satterlee
Robin Silverman
Beth Smith
Debbie Sosland-Edelman
Estelle Sosland
Rachael Steele
Elaine Tatham
Ruthie Tivol
Sandra Walker
Linda Ward
Ann Weick
Margie White
Erna Williams
Dot Wilson-Simpson

Total 51

6/13/96 6:00 p.m.

Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce

LIST OF ATTENDEES

FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 1996

Thursday, June 13, 1996 4:31 PM

NAME	COMPANY	PHONE
Adkins, Lisa	Partnership for Children	
Bachus, Wilma	Missouri Gas Energy	
Berkley, Bert	Tension Envelope Corp.	
Berkley, Bill	Tension Envelope Corp.	
Berkley, Richard	Tension Envelope Corp.	
Berry, Robert E.	Trigen-Kansas City Energy Corp.	
Blauvelt, Janet	Dysart Taylor Penner Lay etal	
Braude, Michael	Kansas City Board of Trade	
Brown, Michael W.	Black & Veatch	
Brown, Thomas L.	Marsh & McLennan, Inc.	
Bruns, Ed	SGB Communications	
Byrne, Mary E.	City of Kansas City, MO	
Cantwell, Bert	K. C., KS Chamber of Commerce	
Chaffin, Dale	Shook Hardy & Bacon LLP	
Christian, David	Kansas City Power & Light Company	
Clark, Jackie	Hallmark Cards, Inc.	
Clymer, John	Coopers & Lybrand LLP	
Cunningham, J. David	The Equitable	
Doak, John D.	Marsh & McLennan, Inc.	
Ellis, E. Frank	Swope Parkway Health Center	
Engelkornier, Margie	KPL (Western Resources)	
Gadd, Judith	Sprint	
Grimaldi, Gerard	Kaiser Permanente	
Hedrick, Jerry	Hoechst Marion Roussel, Inc.	
Henderson, Tammy	Hunt Midwest	
Holtbus, Dave	Western Resources	
Howell, George E.	The Children's Mercy Hospital	
Jacobi, Bob	Rockhurst College	
Jacobi, Mary	Hotel & Motel Association	
Klawuhn, Phil	Armstrong, Teasdale, Schlafly etal.	
Kragel, MD, Peter J.	Truman Medical Center	
La Boute, Lorell	Metropolitan Medical Society	
Levi, Peter S.	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Marvin, John E.	Watson & Marshall L.C.	
Mauro, Albert	Downtown Council	
Miller, Charles F.	Lewis Rick & Fingersh, LC	
Morrison, Kila R.	Gossen Livingston Associates	
Morrissey, Mike	Ernst & Young LLP	
Nelson, William C.	Boatmen's First Nat'l Bank of KC	
Nicholas, Genny	The Children's Mercy Hospital	
Peterson, Debra	Sprint	
Philpott, Ronda	Arthur Anderson LLP	
Presson, E. Wynn	Heath Midwest	

William H.	Dr. League	
Murguia, Janet	White House Staff	
Caccamo, Jim	Partnership for Children	
Beward, Barry,	Health Midwest	
DeSoignis, Ed	Heavy Constructors Association	
Bunnell, Mark M.	Economic Development Corp.	
Beshear, Pam	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Eates, Beverly	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Guastello, George	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Kingsolver, Pam	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
McMurry, Morley	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Ramsey, Larry	KCMO School District	FAX 418-7631
Stark, Jimmie	Price Waterhouse LLP	FAX 421-7024
Dunn, Stephen D.	J.E. Dunn Construction Company	FAX 460-2782
Linver, Diane	Councilwoman/City of Lenexa	FAX 492-0374
Garney, Patricia	Garney Company	FAX 741-4488
Reinjes, Robert J.	Geo. P. Reinjes Co., Inc.	FAX 756-2529
Copaken, Paul L.	Copaken White & Blitt	FAX 381-5624
Copaken, Bunni	Copaken White & Blitt	FAX 381-5624
Rhyme, Karen	City of Kansas City, MO	FAX 274-1139
Ingels, Harry	City of Kansas City, MO	FAX 274-1139
Stubbs, Karen	Coro Foundation	
Davis, Edith	Baird Kurtz & Dobson	

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NAME	COMPANY	BUDGET
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Rainen, Mike	Rainen Business Interiors	
Retahart, Tony	Ford Motor Company	
Rice, Jim	Health Midwest	
Richards, Sue	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Ruiz, Art	Missouri Gas Energy	
Santaniello, Inc	Mr. Goodcents Franchise Systems	
Sassone, Al	Heart of America United Way	
Scott, Jewel D.	Civic Council of Greater Kansas City	
Simons, Mary Anne Murray	Saint Luke's Health System	
Smith, Lou	Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation	
Smith, Sharon	Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation	
Snower, Bill	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Snyder, Jackie	Metropolitan Community College	
Spallito, Haley	The Builders' Association	
Spitoni, Laura	KC Junior Chamber of Commerce	
Steele, Margaret	KPL (Western Resources)	
Strenning, Troy	Rose Brouillette & Shapiro	
Taylor, Linda Gill	Of Counsel Inc.	
Urruh, Jenny	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
Walker, Al	Western Resources	
Warm, David	Mid America Regional Council	
White, Thomas M.	Arthur Andersen LLP	
Winship, Dr. Sally	Johnson County Community College	
Woodman, Woody	Kansas City Power & Light Company	
Wrobley, Ralph	Blackwell Sanders Matheny et al.	
Wyatt, Kristi	Greater KC Chamber of Commerce	
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THE KANSAS CITY STAR

May 11, 1996 Saturday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: FYI; Pg. E2; HEARNE CHRISTOPHER JR.

LENGTH: 880 words

HEADLINE: Thanks for the plug, Dave, but she doesn't live here anymore

BYLINE: HEARNE CHRISTOPHER JR.

BODY:

Former KC bartender Page Dickeson causes stir with Letterman appearance.

Judging from the action on my tip line, plenty of you caught Page Dickeson last week on David Letterman's show.

"Welcome to the program. Where you from, Page? " Letterman asked as she skipped out of the audience and onto the stage.

"Kansas City," she replied.

"Kansas City, Mo.? " Letterman shot back. "Kansas City, by the way, is one of the great cities of the world. You have more fountains in Kansas City than they do in Paris, is that true?"

Dickeson went on to describe herself as a bartender at the Phoenix Downtown.

Nice shtick. Just one problem: Dickeson neither lives in KC nor works at the Phoenix.

"She left us about two years ago and moved to New York," says Phoenix co-owner Todd Schoonover. "She called and said after she was waiting in line to get tickets somebody came up to her and

asked her where she was from and she said, 'I'm originally from Kansas City, but for the past two years I've lived in New York City. ' And they said: 'When Dave asks you where you're from, just tell him you're from Kansas City. It makes it more interesting for the

audience. ' "

The net result: "After she was on (TV), our phones rang straight for half an hour with people wanting to talk to Page," Schoonover says. "We told 'em she doesn't work here. And they said, 'Well, she said she did. ' "

Keeper of the flame

One civic leader who'll take a turn with the Olympic torch when it breezes into the Cowtown next week is Adele Hall.

"It was a complete surprise to me that I was given the opportunity to have a small part" in the torch's journey to the Games in Atlanta, Hall says. "I realize that it's not a very long run and the torch is not very heavy, but it is very exciting."

A carrier elsewhere this week wiped out on a bike, killing the flame. That takes some of the pressure off KC's carriers.

Hall, something of an athlete in her own right (water skiing, snow skiing, golfing, running), will tackle the run minus any practice or rehearsals.

"I probably should" practice, she says with a laugh. "But I'll just hang on and hope I don't faint and fall down."

Fashionwise, at least, it's a no-brainer.

"They send you a shirt and a pair of shorts," Hall says. "It's kind of the official uniform."

And with any luck, one that won't arrive at the 11th hour in towering Crosby Kemper's size.

Should that occur, "I'll just get a big safety pin," Hall laughs. "I'm more worried about it being too small."

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
LUNCHEON WITH CHILDREN'S ADVOCATES
KANSAS CITY, MO
JUNE 14, 1996**

TALKING POINTS

[Acknowledgments: Adele Hall, Chair, Women's Public Service Network; Pete Levy, President, Chamber of Commerce]

I am delighted to have this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the work you do on behalf of children. One of the reasons I am here in Kansas City is because this is a place where people are committed to making their hometown the very best place it can be to raise children.

I have just come from an important and exciting conversation with members of the Kansas City community. It was a chance to listen to children, learn about the challenges they face, and work together toward solutions.

It is heartening to see here in Kansas City so many people who every day are making children a priority. Yet we have to acknowledge that Kansas City, like every other community in this country, is not immune to the challenges facing American children and their families: The crime in our streets and violence on the airwaves; the lure of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs; the burdens of poverty, illiteracy and poor health; and the pressure to acquire skills to compete in a global economy.

But there's no problem in America that isn't being solved somewhere in this country. Parents, schools, churches, city councils and businesses have come together on behalf of children to put these solutions into action.

I know that this past week the dramatic red question marks were unveiled. Created by a ten-year joint initiative between the Heart of America United Way and the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation and Affiliated Trust, this campaign is one of many examples of Kansas City's commitment to children.

From raising children's immunization rates to providing fun and safe social outlets on summer nights to giving city employees four hours of paid leave to devote to children's school activities, the Kansas City community has shown that it knows the answer to The #1 Question: "Is it good for children?"

But these programs have worked only because you have all made a commitment to work together on behalf of children. Partnerships are crucial. I believe that the best way we can help strengthen our families is for each of us -- from

every sector of society -- to recognize our responsibilities to our children.

■ Parents have the primary responsibility for their children, but they cannot fulfill their obligations without help from the whole community.

■ Today, we know more about what children need to develop than ever before. But we still have too few organized ways of supporting parents in the most important work they do.

■ I'm hoping that more and more all of us -- politicians, business leaders, advocates, educators, health care professionals, the media, and the biggest experts of all -- parents and children -- will share ideas for meeting the challenges before us.

■ Children are not rugged individualists. They have no say in the political, business and economic decisions made by our nation. And yet they are our future. That is why we can and must be their voice. Thank you.

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**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS FOR CHILDREN'S CONFERENCE
KANSAS CITY, MO
JUNE 14, 1996**

[Acknowledgments: Al Sassone, [sass-SOWN], president of Heart of America United Way; Carl Boyd, moderator; Congresswoman Karen McCarthy; Claire McCaskill, Jackson County prosecutor; Kansas City Children's Choir]

Thank-you, Mayor Cleaver. I also want to thank you for inviting me to join in this important conversation with and about the children of Kansas City.

I am very happy to be back here -- in a place where so many people are committed to making their hometown the very best place to raise and be children. One can't drive around this city without seeing red question marks reminding us of Kansas City's #1 question: "Is it good for the children?" It is a question every American should ask him or herself before making decisions for their families, their communities, and their country.

We are living in a time of great challenge for our children and their families: Today, in cities and towns across America, children are exposed to crime in the streets and violence on the airwaves; they are tempted by the lure of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs; too many live with the burdens of poverty, illiteracy and poor health; and all children must address the pressure of competing in a new and fast-paced global economy.

But there are opportunities as well. My husband often says that there's no problem in America that isn't being solved somewhere in this country. I am here today because I know that many solutions can be found right here in Kansas City. The parents, schools, churches, city council, the media, and businesses of this city are coming together to create a safer and more nurturing environment for all children...

- The Partnership for Children, the ten-year joint initiative of the Heart of America United Way and the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, is a leader in the effort to make children this city's priority. As most of you know, they are behind all those red question marks and billboards.
- And the city itself has implemented child and family-friendly policies. I know that city employees here can take up to four hours of paid annual leave to participate in school activities, whether or not they have children of their own.
- The city and volunteers from all sectors of our society have given young people productive alternatives to violence and

gangs through programs such as SQUASH IT, Hot Summer Nights, Night Hoops.

- The Cadet program is helping high school students develop better relationships with the police officers who serve their community.
- The Kansas City Star is dedicating many of its column inches to a whole variety of children's issues from child care to child safety to child health to family values.

All of these partnerships are crucial. I believe with all my heart that the best way we can help strengthen families is for each of us as individuals -- and each sector of our society -- to recognize our responsibilities to our children.

Parents -- both mothers and fathers -- have the primary responsibility for their children. [Since Father's Day is just a few days away, I hope we will be able to talk a little about how we can all work to strengthen the role of fathers in their children's lives. There are millions of children growing up with just one parent, most of them without their fathers.]

But even exemplary parents cannot be the best parents they can be without help from the whole village. Each day children learn habits and values not just at home, but in classrooms, playgrounds, day care centers, and neighborhood streets; from grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends; and, like it or not, from TV shows, commercials and movies. Parents must rely on their employers for fair wages and the flexibility to perform the duties of childrearing. At some time or another parents need help from the government -- whether it's a police officer patrolling the neighborhood, a college loan, or assistance meeting the needs of a child living with disabilities.

Today, we know more about what children need to develop than ever before. But we still have too few organized ways of supporting parents in the most important work they do. We have not figured out how to replace the extended family, clan or village that looked out for children in earlier times. As a result, many parents don't get the information or the help they need to fulfill their parental obligations.

We need to change this. I'm hoping that today's conversation will help us: I hope it will be a conversation that allows all of us -- politicians, business leaders, advocates, and the biggest experts themselves, parents and children -- to share ideas for meeting the challenges before us.

There have already been plenty of conferences that have analyzed what's wrong with our society. This is an opportunity to determine what is right for children, what initiatives really

work to help all of our children fulfill their God-given potential, and what can be done to replicate these positive efforts throughout the state and the country.

Please don't be shy today. What each of us says here is important, because when it comes to children, we all have experience -- and we can all claim a kind of expertise. We have all been children. We all love our children. We all have visions and aspirations for what they can become. We think of and talk about them constantly, during coffee breaks, PTA meetings, on front porches and phones, in letters and e-mail. No other subject takes so much of our time, nor touches our souls so deeply.

Children are not rugged individualists. They have no say in the political, business and economic decisions made by our nation. And yet they are our future. That is why we can and must be their voice. I look forward to hearing from all of you. Thank-you.

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